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## *The Coup Conspiracy*

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# 'Operation Nightmare' and its instigators within Italy

by Vivian Freyre Zoakos, European Editor

The Sicilian separatist revolt code-named Operation Nightmare—being readied under the auspices of a truly nightmarish alliance including Libyan dictator Qaddafi, Soviet military intelligence, British secret intelligence, and U.S. networks including Secretary of State Alexander Haig—is to be triggered this month under the cover of a mass “populist protest” in the name of peace.

Investigations by *EIR*'s Wiesbaden staff have provided strong evidence that the British and Dutch royal households have imposed an Official Secrets Act blackout on news of the Operation Nightmare coup plot. Mr. Angus Ogilvy, cousin of Queen Elizabeth, and the personal aide to former Prime Minister Edward Heath, Mr. Simon May, both told *EIR* that they had “no information” on the plan, but ventured that it would automatically fall under the Official Secrets Act blanket.

But word of the impending operation has already led to two parliamentary inquiries in Rome. On March 19, ten Sicilian deputies from the Italian Communist Party raised a formal question to the Spadolini government of Italy concerning recent military maneuvers in and around Sicily code-named Trinacria Due. A parliamentary interrogatory about Sicily had been raised a few days earlier by a Senator from Prime Minister Spadolini's Republican Party, who called Sicily “our El Salvador.”

A reliable and well-placed Mediterranean intelligence source said that these elements of Operation Nightmare are in place, as this issue of *EIR* goes to press:

- Over the weekend of March 21, three British commando units were flown into Cyprus en route to their Sicilian destination; all members were chosen for their Italian language capabilities;
- Between 50 and 60 top MI5 (British intelligence) agents infiltrated Sicily over the preceding two weeks under tourist covers; a group of young Sicilians studying at British universities were simultaneously redeployed to the island to run support operations for the MI5 units;
- £20 million has been transferred to an Italian bank to finance this operation;
- The British consulate in Sicily is functioning as an important weapons distributor for the revolt; the principal weapon to be used is the Israeli Uzi submachine gun,

ammunition for which is arriving from Spain;

- A British submarine has sailed from Cyprus in the direction of Sicily;
- Twenty-five to 30 Soviet military intelligence (GRU) agents stationed in Libya have been redeployed to Sicily to participate in the operation.

The current issue of the Italian magazine *Europeo*, as well as a leading American defense analyst, confirmed that State Department Secretary Alexander Haig, Henry Kissinger, and banker David Rockefeller are complicit in the Sicily operation.

*Europeo* reviews the relations between U.S. and Italian Freemasons. Earlier this year, this magazine had taken the lead in publishing the results of investigations by the head of Italian military intelligence, in which Haig's adviser Michael Ledeen was found to be receiving payoffs from the illegal Freemasonic conspiratorial lodge, the Propaganda-2. This lodge has been shown to control the Italian terrorist movement, including the Sicilian separatists now being activated. *Europeo* reviewed the well-known fact that relations between Italian and American Freemasonry were cemented in 1943 during the allied invasion of the island. Then, as now, the Mafia was politically deployed by this transatlantic network. The magazine reports that the connection has been kept live since by ensuring that all Italian defense ministers first received the approval of the U.S. lodges before their appointment. In conclusion, *Europeo* notes that in the more recent period this has meant the approval of Haig, Kissinger, and Rockefeller.

In short, no significant operation could be launched without their knowledge and consent.

An American defense analyst with close ties to the Defense Department has confirmed that since mid-February a possible Sicilian coup has been the main item of discussion among privileged circles in Washington. The analyst, who was among those meeting with West German opposition leader Franz-Josef Strauss in the capital the week of March 15, said that the option had been discussed with Strauss who had given it full approval.

The analyst confirmed that Italy is currently the key

to the European strategy of circles within Soviet military intelligence. He predicted that a Sicilian coup, run under cover of the European peace movement, would have the following effects.

First, it would immediately collapse the Spadolini government, which would be replaced by a "right-wing socialist" regime under Italian Socialist Party chief Bettino Craxi, as the first in a wave of right-wing-colored fascist governments spreading throughout Europe.

Craxi's connections to the Propaganda-2 lodge and Italian terrorism are legion, and repeatedly documented in this publication.

