

The Confusion In Italy

WIESBADEN, March 5 (NSIPS) — Overall, the past two weeks news from Italy is bad. Under the cover of various rationalizations, every leading pro-development current in Italy is retreating disgracefully under massive pressure from the Rockefeller machine. Concealed behind customary poses of “bella figura,” the leading forces of the Italian parties and industries are just plain terrified, and on the verge of an indecent rout.

While this overall character is clear, the details are a chaotic medley of contradictory and simply skew moves and countermoves. The confusion that appears to the observer is not a matter of inadequate behind-the-scenes information; the confusion that appears to the observer is essentially the panic and hysteria flowing from the minds of the principal political and industrialist figures on the scene.

The central feature of the situation is the currently scheduled ten-day parliamentary marathon around the so-called “Lockheed scandals.” The parliament of a major nation has subjected itself to the kind of “marathon around-the-clock” brainwashing session we are accustomed to witness in New York City trade union negotiations.

The parliamentary Lockheed scandals prosecution of former cabinet members Gui and Tanassi is a fraud — as every leading political figure knows. It is well-known to all leading Italian political circles that the so-called “Lockheed scandal” is a hoax manufactured with the aid of the U.S. Senate’s Church Committee. Yet, there are proceeding with this disgusting charade.

It is also known that the object of the “Lockheed scandal” debate is to bring down the Andreotti government in favor of either a new Moro government or a state of governmental chaos characterized by a general, insane confrontation between the “left” and “right.” Yet, the Socialist Party (PSI) and the Communist Party (PCI) are collaborating with the Radical Party in carrying out the pre-arranged scenario, knowing that such antics are intended to bring Italy under either an International Monetary Fund austerity dictatorship or a not-too-distant “Chilean solution.”

Yet, this suicidal scenario is being acted-out, while the miserable business of the IMF loan is moving simultaneously toward the opening of official negotiations. It is known that the planned scenario is for a collapse of the Andreotti government by approximately Easter, and an ensuing period of chaos — to Rockefeller advantage thereafter. Yet, the suicidal games proceed under lemming-like compulsion.

Otherwise, the present turmoil in the state-industry sector — with the Montedison reshuffling currently most prominent — has many angles, some of which may be obscure, some ostensibly irrelevant to the present crisis-situation. Whatever the ins and outs of the reshufflings in detail, the mood among the top state-industry strata is fear and even outright terror.

There is also real terror among some top Italian political and industrial circles concerning the Labor

Party and this reporter. We have been directly, if confidentially, informed by high-level circles of the U.S.-linked pressures threatening Italians concerning any close consultations with or support of Labor Party efforts.

However, it is not all so one-sided. There are positive developments afoot, which could become significant if the Soviet leadership and Comecon become sufficiently enraged by Carter Administration shenanigans. If Italy’s strategic political-economic situation is improved by developments outside Italy, the present rout could be quickly superseded by a counterattack. Any monetary and economic agreements which favorably shift Italy’s 1977 perspectives would mean a most probable resumption of the positive role the Andreotti government was playing prior to Carter’s inauguration.

The “Rockheed Scandal”

The basic Carter Administration tactic for attempted subversion of the Italian government centers around a sharp left-right confrontation. This is intended to rally all the forces of the nominal parliamentary and extra-parliamentary “left” in a mindless confrontation with the Christian Democracy as a whole. This includes an alternative scenario, in which forces around the PSI, PCI and the Radical Party bring down the Andreotti government in favor of a short-term Moro government. The scenario and its variants depend upon complicit forces within the Christian Democracy.

The current parliamentary “impeachment” proceedings against social democrat Tanassi and Christian Democrat Gui represent a key part of this scenario. Both are being attacked on the pretext of the fraudulent “Lockheed” disclosures identified with the U.S. Senate Church Committee. The “impeachment” actions against Tanassi and Gui are to be a precedent, to be broadened for a general “Watergate”-type destabilization of all the pro-development forces in Italy, and a general disruption of the Christian Democratic Party and state industries.

No one cares much about Gui in this affair. Moro and others commit the Christian Democracy to a “hard-line” defense of Gui, and if the PSI and PCI maintain a hard-line bloc with the Radical Party on the same issue, Rockefeller will have gained the “left”-“right” showdown the scenario demands. The Andreotti government’s efforts to make programmatic agreements with the trade unions and municipalities will sail out the window, and chaos will be introduced.

The key to this Carter internal intervention into the Italian government is the fact that the Andreotti government is based on an implicit alliance between pro-development capitalist and trade-union forces. The latter social forces are represented by the Mancinian and other currents within the PSI and by the tacit support of the major trade union confederation (CGIL) and the trade-union-linked forces of the Communist Party. Without the support of sections of the PCI and PSI, Andreotti is forced back upon his parliamentary minority

base represented by his combined supporters and enemies in the Christian Democracy. An Andreotti government imprisoned within the DC fraction must fall quickly.

