

Italy's War on Crime by Marco Fanini

Terrorism's new 'social relevance'

Contrary to many reports, the terrorism monster is alive and active, but now with a class-conscious snarl.

On May 3 a terrorist commando tried to kill Prof. Gino Giugni in Rome. Two terrorists fired six bullets at him. Giugni was not killed.

The attempt on the life of Giugni is not the "last gasp" of terrorism here, as some claim. On the contrary, it is the beginning of a new wave of terrorist acts that coincides with a planned coup against the Italian state, a coup openly plotted by the Trilateral Commission and applauded by the Soviet KGB.

The terrorists' new tack can be seen in the announcement made by the "Communist Fighting Party" in taking credit for the attack by two gunmen in Rome. The group said that it had "killed" Giugni because he represented capitalism's efforts to restructure wage structures against the working class.

The Giugni shooting is a fulfillment of the new strategy announced by jailed Brigades leader Renato Curcio, who announced from Palmi prison some months ago that the armed party of the Brigades had come to an end, and that the struggle must now turn to "debates over social and economic problems, problems felt by the masses."

Curcio's theme was taken up by "repentant" terrorist Antonio Savasta, who during the Red Brigades trial at Ancona March 23 declared that the armed struggle is not "at an end; it will begin again" in a new form, thanks to the prison movement launched by Curcio.

The Milan trial of terrorist Rosso-Barbone was particularly bizarre. When the judges questioned the terrorists on the coup, the latter broke their silence as if obeying an order, and began to speak—to explain that terrorism had taken a wrong turn in 1979 when the movement became "criminalized" and that therefore it was necessary to turn to social struggle, to the tasks and the road of the masses. This is the gist of the testimony at Milan of Giuseppe Memeo, Corrado Alunni, and other assassins.

The Rome Red Brigades section contains 50 to 60 members. The new recruits are for the most part very young, investigators report, and receive their new terrorist strategy from prison, from the historic nucleus of the Red Brigades headed by Moretti (convicted in the kidnaping of former Prime Minister Aldo Moro) and Curcio. Unemployment and social crises are the basis of recruitment.

"The signals that we have picked up make us think that a new outbreak of terrorism will come in the near future, perhaps after the summer . . . We hoped until recently that the Red Brigades had not rebuilt the necessary force to shed blood. . . ." is the despairing comment of some police spokesmen. The pessimism comes from the discovery that the Italian political configuration is no longer favorable to repressing terrorism. Most importantly, the Italian Communist Party shows no intention of seriously opposing the new wave.

The existing coalition government, in which the Christian Democrats are, as they have been for 35 years, the largest political force, has been discredited because it has swallowed huge doses of austerity prescribed by the "technocrats" allied with the Trilaterals and the International Monetary Fund.

The Communists imagine that a replay of 1968 "wild in the streets" activity would perhaps not hurt their chances at the polls in June. They have been supporting the rock-concert "peace" organizing of reputed Mossad agent David Zard, which has resulted in frequent clashes between inflamed youth and the police. Along with increased support for anti-war disruptions against the American Euromissile deployment, the PCI has recently been unusually tolerant of the Trotskyist and other far-left components of the terrorist milieu who used to be policed by the communist trade unionists and kept at a distance from their demonstrations.

The Red Brigades' Professor Toni Negri has seized the opportunity to put the formerly tough anti-terrorist PCI on the defensive. "You are responsible . . . When in 1979 you made us off limits politically, terrorism became the new reality," Negri cried during the April 7 Red Brigades trials.

While the Communist Party thinks it may get into the government, it is actually aiding the programmed coup and bloodbath. At this moment, Italy's officially neo-fascist party, the MSI, and the "black ultras" (extreme right-wing networks) are reorganizing with the help of those CIA circles tied to Henry Kissinger and former CIA Italy station chief James Jesus Angleton. They are preparing to oppose a new "1968" with acts of violence and terrorism that will climax in a civil war engulfing Italy.