

Italy

Will Cossiga survive new terror scandal?

by Jeffrey Steinberg

A political civil war has broken out in Italy following public revelations that the "godfather" of the present Cossiga government is linked to the terrorist assassination of a leading Italian judge and possibly to the kidnapping-assassination of former Premier Aldo Moro. While it is impossible to predict at this time what the outcome of this series of startling revelations will be, or what arrests and counter-arrests will be made, it is now firmly established that the evidence published in the November 1978 European Labor Party dossier, *Who killed Aldo Moro*, is true.

That dossier, which has shaped the efforts of anti-terrorist forces in Italy since its publication, showed that it was the Italian black nobility, acting through its kept servants in the Christian Democracy and the leadership of the Socialist Party, linked as well to Anglo-American and Israeli intelligence services, who ordered and carried out the Moro assassination.

Last week, police in Turin revealed that Marco Donat Cattin, the son of DC Vice-Secretary Senator Carlo Donat Cattin, was a leading member of the terrorist underground in Italy, responsible for the assassination in January 1979 of Milan-based Judge Alessandrini. At the time of his assassination, Alessandrini was about to name the names of the black nobility (those feudalists who trace their lineage back to the Roman Empire) behind the Moro killing.

The Turin police revealed that they were in possession of tape recorded evidence of the role of the young Donat Cattin in the Alessandrini assassination and the earlier murder of Milan University Professor Galuzzi. Three of those tape recordings were of telephone calls that Marco Donat Cattin made from the office and the apartment of his father! Two calls made from the Senator's apartment during the March 1978 period leading into the Moro kidnapping came well over a year after the DC official had "repudiated" his son's terrorist activities by claiming that Marco had gone underground and had not been seen by the family for over a year. The taped evidence shows that Senator Donat Cattin was lying.

The recent Donat Cattin revelations add further weight to the charges—carried frequently in the pages of

EIR—that the Cossiga government is a coalition of terrorists. Senator Donat Cattin, more than perhaps any other Italian political figure, was responsible for putting Cossiga back in power, in coalition with the Socialists. At the February 1980 DC Congress, Donat Cattin blocked with the Cossiga forces in the party to muscle the faction led by Giulio Andreotti out of power. The Andreotti group had led Italy into a close political alliance with Chancellor Schmidt of the Federal Republic of Germany and President Giscard d'Estaing of France in creating the new gold-backed European Monetary System and in conducting a coordinated international crackdown against the "citizens above suspicion" who run terrorism in the NATO countries.

Senator Donat Cattin's actions at the DC Congress were backed up by the Trilateral Commission-owned Carter administration. According to one highly placed source in the DC, former U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance arrived in Rome on the eve of the Congress with "a suitcase full of money and a gun"—with orders to see a Cossiga-PSI coalition installed in power. For Vance, it was a quieter version of the more bloody coup d'etat that he ran in Greece in 1967.

What was the ruling coalition that Vance ushered into power? A government of terrorists:

- Prime Minister Cossiga was the Interior Minister during the Moro kidnapping. Following the discovery of Moro's corpse, then Prime Minister Andreotti fired Cossiga. The not-so-secret motive behind Cossiga's dumping was the fact that the Interior Ministry had been a pipeline of information into the Red Brigades on the state of the Moro investigation. More recent revelations published in *L'Unita* and *L'Espresso* indicate that the Interior Ministry had evidence of Marco Donat Cattin's role in the terrorist Primo Linea ("Front Line") group by no later than March 1977 and suppressed the evidence.

- The Italian Socialist Party, presently holding one-third of the ministerial seats in the Cossiga government, is the principal recruiting and control point over the Red Brigades, Front Line, the Autonomi and every other left-radical terrorist cell in Italy. According to testimony recently taken from Front Line "military commander" Patrizio Peci, following the arrests of professors Negri and Piperno on charges that they masterminded the Moro assassination, Piperno was visited in jail by Giacomo Mancini, a leading PSI mafiosi, and ordered to keep his mouth shut. According to Peci, it was three top leaders of the PSI who ordered the Moro hit and oversaw its execution.

This band of terrorists now ruling Italy through the combined efforts of Cyrus Vance and terrorist papa Senator Donat Cattin is the government that U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown described last week as "America's most reliable ally in Western Europe!"

The battle for Italy

A see-saw battle for power has erupted in Italy over the past week, centered around the long-suppressed revelations of the Donat Cattin-terrorist connection. It had been the intention of the Cossiga-PSI government since it entered office to bury once and for all the trail of evidence leading to its collective hand in carrying out the Moro murder (Moro at the time of his murder had been the prime mover behind an Andreotti-led "historic compromise" coalition with the Communist Party of Italy) and other terrorist acts.

Toward that end, Cossiga, et al. launched a campaign to "prove" that Italian terrorism was purely a local, sociological phenomenon, born of social conditions rather than through conscious, top-down design. Last month, the Cossiga-linked intelligence services released a 70-page dossier-confession by Primo Linea leader Peci. Peci claimed that the Red Brigades, et al. were purely Italian in origin, with no foreign links. He further claimed that professors Negri and Piperno were innocent of all involvement in the Moro killing. On the basis of these fabrications, an Italian judge is presently considering the release of Messrs Negri and Piperno—despite the existence of powerful contradictory evidence including taped telephone conversations between Negri and the Moro family during the "ransom" phase of the kidnaping-assassination.

The Peci "revelations" themselves took a startling turn during the first week of May when Judge Calogero, one of the most aggressive prosecutors of the forces

behind the Red Brigades took over the Peci interrogations. Immediately, information came pouring out of Peci's mouth that contradicted his 70-page "confession." Peci revealed the Marco Donat Cattin role as an important regional coordinator of Autonomi, Red Brigade and Front Line activities in the provinces of Piedmont, Lombard and Tuscany. He further revealed that the Israeli Shin Beth agency had made contact with the Red Brigades seeking cooperation.

Far from being successfully suppressed by the Cossiga government, these latest revelations have become front-page news throughout Italy—particularly the exposure of the Donat Cattin hand in terrorism.

As the result of these leaked interrogations, Cossiga-linked police on May 14 arrested one of the most respected and powerful secret service investigators in Rome, Russomano, for leaking government secrets.

As the result of these moves and countermoves, the issue of who really runs terrorism against the Italian state is now before the entire nation. No longer are byzantine maneuverings and backroom deals determining the plight of Italy. In this respect, the facts first published in *Who Killed Aldo Moro* now move center stage. Over the next weeks, the outcome of this now-raging fight will determine for all to know whether a band of Trilateral Commission and black nobility backed terrorists including Cossiga and Donat Cattin will continue to rule Italy; or whether an Andreotti-centered government committed to an alliance with Schmidt and Giscard will be restored to power.

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