Secondly, the analyst said, the Sicilian "revolution" would ensure that the controversial deployment of U.S. theatre nuclear weapons (Euromissiles) in Sicily would never occur. Indicative of this are the planned giant demonstrations in Sicily of the West German, Dutch, British, and Italian peace movement in Sicily on April 4. These demonstrations would provide a cover of legitimacy and "popular upheaval" to the Sicilian coup.

The Euromissile deployment site in Italy is in Sicily. Failure to deploy the missiles there, the analyst contended, would mean that Chancellor Schmidt could not allow their deployment in West Germany, and would precipitate his downfall from power.

Schmidt's opponent Strauss, like the Italian Craxi, is intimately linked to the Propaganda-2 networks re-established after the war by the same British and Venetian intelligence faction responsible for the horror of Hitler's Germany and Mussolini's Italy. It was the Duke of Kent who founded the Propaganda-2 lodge after the war, and his son today maintains the coordination among the transatlantic Freemasonic lodges.

### **The peacenik brownshirts**

Reverend Laurens Hogebrink, executive board member of the Dutch Interchurch Peace Council, which coordinates the European-wide "peace" movement, is currently in the United States with a delegation of leaders of the European peace movement (see story, page 23). He told an interviewer how his movement had managed to show astounding growth in Sicily within a few months. Reverend Hogebrink, who boasted the peace movement now had fully 200 chapters in Sicily, said these were created thanks to the help of the Italian Radical Party, the New Left Democrazia Proletaria, the Italian Socialist Party, and a Soviet intelligence-controlled wing of the Italian Communist Party.

The Radical Party, a regroupment of Italian lumpen and fascist elements with a left-wing cover, began in 1956 but only grew to significance with the anti-Vietnam War movement. Since that time it has organized the radical-left "chic" political spectrum, spanning causes from "peace" to abortion to the League of

Homosexuals. Its leader, Marco Pannella, most recently discredited himself when he attended the national conference of the avowedly neo-fascist MSI party in February, openly embracing MSI national secretary Almirante on the podium. The MSI's president, former NATO Admiral Birindelli, was exposed last year as a member of the P-2 lodge.

Pannella's Radical Party is also close to the Socialists of Bettino Craxi, with which it has run joint electoral lists.

The wing of the Italian Communists working with the peace movement—and which, according to some expert estimates, organized a large proportion of the peaceniks in Sicily—is that faction of the party originating with the old KGB-British intelligence-dominated Comintern. Its historic leader, the late Pietro Secchia, and his followers, worked with possibly the most notorious of Italy's terrorists: wealthy publisher Giangiacomo Feltrinelli, whose widely documented activities spanned Eastern Europe, Cuba, and the highest levels of British and Venetian intelligence.

A more circumspect partner in the Sicilian operation is the Mormon Church, which reportedly has a couple of hundred chapters in Sicily. Two of the more prominent peacenik leaders currently in the United States, including the Italian Rev. Enrico Chiavacci, held highly confidential meetings in Salt Lake City with Cleon Skousen, the head of the Latter-Day Saints' intelligence operations run from the Freedom Institute. The visiting delegation has stated publicly that the model for the burgeoning U.S. peace movement should be the collaboration between the Mormons and peace movement last year to prevent the deployment of the MX missile.

The March 19 parliamentary interrogatory by ten Communist deputies, while playing into the Sicilian "peace" movement, also raises the wider danger to the Italian mainland posed by ongoing military maneuvers. The deputies' questions submitted for formal response by the Spadolini government, center on Operation Trinacria, which involved Italian naval and air forces, the carabinieri, finance police, and police prefects in maneuvers in Sicily last November. One of the questions is "what measures will the government take with the planned maneuvers of a similar nature to take place outside Sicily in the Lazio region"—which is where Rome, the Italian capital, is located.

Another one of the questions asks: "What explanation is there for the formation of a joint civilian-military committee in Sicily by Defense Minister Lagorio?" Socialist Lagorio, the highest-ranking collaborator of the Israeli Mossad in the Italian government, has also been a leading member of the "Libya party" among the Italian Socialists, and was formerly the political patron of Giovanni Senzani, a Florentine criminologist arrested in January as a top mastermind of the Red Brigades.