

Kissinger a fugitive from Italian justice

by Umberto Pascali in Rome

At the Hotel Gallia in Milan on April 18, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was asked by a journalist, "Mr. Kissinger, given the testimony of your having threatened Aldo Moro before his kidnapping and assassination, don't you feel something on your conscience regarding the late Christian Democratic leader?"

Kissinger, shaking and red in the face, exploded. "Nonsense, nonsense! It is LaRouche that persecutes me! Moro was killed by the Red Brigades. You should ask the PCI; the Red Brigades is an offspring of the PCI [Italian Communist Party]. . . . No, I am not a member of the P-2 lodge. No, I am not a member of the Comité Montecarlo. . . ."

Such was the public conclusion (reported by the Italian press the next day) of what has been called "the last adventure of Kissinger" in Italy. A short time later, Kissinger left the country precipitously, followed by a warrant issued by Italian Magistrates Ferdinando Imposimato and Rosario Priore, who intended to interrogate him to clarify the role he played in the Moro affair.

The brief Kissinger visit to Italy had seemed to begin triumphantly, before turning into one of the worst nightmares the quondam American official has ever experienced. Kissinger had arrived on April 16 to participate in an international conference of the Trilateral Commission to be held in Rome from April 17 to 19 at the Hilton Hotel. The aim of the conference was to organize an offensive against Ronald Reagan and in particular against the U.S. President's beam weapons defense project. The whole operation had to be organized

in a delphic way, in order to make it appear that the Trilateralists represent Mr. Reagan's "new line."

The conference was also supposed to be the stage for the return of the great Kissinger to active political life. On April 17, the newspaper *La Stampa*, owned by Giovanni Agnelli, one of the most prominent Trilateral members in Italy, welcomed Kissinger: "The Kissinger we saw yesterday in Rome seems to be completely out of the darkness in which he ended up in recent years, depressed by lack of power. . . . The Kissinger we saw is revitalized and considers possible his return to active politics. . . ." But a day later, the Rome press agency Repubblica reported about the decision of the magistrates to interrogate Kissinger, commenting, "A small possibility still remains that Kissinger will escape the interrogation. Why did Kissinger, contrary to the other 340 delegates of the Trilateral conference, and despite the fact that he doesn't have any diplomatic status, not want to stay in the Hilton Hotel but preferred the extraterritoriality of the U. S. Embassy, as guest of his great admirer Ambassador Rabb?. . . Kissinger is taking a rather defensive position. At this point we believe that it would be really unbecoming to escape the interrogation. At the Trilateral Commission conference, Kissinger tried to present himself as ready to accept an official role in the Reagan administration. . . . But an 'official' character who escapes the Rome magistrates is really embarrassing."

Kissinger's arrival at the Trilateral meeting, which included, among others, David Rockefeller, Paul Volcker,

Zbigniew Brzezinski, and Robert McNamara, was preceded by a sweeping campaign organized above all by the Partito Operaio Europeo (POE), informing press, parliamentarians, the diplomatic community, the Vatican, and political parties about the real aim of the Trilateral meeting: to launch an unprecedented destabilization of the Mediterranean region and in particular Italy, to be followed by a series of coups d'état (something very similar to last summer's Operation Nightmare attempt).

A special team of "Kissinger watchers" had followed his moves in the period immediately before his arrival in Italy. Kissinger visited the whole Middle East; after a short stop at the Rome airport April 13, he was in Gedda, Saudi Arabia to attend a special reception together with members of the Royal House and Baroness Von Thyssen, of the family that did so much to bring Adolf Hitler to power. At the same time he traveled to Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, and, most probably, to Israel. Some observers wondered, "What is he up to? A new war in the Middle East?" On April 14 he was in Paris, and then on to Strasbourg by private Swiss jet, to meet the president of the Syrian National Assembly, Mohmmud Al Zubi. Finally he flew to West Germany, first to Solingen and then Bavaria. When the Beirut embassy bombing took place, many connected the terrorist massacre to the activities of Kissinger and the Trilateral meeting. As soon as news of the attack reached the Trilateraloids in Rome, Brzezinski shouted, "The Reagan plan is dead!" Also to be noted is that on April 17 the Italian press had carried front-page reports that President Reagan, the day before, had fallen victim to an assassination attempt.