In other words, the essential fact of Italy is that the Andreotti government is actually based on class forces, rather than party forces. The Christian Democracy is divided between pro-Rockefeller and pro-development forces. The PSI is also divided between pro- and anti-Rockefeller forces, as is the Communist Party. Hence, it is impossible to base a stable government of Italy upon the parties; only a combination of the pro-development factions of the DC, PSI and PCI can provide Italy the stable "emergency transitional" government the nation desperately requires for this moment of global crisis.

Therefore, the Rockefeller tactic for Italy is obvious; force a political showdown in the parliament along party lines between "left" and "right" and Italy falls into Rockefeller hands.

The key agents making such a Rockefeller tactic possible are old agent Riccardo Lombardi of the PSI, the Amendolas, Segres and Berlinguers of the PCI, and the Rockefeller-allied forces within the DC — plus, of course, the perennial Ugo LaMalfa, old crony of Lombardi and Amendola from the days of their close joint collaboration under Allen Dulles' direction. Add such ingredients as the fascist student "autonomistic" and the propaganda forces centered around the magazine *Expresso* and the daily rag *La Repubblica*, and throw in the rag-tag Radical Party together with the rest of the extra-

parliamentary "left," and one has the Rockefeller combination.

Thus, the current antics in the Italian parliament around the "Lockheed scandal" become the principal current feature of the Rockefeller-Carter effort to bring down the Andreotti government and subject Italy to a fascist-modeled austerity program.

Psychological Manipulation

We must concede that Zbigniew Brzezinski and others are targeting the proper psychological weak-points of the various Italian political and industrial leaders.

When Italian political and industrial leaders are sufficiently frightened, they retreat from any overview of the total reality toward obsessive preoccupation with localized and private issues. By focussing upon such localized issues, they are induced to react to external pressures by more energetic preoccupation with petty affairs. Isolated details, isolated facts, isolated issues of "bella figura," settling old private feuds, and so forth tend to predominate. That is precisely the mood prevailing around the parliament this past week, and precisely the mood prevailing among industrial circles during the comparable recent period.

Unless one knew that major turns in the global situation were under way at this time, one would mistakenly conclude that Italy was doomed. It is not, but the performance of Italy's leading forces during this past week or so would tend to suggest such a wretched 60 days ahead.

Il Fiorino Interviews LaRouche, Leader Of The U.S. Labor Party

The following article by Giorgio Vitangeli appeared under the above headline on the front-page of the Italian daily Il Fiorino Mar. 6.

"The problem is the real economy, not the monetary system. Italy needs to increase its industrial production by 50-60 percent. Italy's problems are insoluble at present production levels." The speaker is Lyndon LaRouche, an enigmatic, disconcerting American politician. LaRouche is the leader of the Labor Party, a small political formation formed some years ago in the United States. He was a candidate in the last presidential elections, obviously obtaining modest results. But after the elections his party launched a rapid fire series of accusations of fraud, and for a moment it seemed that top level spokesmen of the Republican Party and Ford's entourage were ready to support such a campaign, to the point where they actually joined (the Labor Party) in vote recounts in a number of states.

So far the portrait we have painted of LaRouche might seem to be that of an "outsider" or a "madman," one of the many more or less picturesque American politicians who from time to time vainly dream the dream of creating a third force which could succeed in inserting itself between the Republicans and Democrats, thereby breaking the bipartisan equilibrium. But LaRouche's

activities are not limited to the United States. To describe his activities, even schematically, means in fact jumping from one country to the next, from one continent to the next. Delving into LaRouche's past is also not without surprises. He changes his name. First he was called Lyn Marcus, and with this pseudonym he worked in Trotskyite groups of the Second International and generally within the area of the extreme left.

But let us return to the present organization. In the United States, as we have seen, he operates under the rubric of the U.S. Labor Party. In Canada (the organization) is present as the North American Labor Party, with activist nuclei in Vancouver, Ottawa, and Montreal. In South America there is the Latin American Labor Committees, and in Mexico the Mexican Labor Party. Finally in Europe the organization has bases in Italy, France, West Germany, Sweden, and Denmark. In Italy it is called the Partito Operaio Europeo and has offices in Milan, Rome and Turin. It certainly cannot call itself a mass organization, but for some time now there has been no press conference or meeting of an economic character where (LaRouche's) activists have not stood out. In France there exists a Parti Ouvrier Européen which for the moment seems to have only one base, in Paris. In Sweden there is the Europeiske Arbetet Partet with nuclei of activists in Stockholm and Malmoe. The