Investigative Leads

Terrorism and the 'New Right' in France

by Dana Sloan

The indictment of Frenchman Olivier Danet by the Italian magistrates investigating the 1980 Bologna train-station bombing has focused attention—only some of it official—on the connection between terrorist killers and the so-called New Right in Europe, which is ostensibly concerned with abstractions of a political-philosophical nature.

Danet is a member of FANE, the Fédération d'Action Nationale et Européen, headed by Marc Frederikson. FANE was on the edge of the "respectable" New Right until it was banned after the Rue Copernic synagogue bombing in Paris in October 1980. Danet was chosen for the bombing by Stefano Della Chiaie, who worked for the Bolivian Interior Ministry (providing protection for the cocaine trade) until the recent change in government there, and is still a fugitive from Italian justice.

Another suspect in the Bologna bombing is Marco Affatigato, a one-time member of Ordine Nero (Black Order) who had moved to Nice, France in 1979 where he organized the local branch of the FANE out of a network of another barely legal New Right group, Pascal Gauchon's Parti des Forces Nouvelles (PFN). Affatigato was arrested for questioning by the French police within days after the train station massacre, but was inexplicably handed over to the authorities of Monaco, who released him.

In France, the combination of magazines, institutions and individuals that make up the New Right is centered around Alain de Benoist, former chief editor of the neo-Nazi "Europe-Action" grouping of the early 1960s. It consists of GRECE (Research and Study Group for a European Civilization) and its magazine *Eléments*, a theoretical review *Nouvelle Ecole*, a civil service infiltration think-tank called the Club de l'Horloge and a mass-circulation weekly edited by the pagan occultist Louis Pauwels, *Le Figaro* magazine.

Both the FANE and PFN have publicly boasted of their affinities with the New Right. Marc Frederikson declared on July 1, 1980, "we take our roots in the writings of Alain de

Benoist and the work of GRECE," while Pascal Gauchon of the PFN is known to have organized joint conferences with Louis Pauwels and GRECE in 1975. Further, a 1974 PFN pamphlet stated that "GRECE spread Anglo-Saxon scientific contributions in France."

That the PFN and FANE serve as shock troops for the New Right is not denied by Alain de Benoist, who otherwise claims his objective is to take over France from a cultural standpoint. On the contrary, de Benoist has asserted that "it is perfectly clear that movements of ideas in society will one day have effects which touch upon the political sphere."

De Benoist admits that he has also gotten involved in leftist causes, such as signing petitions in favor of the "Larzac autonomists."

Marco Affatigato had told a Genoese newspaper in May 1980 that his extreme-right organizations had carried out "joint demonstrative actions" with the leftist Italian Red Brigades. And he affirmed that in the case of the kidnapping and assassination of former Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro, "the action was carried out but not organized by the Red Brigades. . . . The act of murder was a joint one. The kidnapping was carried out thanks to secret financing. He was executed by the Red Brigades, but it was not organized by them." The occult financing, it was only later revealed by Italian investigators, came from Licio Gelli's Propaganda-2 Freemasons, the same grouping that ordered the Bologna massacre.

Left also meets right in France in the case of Action Directe, an organization which has recently undergone a reorganization which makes it a very close French equivalent of the Red Brigades. On Oct. 13, Frederic Oriach, a leading member of Action Directe who had been granted amnesty by the Mitterrand government in September 1981, was arrested as he was picking up documents from a locker at the Gare du Norde train station.

He will be defended by Jacques Vergès, who had previously served as attorney for Bruno Breguet, a pro-Palestinian Swiss terrorist arrested last February in Paris on charges of transporting explosives. Since 1970, when he was first picked up in Haifa with two kilograms of explosives, Breguet's support committees have been financed by the Swiss banker, François Genoud, a leading figure in the neo-Nazi "Malmö International" and a former associate of SS generals Wolff and Ramke.

It was the events that quickly followed the Breguet arrest that first convinced certain members of the French government to rethink their attitude on terrorism. Shortly after the arrest of the Genoud-protected Breguet, the notorious "Carlos" resurfaced after years of eclipse to personally threaten the lives of Interior Minister Gaston Defferre and President Mitterrand. This threat brought to a head the already simmering fight in the cabinet between Defferre and Minister of Justice Robert Badinter, a former attorney whose list of clients included a number of those released in the amnesty after May 1981.

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