

Special Report — Italy**— An Anti-Atlanticist Gov't Takes Power In Italy**

Aug. 13 (NSIPS) — Since Giulio Andreotti was designated to form a government following Italy's June 20 elections, he has proven to be a well of unpleasant surprises for both the Italian Atlanticists and their bosses on Wall Street. Now with the installation this week of Andreotti's new government, the Republic of Italy has for the first time in its history a foreign policy dictated not by the Atlanticists but by Italy's own self-interest in preserving world peace and enabling industrial growth — a policy strongly countering the Atlanticists' own demands for war and plunder.

The new government thus represents a major Atlanticist defeat at the hands of the Italian pro-development forces, of which Andreotti is one prominent leader along with Giacomo Mancini, faction leader of the Italian Socialist Party, and Dr. Eugenio Cefis, the anti-Atlanticist chemical magnate and proponent of expanded East-West trade.

The basis of Christian Democrat Andreotti's successful "punto di forza" in pulling together a government out of the engineered chaos of Italian politics is his programmatic approach, designed to undercut his opponents and consolidate his own forces. He has successfully drawn significant support for his government from the Italian Communist Party, heretofore solidly in the Atlanticist camp, while strengthening the position of his factional allies in the Italian Socialist Party led by Giacomo Mancini. Leading Italy into a position of increasing importance in the fight for a New International Economic Order, Andreotti has further outflanked his "left" agent opponents by winning a favorable response to his new regime from the Soviets.

Andreotti's Foreign Policy

Following the vote of confidence for the new government cast by the Senate one week ago, Andreotti directed Arnaldo Forlani, his close collaborator in the Christian Democracy and the new Foreign Minister, to issue an official statement calling for peace in the Middle East. Forlani also met in Rome with representatives of Syria and Lebanon to inform them of Italy's opposition to Lebanese partition and the permanent occupation of Lebanon by Syria — Henry Kissinger's policy for permanent Mideast destruction. Forlani backed his statement by recalling to Rome Italy's ambassadors to the Mideast for an extended briefing to be used as the basis for further peace initiatives in the region. Forlani also met with the ambassadors from the Soviet Union and Canada, indicating that Italy may be about to undertake diplomatic steps towards a Geneva peace conference.

Then on Aug. 11, following the passage of three decrees including a 7 billion lira fund for agricultural and other development joint projects with Third World countries, Forlani, in answer to a parliamentary inquiry, declared that the fund would be used in cooperation with Angola, Mozambique, Somalia, and, probably, Vietnam. To top this off, he is said to have ordered the Italian ambassador to Sri Lanka to follow closely and report back the proceedings just-beginning of the Non-Aligned Nations conference there.

These initiatives have determined a new political geometry for Italy in the next period. They had already been implicitly and explicitly stated by Andreotti in his Aug. 4 speech to the Senate in which he first called for the vote of confidence from both the Senate and the Charter of Deputies required to install his new government. At the time he strongly emphasized the issue of foreign policy, focusing on the importance of detente based on

"real and pragmatic" relations between East and West, and concluding that the increasingly friendly dialogue with the East has "demonstrated its validity" and must be pursued further. Citing the need for "complementarity between the Common Market and the Comecon," Andreotti endorsed the bloc-to-bloc negotiations between the two, particularly mentioning the importance of the Mediterranean for the Common Market and on this basis appealing for a peaceful settlement of the Lebanese war crisis.

Shortly thereafter the Soviet Union replied with outspoken approval through the Soviet Communist Party's official organ Pravda. The Andreotti government, said Pravda, is "more 'to the left' of the traditional positions of the Christian Democracy, in particular in regard to certain problems of foreign policy." (See excerpts below). Significantly the Pravda statement was reported in the Italian Communist Party's daily, *Unita*.

Internal Policy

Andreotti's Aug. 4 speech made indirect overtures to the working-class base of the Communist Party and the representatives of that base. He emphasized the similarity between his government and the National Liberation Committee (CNL) regime that ruled Italy from the end of the war until the 1948 elections; the latter, an emergency government charged with beginning the task of reconstruction following the war, was an all-party "caretaker" formation that included Communist representatives. Andreotti clearly hinted that he needs and wants Communist support for his own regime.

Andreotti's indirect approach was designed to avoid drawing fire from those in his own party who would not support Communist participation in the government but who are not so adamantly opposed to Communist support "from the outside." At the same time it allowed him to further neutralize his Atlanticist agent opponents in the Communist Party by using their own "CNL" slogan against them.

The effect of Andreotti's initiatives in cracking Atlanticist control of the Communist Party has become daily more visible. When the vote of confidence for Andreotti's regime was cast, the Communists broke all post-war precedents and did not vote against, instead abstaining and so allowing the government to be formed. This week Luciano Barca, one of the party's top economists and a faithful follower of top Italian Atlanticist and Fiat boss Gianni Agnelli, gave an interview to the Agnelli-run journal *Repubblica* in which he refused the interviewer's urgings to attack Andreotti. "His government represents a step forward," Barca said, "because Andreotti escaped from simplistic positions like that of (Christian Democrat agent economist) Andreatta (e.i., solve the crisis by cutting wages — Ed.) and like those of (Andreatta's chum in the Republican Party) Giorgio La Malfa (i.e., solve the crisis by cutting social services — Ed.)" Barca concluded, "We appreciate the programmatic timetable that Andreotti has posed." Further evidence of the support that Andreotti's pro-development forces have forced from the Communists is an appeal issued in yesterday's *Unita* from the party secretariat, backing Andreotti's Mideast peace moves with an appeal to "the Italian government, the political forces, and the population in general" for "international solidarity" to stop the carnage in Lebanon.

