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## Conference Report

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# Italians call for reopening of files on the assassination of Enrico Mattei

by Claudio Celani

On Nov. 27 in Milan, Italy, an international conference on Enrico Mattei, founder of the Italian oil company ENI who died mysteriously in 1962, took place under the sponsorship of the Schiller Institute and *Executive Intelligence Review*. The Mattei issue is a hot one, especially in the present situation, when Italy is struggling for post-Yalta political and economic independence. The conference made clear that only if a new Mattei emerges, will Italy be able to overcome the economic crisis and the Anglo-American destabilization that aims to break the country up.

Thirty years ago, on Oct. 27, 1962, Enrico Mattei's airplane crashed in Bascapè, outside Milan, in what everybody understood as a political assassination. Mattei, by building a national-owned oil cartel (first called AGIP, then ENI), and challenging the oil multinationals in seeking independent deals with producing countries, threatened to destabilize the Yalta order, or "superpower condominium," which runs world affairs. Since then, Italian leaders have preferred to cover up his assassination, and have even smeared his character, while Italy's political history has become one of destabilizations and of "limited sovereignty."

The main outcome of the conference was a resolution calling upon the Italian authorities to "reopen the Mattei file," i.e., to officially reopen the investigations to find out whether or not there was foul play in the crash of the ENI founder's aircraft.

Equally important are the economic lessons of Mattei's accomplishments, which have been the object of smear campaigns by biographers and media outlets over the years. This was discussed at the Milan conference in connection with the American economist Lyndon LaRouche's economic program for a European "Productive Triangle," as the natural continuation of Mattei's development effort.

### 'A generation of giants'

Guest of honor at the Milan conference was the Mattei family: Enrico's brother Umberto, with his wife, and Enrico's sister Maria. Umberto Mattei, who has participated in

all official ceremonies honoring his brother, but has always refused to speak, decided to appear at the Schiller-EIR event because, as he explained to the organizers, this conference fully respected the spirit of his brother's work. Umberto Mattei's few but moving words reminded the audience of Enrico Mattei's total dedication to his country and to his work—a dedication which the Italian nation seems to have forgotten. Especially Italians seem to have forgotten something Mattei never ceased to repeat: "A country like Italy, which has no raw materials, no gold, in reality owns the biggest wealth in the world: its brains."

Describing the figure of Enrico Mattei is a hard job, said the next speaker, Prof. Marcello Colitti. Colitti, who joined ENI in 1956 and today is manager of an ENI division called Ecofuel, explained that it is difficult to describe somebody who belonged to "a generation of giants, so big in comparison to us that they would not fit in this room." Mattei was, and still is, an example for us: a moral example, a person who conceived his work as "an expression of charity" and was able "to motivate the youth by convincing them of the leader's design." Mattei had understood a deep truth, that "the rich need the poor"; this is an economic lesson which is most valid today, said Colitti. "A capitalist economy has an unbridgeable mechanism, which can be overcome only by enlarging the basis of the economy. Since technological progress is based on production of capital goods, you can have it only if the industry has a market—that is, if capital goods are exported." This was the basic economic concept inspiring Mattei's deals with developing countries, and must inspire a recovery program to overcome today's bottleneck, "the dramatic constriction of investment in the advanced countries."

Mattei, Colitti added, was a model for his idea of the state. The state must supply capital for economic development. But during the past two decades, the Italian government has done the opposite: It has collected money to finance "income," that is, market demand in place of investments. Also in his idea of political power, Mattei must be an exam-

ple: "Power was a necessity in order to be able to do what is necessary." Mattei always abhorred power as "arrogance," something which was incompatible with his ideas, as well as despising the concept of colonialism.

### 'The world would look different'

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, president of the Schiller Institute in Germany, took the floor as next speaker. Mrs. LaRouche compared the world strategic situation at the moment when Mattei was killed, to the situation in 1989 after the fall of the Berlin Wall, and the developments following what she called a *punctum saliens*, a critical historic branching-point. In 1962, when Mattei was killed, the Anglo-Americans were determined to prevent at all cost a coming together of four Catholic leaders of the western world: German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, U.S. President John Kennedy, French President Charles de Gaulle, and Mattei himself. Adenauer and de Gaulle had already made an alliance, and there was the "danger" that, at the end of the Algerian war, no conflicts could prevent the rapprochement of de Gaulle and Mattei, and therefore a strategic alliance for national independence of Italy, France, and Germany. "I am convinced that if Mattei had not been killed, and had Adenauer not been overthrown, today the world would look much different," said Helga LaRouche.

