

serious nature of the economic situation, characterized by an inflation rate of over 20%. We were convinced that after this experience, the path toward a democratic alternative would be open, because even if the Communists won, democracy in Italy would not be in danger.

The answer to my remarks was given by a representative of the Pentagon. Michael Ledeen was given the job of speaking, and he said that my remarks were *politically* sound and very logical, but they lacked a sense of strategy. He said that my speech did not take into account the fact that the U.S.S.R., according to their information services, had never stopped thinking about the possibility of a third world war. In such a conflict, the U.S.S.R.'s great force on the ground gave the Soviets, according to the Pentagon's calculations, the capability to invade Europe within only a few weeks. The U.S.A. would thus find itself at a disadvantage in the conflict. The only way to block the U.S.S.R. was to have bases, especially in both northern and southern Italy, because missiles from these strong air bases, with forewarning of at least two hours before the beginning of the Soviet offensive, would be capable of wiping out the staging areas, and thus blocking the Soviet advance.

Ledeen said that Italy is a free and independent nation; if it wants Communism, then it can take it.

In France, when the Socialists brought the Communists into the government, Ledeen said, this did not create the strategic problems which Italy would create. He added that the Pentagon viewed Berlinguer's attempt to break with Moscow as merely a tactical maneuver by the Soviet Union, because the presence of the Communists in the Italian government would block the installation of military air bases in Italy. For this reason, Ledeen said that the United States would do

anything to stop the Communists from entering the Italian government, without making it an ideological question or depriving Italy of its freedom.

**EIR:** Michael Ledeen is now part of the so-called neo-cons pushing for a "clash of civilizations" and pre-emptive wars everywhere on Earth. Since that time, he has been involved massively in Italian internal affairs. Presently I know that he is spending much time in Italy to preach and organize support for what he believes to be inevitable global conflicts.

**Galloni:** This was my first conference in the United States. The second, again organized by Cline, took place a few years later, as a debate involving me, representing the DC as the head of the parliamentary group; [Franco] Tatò, the personal secretary and press spokesman for Berlinguer; and the Socialist Giuliano Amato as [Socialist leader Bettino] Craxi's personal representative in the United States. Amato's thesis was that the United States should view the Socialists (PSI) as the most important Italian party. To the American objection that a party with only 10-11% of the vote could not be the key party in Italy, Amato responded that neither of the two large Italian parties, the DC and the PCI, had a political and cultural tradition, and given the nature of the electoral system and the fact that no party could reach 50% of the vote, neither of the two parties could govern on their own. The DC or the PCI, in order to govern, had to have an alliance with the PSI, and therefore, it was definitely the PSI, led by Bettino Craxi, whether he was Prime Minister or not, which could govern the country through an alliance with the PCI or the DC. Thus, the PSI was the most significant political force in Italy.

I participated in a third meeting, again at the Center for

## Red Brigaders Arrested

Italian police on Oct. 23-31 arrested eight persons accused of having participated in the assassination of Massimo D'Antona and Marco Biagi, two collaborators of the Labor Ministry. Many of those arrested declared themselves to be "members of the Red Brigades."

The investigations gained momentum last March, when two terrorists were identified during a police check on the Rome-Arezzo train. There was a shootout during which a policeman and one of the terrorists were killed. Investigators were later able to reconstruct the whole network of the "new" Red Brigades and arrest eight of their members, as well as collecting an impressive amount of evidence on their participation in the D'Antona and Biagi murders.

But the arrests raise at least as many questions as they answer. First of all, investigators are convinced that the top leaders are still free. Second, the geographical distribution of the "new" terrorist network reminds one of unsolved aspects of the Moro assassination. A parliamentary commission has established that Moro's kidnappers used to meet with the "strategic leadership" of the Red Brigades in Florence, but nothing has been done to find out where the meeting took place, and who participated. Some think that the late Igor Markevic, a member of the Caetani family, was the connection between those meetings and intelligence circles in Italy and Britain.

Shortly after the October arrests, the Moro family announced that they will seek to reopen the investigation. They argue that Moro's alleged executioners were arrested, tried, and sentenced, but have never told the full story. All of them are now free.—*Claudio Celani*