

As allied forces moved north, Poletti accompanied them as military governor of the continually expanding Anglo-American-occupied portion of Italy. At his headquarters near Naples, Poletti hired as his translator and liaison to the subject population Lucky Luciano's number two man, Vito Genovese, who had fled earlier to Italy to escape trial for murder in the United States. Once in Italy, Genovese became a leading contributor to the Fascist Party and confidant of Mussolini. Genovese passed directly from his intimacy with Mussolini to his top post with OSS "station chief" Charles Poletti.

The relationship between Poletti and Genovese was no ordinary employer-employee relationship, however. The car Poletti drove around Italy was a gift to him from Mafioso chieftain Genovese. Poletti on his part provided Genovese with the military papers which enabled him to make millions smuggling food between Naples and OSS Mayor Vizzini's operations in Sicily. Within a short period, the Mafia network established by the Rockefeller-linked Poletti was moving morphine base from Turkey to Italy and pure heroin from Italy to the United States. The ports used to get the Turkish morphine base ashore for refining from freighters bound westward through the Mediterranean were the same West Sicilian Mafia-controlled fishing villages that had been used to land OSS agents prior to Allied invasion of the island.

#### Luciano Deployed

To expand the Italian heroin network into a multicontinental operation, the OSS wanted the best in the profession. Lucky Luciano was quietly pardoned in 1946 by the very Rockefeller flunkie, Thomas Dewey, who had built his public career on the strength of having put Luciano in prison and (supposedly) thrown the key away (Luciano had another 30-40 years to serve). Along with a number of other imprisoned Mafiosi, Luciano was "punished" by being deported to Europe to build up the understaffed operations there. This was the essential link in the re-drugging of the U.S. after World War II, given the curtailment of the Chinese opium supply as a result of the Civil War there.

#### V. CIA OPENS MARSEILLES HEROIN FACTORIES

The CIA's ultimately successful efforts to turn Marseilles into a vast heroin refinery also date back to the 1943 period, although full-scale refining did not get underway until the early 1950s. The Corsican underworld of Marseilles had much to recommend it to the OSS and CIA operations men. The gangsters of "l'Union Corse," as it was called, had manufactured heroin and hired themselves out as hoodlum strikebreakers during the 1930s, following the Green Gang pattern. They had distinguished themselves as exceptionally zealous Nazi collaborators during the German occupation of France. Many a Marseilles Resistance organizer owed his arrest, torture, and execution to these Corsican thugs.

Following the model of its relationship to the otherwise-doomed Italian Mafia, the OSS committed itself to protecting, arming, and subsidizing the membership of l'Union Corse, whose destiny after Liberation would otherwise have been to adorn Marseilles' lampposts. Beginning in 1943, agents Arthur Goldberg (later a U.S. Supreme Court justice), Lucien Conein (later a high CIA official), and Gaston Deferre (now CIA Mayor of Marseilles) began recruiting the Corsican gangsters into the OSS' own counter-gang "Resistance" movement, the Mouvements Unis de Resistance (MUR). MUR's function was to sabotage the efforts of the already existing and growing actual Resistance movement, which was under French Communist leadership. The OSS saw to it that supplies of arms, munitions, and money from the Anglo-American "Allies" went only to the Corsican hoodlums. The OSS' expectation was that the Nazis would kill off the poorly-armed pro-Communist partisans, so that agent Gaston Deferre's Corsican mob would have merely a mop-ping-up job to do on the few Resistance members who were left.

#### Deferre's Game

As OSS network chief for the Marseilles area, Deferre's right-hand man was the notorious gangster Antoine Guerini. Guerini has been triggerman for the Gestapo's two leading agents in Marseilles, Paul Carbone and Francois Spirito. During the 1930s, Carbone and Spirito had also distinguished themselves in the French fascist movement, their particular specialty being the assassination of militant workers, a specialty in which they were doubtless assisted by their triggerman Antoine Guerini. Impressed with Guerini's credentials, the OSS officers who were secretly parachuted into the Marseilles area to direct their counter-gang lived and worked out of his bistros.

Despite the OSS sabotage of the war effort, the Communist-led trade unions and Resistance movement became hegemonic in the August 1944 liberation struggles in Marseilles and throughout rural and working-class France. Under a Communist municipal government in 1946, the Nazi-ridden Marseilles police force was re-organized, creating a new unit called the Companies Republicaines de Securite (CRS), many of whose members had belonged to the pro-Communist Resistance.

The CRS soon became the bane of the Corsican underworld. Heroin traders, black marketeers, former Nazi collaborators, and the rest of the OSS' allies began to be arrested and securely lodged in prison. The OSS' newly formalized (Fall 1947) successor, the CIA, moved into action to protect its own. American "advisers" had just ordered the French government to twist the screws even tighter on the French working class. The first section of the French working class to take to the streets in protest was that of Marseilles. When a Communist city councilman was roughed up by the CIA-Guerini gangsters in Marseilles City Hall--followed by the murder that night of a demonstrating sheet metal worker--the entire working class in the city went out on

strike. The strike quickly became general throughout all France, where even the Parisian skilled worker was making a mere 65 per cent of the wages he had received during the depths of the Depression.

Gaston Deferre and Jules Moch of the CIA-run French Socialist Party called out 200,000 troops to battle strikers. They released the Corsican gangsters from prisons and purged the pro-Communists from the Marseilles police force to ensure that the gangsters would have a free hand. While Antoine Guerini's CIA gangsters battled workers in the streets, agent Deferre's Marseilles paper, *Le Provencale*, whose editor was Guerini's cousin, churned out page after page of filth against striking workers.

But it was not until the breaking of the 1950 dockworkers' strike that the CIA was able to have their way in Marseilles. CIA planners were insane with rage at the Communist-led dockworkers there, who had refused to handle ships bound for Indochina with war supplies to be used against Indochinese farmers and workers.

Sparked by the Marseilles dockworkers, the boycott of munitions ships spread throughout France so that by February 1950 arms shipments to Indochina were paralyzed. At this point Thomas Braden, a top official of the CIA and close associate of Nelson Rockefeller, conduited funds through the American Federation of Labor official Irving Brown to pay Guerini's Corsican gangsters to repeat the Green Gang scenario against the Marseilles dockworkers. The gangsters, backed up by government troops, mauled the picket lines, murdered striking workers, and helped government troops load the scab ships bound for the war zone. The Communist dockworkers union was effectively broken in Marseilles, and the waterfront now came under the control of the CIA's Corsican syndicate. Within months of this CIA-led strikebreaking, heroin refineries were re-established in Marseilles and were working in intimate collaboration with the CIA's United States and Italian Mafia liaison, Lucky Luciano.

To protect this network of heroin labs and waterfront smuggling, the CIA installed its veteran employee, Gaston Deferre, as mayor of Marseilles--a post he remains at today. As much as 80 per cent of the heroin entering the United States has been produced and shipped from this CIA stronghold on the Mediterranean. To this day the Guerini gang and successors serve as Deferre's personal bodyguards and "election assistants."

#### VI. ON THE WATERFRONT IN NEW YORK AND MONTREAL

The takeover of the New York waterfront--a notorious port of entry for narcotics--repeated the Shanghai and Marseilles pattern. The East Coast longshoremen's union had been turned into a gangster-infiltrated, anti-Communist countergang already in the 1930s. As part of the famous OSS-Luciano prison "contract,"