If we look at developments after 1989, we see how the world lost a similar chance with the elimination of a key figure who was an obstacle for the Yalta powers: the German banker Alfred Herrhausen, chairman of the Deutsche Bank. With the elimination of Herrhausen, the only person among Germany's ruling elites who dared to challenge the International Monetary Fund and World Bank dictatorship on economic policy disappeared, and the monetarists' "shock therapy" had a clear way to destroy any possibility of Eurasian development.

In 1989, Lyndon LaRouche, who was already a political prisoner of the Bush administration, proposed a development plan called the European Productive Triangle, but after the elimination of Herrhausen and of Detlev Rohwedder, the first manager of Germany's Treuhand company (responsible for the privatization of eastern Germany's agro-industrial sector), none in Germany dared to move in that direction. Today, the Productive Triangle is still the only viable economic strategy for Europe, Mrs. LaRouche said.

### 'Density of development'

EIR researcher Paolo Vitali reviewed Mattei's fight against the "free market" doctrine, which has always found support among those large private industrialists who were part of oligarchical and freemasonic dynasties. Mattei "could not accept that under such nice words as 'free market' or 'necessity for government budget cutting,' a fraud was committed by clearly identified national and international interests, who had nothing 'free' to offer at all. Luckily, Mattei's

position was not isolated, but was supported by a political and economic culture that saw in a rapid economic development the instrument of a rebirth of Italy, also morally, after the horrors of the war and the Mussolini decades."

Mattei's opponents were wrong, Vitali explained, because they considered "economic development as a linear phenomenon, as action-at-distance of particles—an absurdity in physics as well as in physical economy. And from physics, we can borrow a concept, 'critical mass,' which allows us to explain phenomena such as rapid economic development." Following Mattei's death, economic development was been denied to Third World countries, and the exceptions (Taiwan, South Korea) only prove the rule.

### 'Mattei, the Italian enemy'

Prof. Nico Perrone, teacher of modern history at Bari University, has carried out original research on the circumstances of Mattei's death, and reported on how he found declassified documents from the Pentagon and the U.S. State Department, which he published in a recent book entitled *Mattei, The Italian Enemy*. The book has been published by the major Italian publisher Mondadori, but strangely enough, only 7,000 copies were printed, half of which never went into circulation. Of the 3,500 that reached the bookstores, the publisher immediately withdrew 30% of them, and a little later, another 30%. As a result, Perrone's book cannot be found in any bookstore in Italy.

Professor Perrone recounted how, following Mattei's independent deals with oil-producing countries, the representatives of the oil multinationals in the U.S. administration began to be alarmed. Especially after Mattei's openings to China and to Moscow, the alarm reached red-alert level. In 1961, former U.S. Secretary of State Averell Harriman flew to Rome to meet the ENI president to check out his intentions. After Harriman, State Department insider George Ball came to Rome and asked Mattei, in a polite way, for an "explanation" of his economic initiatives. That meeting was very tense, but from the records it appears as if a compromise was reached, and a future meeting between Mattei and the chief of Standard Oil was mooted.

In the meantime, a press campaign against Mattei was going on. Mattei was described as "the most powerful man in Italy," who was maneuvering to drive his country out of the NATO alliance. Many articles against Mattei appeared in the U.S. press—in minor newspapers which never reach Italy—but the articles are nevertheless regularly clipped and land on the table of the President of the United States.

And then came the crisis. On Oct. 22, 1962, Kennedy announced that the U.S. Navy would blockade all Soviet ships en route to Cuba. The crisis committee at the White House (Excom) met in Kennedy's office. They discussed bombing Cuba, and the date indicated is Oct. 28 or 30. The voice of Defense Secretary Robert McNamara is heard shouting, and a Soviet retaliation is presented as certain to

come in Italy and Turkey. That same day, Mattei's plane crashed in a mysterious accident in northern Italy. "It is unpardonable," said Perrone, "that a serious investigation of that plane crash was never made."

