

Italy: Aldo Moro's enemies take over the government

by Muriel Mirak, Milan Bureau Chief



EIR Milan Bureau Chief, Muriel Mirak, has written the following report one week after "the most disgraceful government coalition of the post-war period" assumed power in Italy.

The government formed April 2 under Francesco Cossiga, whose Christian Democratic faction invited the Italian Socialist Party to staff one-third of all cabinet positions, makes Italy a virtual client-state of the British and American governments. It has no policies independent of those dictated to it by the Thatcher and Carter administrations.

Massive, direct intervention into Italian affairs was required to put Cossiga, whose first government collapsed, back in power. This included personal action by both President Carter and Britain's foreign minister, Lord Carrington. The Anglo-American takeover that made possible Cossiga's success in forming a coalition with the Socialists not only leaves Italy's future sovereignty as a nation in doubt, but poses a direct threat to world peace. Combined indications from London, Washington and Rome already establish that Italy, a traditional "bridge" between Europe and much of the Third World, will now be employed as a battering ram against the European Monetary System nations and those Arab governments so recently allied to Europe in the cause of world peace.

How the Italians could have allowed themselves to be reduced to this status is the subject of Muriel Mirak's report.

At this time two years ago, Aldo Moro, the former premier who was among Italy's most respected statesmen, was a captive of the Red Brigades terrorists who were to brutally assassinate him only weeks later. The purpose of that crime was to force the "national unity" government of Italy to its knees. The government of Christian Democrat Giulio Andreotti, struggling to represent Italy's nationalist, development-oriented forces

with the support of the Italian Communist Party in parliament, was to be forced to recognize the "armed party" of terrorists, by negotiating for Moro's life. By thus demoralizing the "national unity" forces, and causing their alliance to disintegrate, it was the purpose of Henry Kissinger and other Anglo-American figures behind the terrorist deployment to punish the Italians for daring to place national self-interest above obedience to those British-centered interests who have aborted Italian development for centuries.

The Italian "banana republic," struggling to become a nation, was to be crushed, and as a result, the emerging European Monetary System was to be crippled.

Acting in close coordination with the terrorist kidnapping of Moro were the representatives of the so-called "negotiation party" (Partito delle Trattative) in parliament. This was the wing of the Christian Democracy under Amintore Fanfani, and the Italian Socialist Party, whose sympathies for terrorism have never been a secret. Both elements in the "negotiation party" are controlled by the Hapsburg-centered "black nobility," their Mont Pelerin Society, and the Jesuits. As Socialist leaders Bettino Craxi, Giacomo Mancini, Signorile and others conducted high-level consultations with the "Autonomists"—the "above-ground" element of the Red Brigades networks—and with the Red Brigades terrorists themselves to monitor their moods and plans, the would-be strong-man Fanfani prepared his own ascent to power, calculated to take effect as soon as the Andreotti-PCI government forces capitulated to the Red Brigades demands.

But two years ago, it did not work according to plan. Contrary to Anglo-American predictions and profiles, then prime minister Andreotti, with unconditional backing from the Communist Party leadership under Enrico Berlinguer, stood intransigent. Pope Paul VI threw the



June 1977: The murdered Aldo Moro (right), principal architect of the "national unity" policy of collaborative policy making with the Communist Party pursued by Andreotti's government, greets Communist Secretary General Enrico Berlinguer.

entire moral and political weight of the Vatican into the balance on Andreotti and Berlinguer's side. The Pope even personally intervened with Christian Democratic leader Flaminio Piccoli to guarantee that his followers would not preach capitulation to terrorist demands or advise negotiation.

The resistance was strengthened by New Solidarity International Press Service (NSIPS), which uncovered and published the facts of Kissinger-circle involvement, the complicity of U.S. Ambassador Gardner, and of direct involvement by U.S., British, and Israeli intelligence agencies in the Moro affair. These published exposés were widely distributed in Italy by the European Labor Party.

