

Controversy breaks out in Italy over British role in Moro assassination

by Claudio Celani

Twenty years ago, on March 16, 1978, a terrorist commando squad kidnapped Italian political leader Aldo Moro, chairman of the Christian Democracy (DC); he was killed after 55 days' imprisonment. The assassination is the most dramatic political murder in Italy's recent history; but, although the Red Brigades terrorists who carried out the kidnapping and murder were arrested, tried, and sentenced, the case is still unsolved. An animated debate has now broken out, over the question of who pulled the strings of the assassins, and why. Not by chance, Lyndon LaRouche's views on the case have been prominently featured.

Aldo Moro was the architect of a "national solidarity" government for Italy: a project that was supposed to include Italy's largest opposition party, the Italian Communist Party (PCI), on the condition that it split from Moscow. Cooperation between the pro-industrial factions of the PCI and the DC would have enabled Italy to become a bridge for the development of the Middle East and Africa, as envisioned by industrialist Enrico Mattei in the 1950s and '60s.

Such a shift, however, was anathema to the British oligarchy, which deployed what was referred to as a "strategy of tension," using both left- and right-wing terrorism to destabilize the Italian nation.

The LaRouche movement, including its representatives in Italy (known at that time as the European Labor Party, POE) ran a campaign to expose the role of the British and their assets. In October 1978, the POE published a book, *Who Killed Aldo Moro*, which charged: "The backbone of Italian destabilization is the feudal and oligarchical aristocracy, which shares a common worldview and an identification with the British Crown and other monarchies. It is a faction that has never accepted industrial capitalism, hates scientific progress, and aims to establish a world system in which they will be allowed to express all their bestiality. They look at the United States and the U.S.S.R. as temporary agencies, destined to be balkanized and taken over."

The British geopolitical destabilization made use of an intricate web of intelligence agents and political assets, including former U.S. Secretary of State and National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger and a motley assortment of Italian freemasons.

For example, an effective police search of Moro's prison was sabotaged by Interior Minister Francesco Cossiga, a Brit-

ish agent, who had put in place a "crisis committee" which made sure that all clues that could have led to Moro's liberation, were suppressed or disregarded. In 1981, it was discovered that the "crisis committee" was controlled by the Propaganda-2 (P-2) freemasonic lodge, affiliated with the Scottish Rite.

Moro's policy collapsed with the elimination of its author. Although a "national solidarity" government, led by Giulio Andreotti, lasted for two more years, without Moro, factional struggles and external manipulation prevailed over higher national interests.

'Limited sovereignty'

With that historical background in mind, consider the fact that on March 17, 1998, the Milan daily *Il Giornale*, owned by opposition leader Silvio Berlusconi, ran a front-page article by Renato Farina, citing the POE's 20-year-old book on the Moro assassination. The author, who disagrees with analysis in the book, uses it to attack the views expressed only two days earlier by the current chairman of the Italian Parliament, Luciano Violante, a former prosecutor and influential member of the PDS party, the post-communist successor to the PCI and a member of the current ruling coalition.

Violante, in an interview with the Turin daily *La Stampa*, had stated that the real truth about the Moro case has never come out, because the convicted terrorists always refused to collaborate with investigators. However, Violante is convinced that the Moro murder and other terrorist acts have to be considered a "case of surrogate warfare among states." Violante added that "all the conditions existed" for a role of foreign secret services in the Moro case. "Italy was a country with limited sovereignty, with slight legitimacy on an international level. In that phase, many international analysts thought that terrorism could be 'surrogate warfare.' "

By "limited sovereignty," Violante was referring to the veto, often imposed by the British through NATO or American channels, against the participation of a party such as the PCI, a co-drafter of Italy's Constitution, in any government coalition. Violante asked, "Who was sovereign at that time, politics or the bureaucracy? I do not know whether somebody, in the institutions, said: 'Moro must die'; I do know that a successful drive to free Moro was not put into motion."

The fact, Violante said, that the heads of the secret ser-



The Italian daily *Il Giornale* features a book issued by the *LaRouche* movement in 1978, titled *Who Killed Aldo Moro*, in which the role of Henry Kissinger and the British oligarchy was investigated.



vices and many members of the crisis management committee belonged to the Propaganda-2 lodge, "is a circumstance that did not favor the liberation of Moro. The P-2 lodge had different political aims than Moro, and since, for a P-2 member, freemasonic loyalty must prevail over institutional loyalty, the consequence is that a loyal P-2 member must not liberate Moro."

Violante noted an episode which has implications for the current situation: "The greatest mystery in the behavior of state authorities is the Via Gradoli story." This refers to a terrorist safehouse which was known to the police but, for reasons never clarified, was not searched (see accompanying interview with Sergio Flamigni). Violante attacked then-Interior Minister (and supreme police chief) Francesco Cossiga, an enemy of Moro who made a career for himself after Moro's murder. Cossiga became Prime Minister two years after Moro's death, and was eventually elected President. On orders from London, Cossiga promoted, in 1992, a Jacobin "anti-corruption" investigation which destroyed Italy's traditional political parties, including the Christian Democracy, and which still keeps Parliament under blackmail. Currently, Cossiga is building a new party which is supposed to help destroy parliamentary alliances and drive the country toward further Jacobin chaos, with the ultimate aim of overthrowing the Constitution.

The fact that Violante decided to attack Cossiga is therefore of the utmost importance. However, it will come to nothing, if the British role is not fully exposed. Unfortunately, Violante represents a faction which is itself being manipulated by the British into thinking that the Americans are responsible for Italy's destabilization, including the Moro murder. Partly, this confusion comes from the prominent role of such British assets as Kissinger, who, as is well known,

threatened Moro in 1976, warning him that his "national solidarity" policy was dangerous. But the confusion is also due to an element of Jacobinism that characterizes Violante's faction, which prompts them to consider Moro's party, the Christian Democracy, as a traitor to national interests.

In reaction to this radical posture, representatives of the Christian Democratic tradition (the DC no longer exists) defend both the party and the United States, by denying that there ever was a string-puller behind the Red Brigades. In this way, each faction is being manipulated into quarreling impotently with the others.

Il Giornale deputy editor Farina, for example, belongs to a group of former Christian Democrats who have fallen into the trap of denying a political conspiracy to kill Moro. Probably without intending to do so, he let the cat out of the bag. In his article, starting on the front page with the title "Queen Elizabeth on Via Fani" and jumping to an inside page with the headline "The Red Brigades? On Orders from Her Majesty," Farina brings up the POE's book.

"We traced back," Farina writes, "the literary precedent, the political brother, maybe the moral clone of Chairman Violante. It is the European Labor Party, domestic branch of the American millionaire [sic] *LaRouche*. . . . The POE goes after Britain, and especially after Queen Elizabeth, besides Kissinger and the Knights of Malta. They even bring documents to support it. Perhaps Violante . . . does not refer to the Queen, but to Kissinger for sure, yes."

While Farina's intent is sarcastic, the fact is, that the role of Kissinger and his London masters is now back on the front pages of the Italian press. And, as the accompanying interview shows, there are some political leaders today who are not afraid of telling the truth. If Italy is to survive as a nation, that comes not a moment too soon.