### **LaRouche's program**

Paolo Raimondi from the Schiller Institute presented some programs which are in line with Mattei's investment plan for reviving the physical economy in the world and in Italy, and to pull the world out of depression. Raimondi presented Lyndon LaRouche's program for a Paris-Berlin-Vienna Productive Triangle, which calls for a Eurasian network of high-technology infrastructure in transport, communications, energy, and scientific research, that will transform continental Europe into the locomotive for the world recovery. He recalled that in 1980, LaRouche had already elaborated a specific program for Italy, entitled "A Gaullist Solution to the Italian Monetary Crisis," which, starting from the introduction of a so-called "heavy lira," suggested a series of actions to be undertaken against Italy's "black economy" and, through the nationalization of the central bank, the creation of new credit to realize large infrastructure projects. Such programs elaborated by LaRouche are based not on monetarist calculations or on approaches like the IMF's shock therapy, but rather on the concept of potential population density, identifying the real economic value in the development of man's creative capacities, and in the increase of population.

Marivilia Carrasco, from the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement in Mexico, spoke against those in Italy who have been proposing a "free trade pact" between eastern and western Europe. Such a proposal was recently made by Romano Prodi, an economist and former industrial manager, who has a reputation as "anti-liberal." Prodi, a senior adviser to the New York investment house Goldman Sachs, has proposed the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) as the model to be followed. Carrasco countered by reporting the ugly truth about NAFTA, which will further increase unemployment in the United States and collapse incomes in Mexico.

Maurizio Blondet, senior journalist for the Catholic newspaper *Avvenire*, reporting on a recent visit to the United States, gave a first-hand view of the effects of 15 years of U.S. deregulation policy, and of the effect of "a specific form of dirigism, called liberalism," on the Anglo-American economies. America, Blondet said, "is losing its working class. I am convinced that behind the ghettoization of the black population, there is a deliberate policy to exclude the blacks from the active labor force." This is "a deliberate brake to development." Americans elected Clinton, Blondet said, in the hope that he will an end to all this. Clinton has already promised investments, whose magnitude is insufficient; but it is important that at least a discussion has now been provoked.

### **One hand behind four murders**

The final part of the conference was devoted to the hottest theme of the day: "Is there a connection among the assassinations of Mattei, Kennedy, Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro, and Herrhausen?" The special guest on this panel was Col. Fletcher Prouty, former chief of Special Operations at the Pentagon, and the man who inspired the character of "Mr. X" in Oliver Stone's film "JFK." Prouty could not attend in person because of illness, but sent a videotaped interview. (The quotes given here are retranslated from the Italian transcript.)

"What these men were proposing," Prouty said, "was far away from the way of doing business and politics at that time. That is why they are dead, killed by forces who opposed a change." Prouty focused on the strategic value of transportation. "He who controls transportation controls the world." An example is the oil crisis in 1973, which was triggered not by the producing countries, but by the owners of the oil tankers—i.e., the multinationals.

The interviewer also asked Prouty: "Mr. Prouty, Lyndon LaRouche is the most recent great man who is a victim of the establishment. Do you think we can do something to bring justice for LaRouche?" Prouty answered, "I think he is trying to communicate to people the great value of technology, of [Friedrich] Schiller's teachings, the basic teachings for mankind. . . . I encourage this kind of technological development that LaRouche has been pushing for years and years, to improve mankind and operations in this world."

### **The non-existent RAF terrorists**

Anno Hellenbroich, of EIR Nachrichtenagentur in Germany, put the death of German banker Alfred Herrhausen into a different light than the official accounts. Now, three years after his death, the police have still not yet found the murderers. The police thesis is that Herrhausen was killed by the "third generation" of the Red Army Faction (Baader-Meinhof) terrorists; but there is much evidence to contradict that interpretation.

Using photographs, Hellenbroich demonstrated how the dynamic of the terrorist bombing of Herrhausen's automobile proves that it must have been carried out by specialists.

Why was Herrhausen assassinated? Six weeks before, he had presented a program for a development bank for Poland, which was supposed to be a model for all of eastern Europe. Herrhausen had also wanted to substantially reduce the debt of the eastern European countries—something the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund could not tolerate.