Attacking the "Invisible Government"

The other essential feature of Andreotti's speech was his determination to straighten out Italy's justice system, a major

issue during the period prior to the formation of the government. Andreotti's aims include a major reorganization of the Italian secret services (SID) structure, which since 1964 has mainly served as a cover for conspiracies and attempted coups d'état with the known involvement of Gianni Agnelli and his political puppets, such as former Prime Minister Aldo Moro.

The Socialist Party has been a major force in pushing for reform of the SID and the elimination of the "military secret" cover which is used by Moro and his co-conspirators the generals of the SID and its matrix organization, the Sifar.

On Aug. 4, Andreotti announced that his government will present Parliament with a bill — demanding that it be passed speedily — to revamp the present States Secret Act, arguing that in its present form has too often stood in the way of justice. This is in line with Andreotti's attempt while he was the Minister of Defense in 1974 to dismantle the Agnelli-Moro faction of the SID.

In the economic side of his program, Andreotti compromised to an extent with the Communist Party on its demands for austerity measures. On Aug. 4 Andreotti merely put forward a lengthy and vaguely worded austerity plan as he had done in the past. Two points which should be noted however, are first, his emphasis on cutting down inflation without hurting the country's productive base, and secondly, a promise that his program for youth employment will be ready soon. This latter plank of his program was the basis of his discussions with the country's trade unions two weeks ago, and the issue on which he won their explicit support.

The New Cabinet

These programmatic points, in connection with certain concessions that Andreotti made to receive Parliamentary support (such as allowing the Communist Party to gain the control of some important Parliamentary commissions) have allowed him to use his present position of strength in the Christian Democracy and the corresponding strength of his factional allies to constitute a government in which Andreotti's men fill a number of key ministries, while some of Italy's most notorious Atlanticists have either been booted out of ministerial posts altogether or prevented from assuming the more important posi-

Exclusive Translation

Pravda Gives Support To Andreotti Government

The following commentary on the Andreotti government appeared in Pravda's Weekly Review Sunday Aug. 8.

Among the events of recent days, the attention of observers has been drawn to the situation in Italy. The new Prime Minister of the Italian government, Christian Democrat Giulio Andreotti, has placed the program of his cabinet before Parliament for discussion. This traditional procedure takes on a special meaning under the circumstances of the present political activity on the banks of the Tiber. The Andreotti cabinet is not a coalition with other parties, as was the case many times before, but is formed exclusively of Christian Democrats. In the new parliament, however, the DC does not have enough of its own forces to govern the country by itself.

The government program cannot, of course, fail to take into account the particularities of the present situation. In some things it is to the left of traditional positions of the Christian Democrats. The positive approach of the one-party government towards several international problems has been strengthened.

tions for which they had lobbied.

The most notorious cases are those of Aldo Moro, Emilio Colombo, and Carlo Donat Cattin. Moro, the outgoing premier, has historically been one of the central Atlanticists operatives in the Christian Democracy, while Colombo, Treasury Minister in most Italian cabinets for over a decade, was the inside government man controlled by Guido Carli former Bank of Italy governor and leading Schachtian economist of the Organization for Economic Development and Cooperation. Both Moro and Colombo were tossed clean out of the government. Since both men were also factional leaders in the Christian Democracy party apparatus, their defeat means corresponding strength for Andreotti inside the party.

The reinstatement of Donat Cattin in the Ministry of Industry was the result of a major factional battle inside the party — a battle which Andreotti won. Donat Cattin, as factional leader of the Atlanticist-created countergang "left wing" of the Christian Democracy, demanded to be kicked upstairs to a more important ministry. The Christian Democracy leadership, including many of Donat Cattin's Atlanticist cronies, was forced to take Andreotti's side in the affair.

With three important exceptions, therefore, the key ministries in Italy's new cabinet are now filled by Andreotti's factional allies. Foreign Trade, Treasury, and Interior are held by Atlanticist flunkies, but Defense, the Foreign Office, Finance, Public Works, and State Holdings are under Andreotti's direct control.

The significance of the Foreign Ministry is dramatically shown in the steps already taken by Forlani. On the other hand, through his control of the Defense Ministry (held by Vito Lattanzio) Andreotti can continue his significant efforts to clean out the Atlanticist cancer in Italy's military intelligence and armed forces.

The Ministry of State Holdings, held by incumbent Antonio Bisaglia, coordinates the activities and management of the state-owned industrial sector, the most significant power base of the Italian anti-Atlanticist forces. In control of his ministry as well, Andreotti is not only in a position to block the wave of attacks against this sector coming from the Atlanticist machine, but is also already announcing plans to strengthen this sector by incorporating in it his main factional ally, Eugenio Cefis.

At the same time, it leaves no illusions about its ability effectively to deal with the economic difficulties of the country which, as is known, were one of the main reasons for the last government crisis and led to early parliamentary elections.

Under these circumstances the leadership of the Italian Communist Party passed a decision to recommend that its parliamentary groups abstain from the vote of confidence in the government of Andreotti. The Italian Socialist Party made the same decision.

In the foreign policy section of his program, Andreotti called for the development of Italy's relations with all states; however, he said, these states must respect the sovereignty and national dignity of Italy. The latter point is understood by observers as a reaction to the preparations of the USA, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, and Britain to carry out economic sanctions against Italy in case the Communists enter the government. Now that scandalous fact, of the plot of the four NATO allies, has been confirmed by a White House statement, which enflamed passions around this issue even more.