In Italy itself, the day before the conference, Piero Bassetti, who with Agnelli is the best known Italian Trilateral member, released an interview claiming that the party system established in Italy after the fascist period is now dead. He also praised the economic experience of Fascism, that he noted "is now being re-evaluated." At the same time, characters linked to the Trilateral clan like the political scientist Giorgio Galli wrote that the only party retaining credibility with the Italian public is the neo-Fascist MSI; all the others are discredited and finished. The project for the "end of democracies" launched by the Trilateral in 1975 with a report by Harvard professor Samuel Huntington seems to be operative.

'Kissinger killed Moro'

The POE launched its campaign one week before the beginning of the Trilateral Conference. Several press releases and special reports on Kissinger and his friends were delivered to Italian leaders.

A year ago, the POE had supplied magistrates and law enforcement agencies with the Esposto, presented by the party's secretary Fiorella Operto, requesting investigations on Kissinger's role in the assassination of Aldo Moro, organizing the P-2 lodge and super secret lodge known as Comité Montecarlo. Several demonstrations took place in Rome and

Milan, with citizens holding gigantic posters reading "Kissinger Wanted for the Assassination of Moro" and "The Assassin Always Returns to the Scene of his Crime." Shortly after the demonstration, rumors began to spread about the arrival in Italy of a relative of a young waiter killed approximately 10 years ago in Acapulco, the helpless victim of the homosexual violence of Kissinger. Press conferences were held by the POE in Rome, Milan, Paris, and Stockholm, and several thousand leaflets were distributed. During the night someone painted on all the most "strategically placed" walls of Rome the slogan: "Kissinger killed Aldo Moro." On April 18, a 20-meter banner carried by hundreds of balloons flew above the Milan Fair, where it was viewed by hundreds of thousands. The banner read: "Kissinger Killed Moro."

The same day, a large demonstration led by the POE waited for Kissinger in front of the Hotel Gallia in Milan. A roast pig dressed with glasses, overcoat, and neck tie, and carried on a long stick and labeled "Henry," was displayed, and received the attention of 50 journalists and photographers. The porcine guest was heavily photographed, and even gave an interview to a private radio station, answering every question with a cryptic "gnorf, gnorf."

When Kissinger finally arrived, demonstrators also shouted "killer, assassin." Many citizens who joined the demonstration insisted on screaming "faggot!" Newspapers reported on the event the following day. *Corriere della Sera* focused its article on "a puppet made in the image of Kissinger" carried by various demonstrators.

Kissinger arrived in Paris, on April 19, reportedly rather shocked. He had just escaped a warrant and hoped to find a calmer atmosphere there, but in front of the Palais du Congrès where his conference was scheduled, he was confronted with the words "Kissinger killed Moro" portrayed in large letters. At the same time in Rome, in front of the Palazzo Barberini where the Trilaterals had organized a big reception, a gigantic banner was displayed by yet other protesters saying "Kissinger in the Asinara!" (Asinara being the jail for particularly dangerous terrorists and mafiosi). Back in Paris, Kissinger entered the conference room quite nervous. "I will not accept oral questions," he said. Immediately a journalist stood up and stated: "Kissinger, you are an assassin!"

'Kissinger to be interrogated,' declares the Italian press

Below are excerpts from Italian press coverage of Henry Kissinger's battle with the law over his involvement in the murder of former Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro.

Unità, April 19

"To Be Interrogated Tomorrow: Kissinger Testifies for the Judges in the Moro Trial": [The Italian Communist Party newspaper accompanies its article with a picture of Kissinger with fist raised.] The Roman judges who are continuing to deal with the Moro trial have decided to interrogate Henry

Kissinger before he leaves for the United States. The former American secretary of state is supposed to testify on the famous meeting that he had with the president of the DC [Christian Democracy] in 1974 in Washington, during which—as was stated during the trial last year—Aldo Moro was bombarded with threatening suggestions to abandon his political line of openness to the Italian Communist Party. For some time Judges Ferdinando Imposimato and Rosario Priore, who have been conducting the so-called Moro investigation, have been intending to take into account Kissinger's testimony on one of the most obscure and worrisome aspects of the Moro affair: the pressures and threats that had been addressed to the statesman in the last years of his life, which were serious enough to lead Moro to consider abandoning political activity altogether. When Judge Imposimato went to the United States for the Sindona investigation, he thought about taking advantage of the situation to deal with the Moro case as well, but it was not possible for him to meet with the former secretary of state.

