

The main responsibility for the terrorist assault lies with the Forum, an umbrella organization which assembles more than 700 groups, but is controlled by a “green-red” leadership—i.e., from the ecologist and leftist milieu—whose spokesman is Vittorio Agnoletto. As it emerged after the riots, there is evidence of absolute contiguity between Agnoletto’s militant demonstrators and the Black Bloc terrorists.

Equally responsible, however, are pro-Anglo-American factions within the Italian government, which evidently had received orders to legitimize the GSF as a negotiating partner, knowing that the Forum had neither the capacity nor the desire to prevent violence. This faction is represented by Foreign Minister Ruggiero. Also, serious questions must be raised about the behavior of Italian national police chief Gianni De Gennaro, who, together with Ruggiero, led the “dialogue” with the Forum and is responsible for several dubious choices of police deployment.

Ruggiero and De Gennaro met with a GSF delegation on June 30, and started negotiations, after which the Italian government made concessions to the GSF, including allocating 1.5 million euros, to lodge demonstrators in Genoa. Among the seven members of Agnoletto’s Forum delegation, was a representative of the “White Overalls” goon squads, which proclaim their support of Mexico’s separatist terrorist Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN). White Overalls leader Luca Casarini had publicly declared war on the Genoa summit of G-8 heads of state and government.

At the beginning of May, Casarini and a group of White Overalls had demonstratively occupied the hall of the Genoa Ducal Palace, the planned G-8 summit site, proclaiming: “We declare war on the G-8.” Eventually, when the police built a “Maginot line” to keep demonstrators away from the center of Genoa, Casarini announced that his Overalls would assault and penetrate the “red” area, despite the massive

## The ‘White Overalls,’ The New Autonomists

The so-called “White Overalls,” which joined the terrorist Black Bloc in street riots in Genoa, are a continuation of the Autonomist movement of the 1970s. When, in 1979, Padua prosecutor Guido Calogero issued arrest warrants for Toni Negri and 150 leaders and members of “Autonomia Operaia” (Workers’ Autonomy), the terrorist movement appeared to have been neutralized. But, in reality, it only went underground, organized around what are called “Centri Sociali”—proto-terrorist centers, flooded with drugs, connected through a network in every major Italian city. They often are financed by the local city administrations, especially because of protection from the Party of Communist Refoundation (PRC).

The leader of the Centri Sociali del Nordest, the direct heir to Negri’s Autonomia Operaia, is Luca Casarini. Casarini is also leader of the “White Overalls,” which became famous when they escorted Mexican Zapatista terrorist “Commander Marcos” in his march from the Zapatistas’ base in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas to Mexico City, in February-March 2001. Casarini started his career in the 1970s, in Negri’s Padua group. Today, his statements make clear that Negri remains still his intellectual father: Casarini told the daily *La Repubblica* of Aug. 4, that “social conflict is necessary against the violence of empire.”

Negri’s ideological leadership on the Centri Sociali

network is also demonstrated by the language they use. For instance, the Genoa Centri Sociali wrote in their “Call for the G-8” issued in March 2001 that, if the authorities did not guarantee “visibility” to the planned demonstration—i.e., authorize the demonstrators to go into Genoa’s city center during the G-8 meeting—the demonstrators “shall form a multitude.”

The connection between Centri Sociali and the Chiapas terrorists was, of course, organized through the circles of France’s former First Lady Danielle Mitterrand. It was officially celebrated when PRC leader Fausto Bertinotti went to Chiapas, in the Summer of 1996, when the organization “Ya Basta!” was founded. Ya Basta! is a support network for the Zapatistas, and its offices in Italy correspond to the Centri Sociali offices. The PRC and Centri Sociali set up a system, whereby young people targeted for recruitment, were sent to Chiapas to work on some sort of primitive infrastructural project, where they were stupefied with drugs and “ethnic experience,” and came back brainwashed.

In 1975, the Autonomia-Centri Sociali network in Italy’s Veneto region founded Radio Sherwood, which was key in organizing and coordinating violent Autonomist demonstrations for the rest of the decade. Now, with the Internet, Radio Sherwood has become the *Sherwood Tribune*. The *Sherwood Tribune* regularly features articles by Toni Negri and other former Autonomia leaders, such as Oreste Scalzone. Scalzone and Franco Berardi, another Autonomia leader who fled to France, continue to also write for a magazine called *Derive/Approdi*, for members of the Centri Sociali who want more brainwashing than usual.—*Claudio Celani*