The Italian situation was discussed by Gianni Cipriani, co-author, together with his brother Antonio, of a book entitled *Limited Sovereignty*. Cipriani drew a parallel between the left-wing terrorism which devastated Italy in the 1970s, and the currently emerging right-wing extremism, a "maneuverable mass" ready to be used to launch a new wave of terrorism, this time from the "right." The centers that steered left-wing terrorism are the same that are now preparing the

## How long will Biya be dictator in Cameroon?

On Friday, Nov. 13, Mr. Nkwain, speaking for the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Cameroon at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., reported that opposition presidential candidate John Fru Ndi has been under house arrest for several weeks as part of a state of emergency to contain violent activities in Cameroon's North West Province, which includes the city of Bamenda. Mr. Nkwain, representing the dictatorial government of President Paul Biya, was constantly challenged by the packed room of Cameroonians from the Social Democratic Front (SDF) and the Cameroon Student Association (CAMSA) concerning the outrageous human rights abuses of the Biya government.

SDF leaders report from Cameroon that conditions inside the country are intolerable and that Biya is only able to hold onto power by the brutal use of the Army against the people. The crisis in Cameroon reached a new level when Biya declared himself the winner of the Oct. 11 presidential elections, despite evidence that John Fru Ndi, chairman and presidential candidate for the SDF, was leading in four of the eight provinces before the government ordered an end to the vote counting. On Oct. 27, in order to contain widespread anger at Biya's flouting of the election process, the government declared a state of emergency in the North West Province, had the home of

Fru Ndi surrounded by the military, cut three of his four phone lines, and placed the SDF office under surveillance.

These emergency actions remain in effect, as conditions worsen for the Cameroonian people. Due to the desperate economic straits brought about by the programs of International Monetary Fund and Biya's corrupt leadership, government workers have gone without pay for three to four months, leading to frequent impromptu demonstrations, according to reports from Cameroon. The SDF is distributing thousands of leaflets and press releases daily exposing the government's human rights violations and demanding that Cameroonians be given their basic rights, that Biya step down, and that Fru Ndi be released from house arrest.

The rights that are being denied to Cameroonians by the Biya dictatorship include the right to walk the street without a pass, the right to read a nongovernment newspaper, the right to travel from one part of the country to another, and the right to have public meetings without fear of arrest.

Recently, the United States and Germany have taken some action by suspending aid to the Biya government, and Canada and Great Britain have issued statements of condemnation. SDF leaders hope that when more international pressure is brought to bear on Biya, under the worsening economic conditions inside Cameroon, he will be forced out of office. They were very happy to hear about the founding of the Civil Rights Movement-Solidarity in Germany (story, page 30), and wanted to know how to join this new movement.—*Lawrence Freeman*

new black terrorism: intelligence, military, and political circles, connected through freemasonic networks to Anglo-American power centers.

It is astonishing, Cipriani said, how two documents cast light on the current Italian developments. One is the "Plan for Democratic Rebirth," written more than 10 years ago by Licio Gelli, Grand Master of the famous Propaganda-2 masonic lodge; the other is a letter written by Aldo Moro when he was a prisoner of the Red Brigades, before they killed him in 1978. In Moro's letter, only recently discovered, he accuses the United States (i.e., Henry Kissinger) of wanting to eliminate him because they wanted to transform the Christian Democratic Party (DC) into a more "docile" instrument of the Anglo-Americans. "A new generation of DC leaders is being bred," Moro warned.

### Productive Triangle or free trade?

During the discussion period, a trade union leader asked about the difference between LaRouche's Productive Triangle proposal and the free trade plan now being pushed for

eastern Europe. Mrs. LaRouche explained the two diametrically opposed conceptions at the root of the two plans: NAFTA and similar schemes allow investments wherever the labor force is cheaper, whereas the triangle program calls for investments precisely where the labor force costs more—i.e., where it is more productive—and the spinoffs for the entire world are greater.

A special contribution was also made by Raffaele Morini, head of the International Enrico Mattei Foundation and president of the Pavia chapter of Volontari della Libertà, the partisan formation that Mattei had led nationally during the liberation war against Fascism. Morini has announced his own independent initiative to reopen the Mattei case, having kept, for 30 years, a piece of Mattei's plane, which demonstrates that it was destroyed by a bomb.

Written greetings to the conference came from the chairman of the Christian Democratic group in the lower house of Parliament, Gerardo Bianco, along with a message from the mayor of San Donato, the city outside Milan which grew out of the ENI complex built by Mattei.