Now the opportunity has presented itself: since last Sunday Kissinger has been in Italy to participate in the Trilateral Commission conference at the Hilton Hotel in Rome, scheduled to conclude today. Yesterday Kissinger flew to Milan to meet the members of the Executive Club. His return [to Rome] was expected this evening. Unlike all the other important American celebrities of the Trilateral, the former secretary of state is not staying at the Hilton, but at the American embassy in Via Veneto, with his wife. His being interrogated as a witness, however, should not encounter procedural difficulties, since he has no diplomatic accreditation in Italy and therefore does not enjoy special immunity. What remains to be established is where and when the deposition should take place: the two magistrates have not announced anything and, in fact, in order to elude journalists' questions, have made themselves unavailable. Kissinger's name was mentioned last year in the courtroom where the Moro trial was taking place by Corrado Guerzoni, who was one of the statesman's [Moro's] closest collaborators.

"Moro," he said to the judges, "was described in American State Department circles as an anti-party pro-communist, who was trying to weaken the DC to force it to come to terms with the PCI. During a reception held at the Italian Embassy in Washington in 1974, there was a conversation," continued Guerzoni, "which was very sharp and bitter, between Kissinger and the DC leader. Kissinger told Moro: 'I don't believe in dogmas, I'm not Catholic, and I cannot share your political approach, which I consider strongly negative.' Moro was deeply shaken by this. The day after the conversation, he fell ill in the Church of St. Patrick and later told me that he wanted to abandon political activity for at least three years."

Guerzoni stated that he had been informed of the dramatic terms of that meeting by the former press attaché of [former President] Leone. Nino Valentino; the latter, however, publicly denied everything. Not more than two days ago, Kissinger himself denied Guerzoni's testimony, in an interview

given to national television. "I respected Moro," he said, among other things, "even if I was not always in agreement with him. And anyway," he added, "during that meeting, we did not talk to each other: he did not know English and I knew no Italian, and there was no interpreter."

L'Avvenire, April 20

"Kissinger Leaves and Snubs the Magistrate:" It was a good opportunity; the presence of Kissinger in Rome could have clarified once and for all all the mysteries around the Moro case. But Kissinger left Rome and the desire of Judge Imposimato couldn't be realized. . . . Corrado Guerzoni, Moro's secretary had testified that Moro came back quite shocked from a visit in the United States after a stormy meeting with Kissinger.

Il Giornale d'Italia, April 19

"Boos and Insults for Kissinger:" At the entrance of the hotel where the press conference was held, a dozen members of the Partito Operaio Europeo [European Labor Party] greeted Kissinger with boos and insults. The police sequestered the signboards, in which Kissinger was identified as the mastermind behind the kidnaping and assassination of Aldo Moro.

Paese Sera, April 19

"Kissinger Doesn't Understand Much about Italy:" Kissinger said [at the Gallia Hotel], "I have difficulties in understanding Italian internal policy." One journalist asked: "Don't you feel something on your conscience for the Moro's kidnaping, given that every time someone speaks about that, your threats to Moro come up?" "Nonsense," said Kissinger, "it's just LaRouche that persecutes me."

Repubblica Press Agency, April 15

"A Trilateral Without Kissinger?:" The first Italian meeting of the Trilateral, the super-lodge of the super-rich, risks beginning without Kissinger, who is the *deus ex machina* and the prototype of the Trilateral. Someone advised Kissinger to keep away from Italian territory and the advice seems to have come from the staff of U.S. Ambassador Rabb in Rome, who remains an admirer of Kissinger. . . . There is the suspicion that some Italian magistrates are curious to learn from Kissinger himself what happened during the famous meeting between Moro and Kissinger. . . . It is reported that the advice hit Kissinger like a blast out of a laser cannon (one of those beam weapons Reagan is talking about that the former Secretary of State is unable to digest). . . . U.S. and Italian friends are doing all they can to ascertain if some judges in Rome or Milan are curious about this. It seems that Prime Minister Fanfani (who will participate in the opening of the conference) and Justice Minister Darida been consulted in a discreet way. They didn't know anything. But which statesman, these days, can read the mind of a magistrate? . . . On the other hand, if Kissinger cuts short his visit, this could be interpreted as a suicide, a laser suicide.