The months-long tug-of-war ended in Moro's brutal murder, but the sovereignty of the Italian nation was safeguarded. Italy was torn, traumatized and exhausted, but not destroyed.

How Cossiga 'won'

The weakness of this national-unity government of 1978-79 lay principally in the fact that, although it had defeated the political forces behind the Red Brigades and the Socialist Party temporarily, the Andreotti Christian Democrats and his allies in the Communist Party leadership did not address the task of cleaning out the enemy within the ranks of their own parties.

At the end of 1978, it was a British-aligned faction within the Communist Party that compelled the party's leaders to withdraw support for the European Monetary System, therefore precipitating a government crisis. In the turbulent electoral campaign that followed in spring 1979, the real issues of the EMS and East-West détente were obscured, in favor of petty Communist vs. Christian Democrat, "left" vs. "right" posturing. Both the Christian Democrats and the Italian Communists suffered

serious political losses. No real clarification of the issues inside either party occurred.

The only real sign of fight in the Christian Democrat-Communist Party forces was to be seen in the massive offensive initiated in early 1979 against the terrorist networks. On April 7, 1979, arrests of Tony Negri and his entire circle of Red Brigades controllers sounded a serious danger signal to the Italian Socialist Party leadership which had harbored and financed many of Negri's front-enterprises. Each such high-level arrest led to the unearthing of yet more compromising evidence of Socialist complicity with terrorists. It was principally such incriminating evidence, turned up in the spring and summer of 1979, and published by *EIR* in both regular-weekly and pamphlet form, that prevented Socialist secretary-general Bettino Craxi from succeeding in his attempt to form a government in the summer of 1979.

But as the advent of the first Cossiga government indicated, an anti-terrorist offensive in itself was not sufficient. No serious thrashing out of fundamental policy differences *within* both the Communist and Christian Democratic parties was undertaken, so that a principled, programmatically defined new coalition could be formed without the internal weaknesses that had undermined the earlier effort.

A kind of internal reorganization confirming secretary-general Berlinguer's hold on the party apparatus did occur inside the Communist Party. At the same time, Andreotti prepared for a political showdown at the February congress of the Christian Democracy. Months of careful organizing preceded the conference, and all informed analysts were predicting an overwhelming victory for the Andreotti-Zaccagnini faction with promised support from the faction led by Flaminio Piccoli—together, a strong majority in the party. In that eventuality, Italy could look forward to a new Christian Democratic-

Communist coalition government that would join the Franco-German peace offensive against the Anglo-American "arc of crisis" policy centered around Iran and Afghanistan.

It was in the pre-conference period that the Anglo-American elite began to intervene in Italy on a major scale. Blatant interference, conducted personally by U.S. officials, "bought" Flaminio Piccoli and rigged the Christian Democratic congress in favor of the anti-Communist alliance around Fanfani and the treacherous Piccoli. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and U.S. Ambassador Richard Gardner acted in person in Italy to ensure that Andreotti would be defeated. That crucial interference, accompanied by a spate of "Watergate"-style scandals and a new terrorist outbreak of unprecedented intensity, shifted the balance against Andreotti and his Communist allies.

The Christian Democratic congress closed with 42 percent of the party aligned with Andreotti in favor of a national-unity coalition to include the Communists, and a European economic development policy aligned with Schmidt and Giscard. The remainder of the party, the majority thanks to turncoat Piccoli (who was paid-off with the powerful post of party secretary-general), emerged committed to tying Italy hand-and-foot to Mr. Carter's insanely "incalculable" foreign policy.

Since the congress, hell has broken loose throughout Italy. Terrorism has claimed one victim per day from among Christian Democratic ranks—judges, theoreticians and leading politicians. Carter bought Piccoli, and then unleashed the wolves. And at that very point, at the end of March, the President of the United States personally telephoned Prime Minister designate Cossiga—hampered in his ability to form a government by Andreotti's refusal to compromise—and according to press reports, Carter told him to form a new government with the Socialists immediately, so that Italy would be ready to play the role the U.S. had designed for Italy in a planned new Middle East crisis.

