

FACTS BEHIND TERRORISM

New Italian terror leads bear checking on U.S. side

Professional assassinations of two major Italian figures within 48 hours have accompanied the period in which Bettino Craxi, the head of the Italian Socialist Party (PSI), has carried on his attempts to form a government in Italy. Informed observers have warned that this is just the beginning of a new wave of Italian terrorism if Craxi, who has been linked to leading members of the Red Brigade terrorists both personally and through the PSI, succeeds in the factional battles to gain hold of the reins of government.

Craxi's ostensible efforts to form an Italian government have been built around a single major plank, destroying the antiterrorism collaboration between the two mass-based political parties in Italy—the Christian Democrats (DC) and the Italian Communist Party (PCI). Both of the recent victims of the assassins played key roles in the Christian Democracy for furthering arrests of terrorist controllers and rooting out terrorist collaborators within certain government offices.

These events have an ominous potential for the United States. It is a well-known fact that U.S. Ambassador to Rome Richard Gardner has been supporting the Craxi bid for power since last spring, including U.S. aid in the rigging of the June 3 national parliament elections that undermined the Christian Democracy and Communists to the benefit of a half-dozen tiny parties grouped around the PSI.

Thanks to the help of the U.S. State Department, Italian-style bloodshed may soon be brought home to the U.S.A.—as this review warned last week—and the Craxi-supported Red Brigades nexus already has an active branch operating in the United States under the guise of protecting the “civil rights” of arrested Italian terrorists.

On July 11, Giorgio Ambrosoli, a 45-year old lawyer, was shot down by three men as he was leaving his car to enter his home in Milan. Hours earlier, Ambrosoli had turned over to Italian judicial investigators 52 pages of testimony on a bankruptcy case which threatens to involve the highest levels of the Christian Democratic Party.

The second victim, struck down less than 36 hours later in Rome, was General Alfonso Varisco. Varisco was a 20-year veteran of the Italian law enforcement community who played a significant part in coordinating activities of the Italian magistrates investigating former Padua University Professor Toni Negri, who was arrested in early April for directing the abduction and murder of Italian statesman Aldo Moro. Varisco had been central in the arrest of Valerio Morucci and Adriana Faranda, the two Red Brigades leaders discovered in Rome last May 28. Morucci and Faranda were being safehoused at the apartment of a professor at the University of Cosenza, the stronghold of PSI leader Giacomo Man-

cini, at the time of their arrests.

In the last week, General Dalla Chiesa, director of the special office created by Premier Andreotti to solve the murder of Aldo Moro, reported on his investigation into the leads provided through the arrests of Morucci and Faranda. Dalla Chiesa's investigators have confirmed significant involvement in the Red Brigades by faculty and students at Mancini's Cosenza University. Most significantly, notebooks belonging to Marta Petrusevicz, the Polish girlfriend of Franco Piperno, a leading fugitive from charges in the Moro murder, had the names and phone numbers of Morucci and Faranda.

Petrusevicz is now in the United States. She is actively, though covertly, organizing the support committee for Negri and the other terrorist controllers, the Committee Against Repression in Italy (CARII) along with other top PSI protégés in the “theoretical” circles of the Red Brigades and its above-ground twin, the Autonomi, Sylvia Federici, Paul Piccone and Martin Glaberman.

This week, four card-carrying members of the PSI in Bologna were caught red-handed in an attempt to bomb a hotel and extort 150 million lira from the hotel owner. Two men, Veronesi and Sebartoli were arrested when a security guard shot and wounded one of them after observing the two throw an explosive device at a hotel. The wives of the two were a

arsenal in the office of the Brodolini Circle, a “cultural association” of the PSI in Bologna, to which both men belonged. An extortion note found in the possession of one man was found to match the handwriting of a letter found in the office. Veronesi and Sebartoli are also, respectively, the president and vice-president of a PSI radio station in Bologna called Radio Informazione.