Cossiga obeyed, and the most disgraceful government coalition of the post-war period came into being.

The government itself

It is useful to recall that Cossiga, the man now heading the Italian government, was Interior Minister during the Moro kidnapping. At that time, Cossiga invited British and Israeli secret services to "collaborate" in the antiterrorist operations, even though these services were being widely identified as complicit in the Red Brigades terrorism. Cossiga was in fact forced to resign after Moro's dead body was found for his failure to effectively pursue the terrorists holding his party's president captive.

Cossiga's new foreign minister, Emilio Colombo, belongs to the European aristocratic circles around the

Princess Pallavicini's family and the Hapsburgs, who control the Fanfani wing of the Christian Democracy. Colombo can be counted on to follow every foreign policy directive issued to him from the Carter and Thatcher cabinets; he has already promptly lent support to the discredited "Camp David" Middle East agreement.

Cossiga's new defense secretary, Lelio Lagorio of the Socialist Party, is a creature of American circles in Florence. He is best known for his support for the policy of stationing Pershing missiles on European soil.

Beniamino Andreatta, special minister without portfolio, is "the Henry Reuss of Italy," who can be counted on to implement a harshly anti-European Monetary System policy and domestic deindustrialization and deflation. Andreatta was among the founders of Trento University, from whose Sociology Department, the first Red Brigades terrorists came.

At the Agriculture Ministry is another minister firmly opposed to the EMS, Giovanni Marcora, whose principal function is to sever economic and political ties between Italy and France. All of the ministries controlling the economy are securely in the grip of anti-EMS spokesmen. Republican Party leader Giorgio LaMalfa, son of Ugo LaMalfa, the "theoretician" of Italian austerity, is the budget minister. Franco Reviglio, an independent from the Socialist Party, is finance minister. Christian Democrat Filippo Pandolfi is the treasury minister, Socialist Enrico Manca is the minister for foreign trade. The minister of industry remains Antonio Saglia of Piccoli's faction, and the powerful state industries ministry passes into the hands of Socialist Gianni de Michelis, the man from Padua University who was instrumental in promoting the career of jailed terrorist Tony Negri. De Michelis comes from the aristocratic Venetian circles that provided Negri with his wife Meo.

The powerful porkbarrel called the Cassa per Il Mezzogiorno (development of southern Italy) has been assigned to Nicola Capta, an ally of terrorist-connected Socialist Giacomo Mancini. Scientific research has been given to another Mancini ally, Vincenzo Balzamo, whose party attacks science. Transportation is in the hands of Salvatore Formica of the Socialist Party, and the health ministry has gone to former mayor of Milan Aldo Anasi of the Mancini faction. He is rumored to have been elected to parliament with the support of the notorious Calabrian mafia. While Milan's mayor, Anasi backed legalization of hard drugs; he currently supports a Socialist bill for drug legalization (including controlled distribution of heroin through Italy's hospitals under the health ministry).

Communications belongs to Fanfani colleague Lelio Darida, who now controls national television and radio. Another Fanfanian, Bernardo d'Arezzo, is minister for tourism and entertainment. D'Arezzo recently chaired a

conference on prostitution in Florence, and supported the reopening of closed brothels and the legalization of prostitution.

The few ministries still manned by Christian Democrats sympathetic to Andreotti, the Merchant Marine under Signorello, European Economic Community relations under Scotti and Interior Minister Rognoni, with the exception of the latter, are insignificant in foreign and domestic policymaking. All the key ministries are in the hands of the enemies of Aldo Moro, men who labored during his kidnapping to bring down the Italian republic.

Where are the Communists?

There can be no doubt that the new Italian government has been shaped as a battering ram against Europe, against the Giscard-Schmidt design for a Euro-Arab dialogue, against the European Monetary System, against international détente. It is a government whose principal spokesmen are all on record against the national interests of the Italian nation-state. They are on record against the elementary norms of morality, against human dignity.

The Socialist Party which occupies one third of all cabinet posts, is publicly identified with the terrorist networks that are shooting down leading citizens daily. In its policy-commitments over recent years, the Socialist Party has consistently defended every evil afflicting Italian society, from drugs to terrorism to pornography. It has demanded deindustrialization and de-schooling. It is such a party that controls a large part of the government's foreign and domestic policymaking.

Where are the Communists, one must ask? What will the second largest party in the nation do to change the situation? How will this most powerfully organized formation in the country intervene to rebuild a programmatic alliance with Andreotti, those forces in the Christian Democracy that demonstrated their willingness to sacrifice short-term political gains for the sake of a principled alliance with the Communists. Surely the Communists are now orienting toward those principled forces.

Tragically, the answer is no. The Communists are acting out their weaknesses almost as if reading a script. Despite the party's enormous membership of 1.7 million, its powerful parliamentary representation and extensive organizational structure, in the current crisis, it is behaving like a dumb giant. Party secretary general Berlinguer is reacting to the Andreotti faction's defeat by trying to appease the enemy, terrified by the implications of a classical Christian Democratic "right turn" engineered by the Fanfani-Piccoli faction. Aghast at the Socialists' readiness to ally with Fanfani's faction, the Communists are not waging a principled battle but are trying to ingratiate themselves with the enemy. Berlinguer is touring Europe in search of every British-allied leader of the

Second International to "prove" to them and to the nasty Americans and their representatives that the Communist Party is "democratic" enough to be given a piece of the government.

Berlinguer is even willing to go to China. He has announced that his party will not participate in the European Communist Party conference on disarmament.

Predictably and lawfully, such unprincipled and opportunistic behavior is provoking the ire not only of the Soviet leadership, which is concerned about the strategic implications of the internal Italian developments, but also of the party's rank and file. The more Berlinguer pursues his appeasement policy toward the Socialists and their friends internationally, the weaker his own position will become within the party.

If Berlinguer loses his hold over the party apparatus, the way will be clear for a worse-than-Piccoli-style takeover of the Communist Party, which would then be prepared to walk into a government coalition of the type Henry Kissinger experimented with in Chile.

Ironically, it is Piccoli himself, the turncoat of the Christian Democracy, who has been advising Berlinguer on what course of action he should pursue. In an interview carried in the daily *Repubblica*, Piccoli applauds Berlinguer's appeasement—but it is not yet enough! The Communists must act as did Luther, Piccoli said, and provoke total schism with the Soviet Union, declaring that the socialist system as such was responsible for Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Afghanistan. He must engineer an Italian *Bad Godesberg* and renege the very principles that makes the Communist Party a communist party. It must even become a bastion against détente.

This is what Henry Kissinger, Jimmy Carter, and Ambassador Richard Gardner have apparently communicated to Piccoli. That is the option being posed to the Communists, in exchange for a brief, and suicidal term in office as part of a Chile-style coalition.

Yet, the Communists, were they following another policy, have the international connections, including relations with Giscard and Schmidt whose policies they recently endorsed, with forces in the developing nations, and of course, the Comecon nations, to exert powerful influence in Italy on behalf of détente and a development policy. Were its commitment clear, it could easily mobilize the weight of the labor movement, and win vast support from industrial and agricultural sectors, to force a change in domestic and foreign policy. Were it to behave as it did during the period of the Moro kidnapping—with the result that the nation was saved—Andreotti's defeat could prove only temporary.

Otherwise, it is difficult to see how Andreotti, from a minority position, targeted by scandal-mongers and terrorists, can effect an internal shift. The nation is perhaps doomed, and possibly, along with Italy, so is Europe.