

Italy: 'reformers' behind Craxi plot end of the First Republic

by Leonardo Servidio

Two days after the publication of the results of the June 26 elections, the walls of Italian cities were covered with posters of the MSI (Movimento Sociale Italiano—the neofascist party) which announced, “the first Republic is dead.” Not only from the MSI, whose program has always been to overturn the institutions of the first Republic, but from everywhere came demands for an “institutional” change.

The daily newspapers of June 9 announced a series of meetings taking place among Socialist (PSI) boss Bettino Craxi, Radical Party head Marco Pannella and Gianni Agnelli, Trilateral Commission member and leader of the industrialists' association Confindustria, to discuss the “institutional reform.” The radical-chic weekly, *L'Espresso*, announced that without institutional reform, it will no longer be possible to govern. The Liberal, Bozzi, who headed the Parliamentary commission for the reform of the institutions created at the end of the last legislature, announced that the present legislature will be that of institutional reform.

The most detailed of all in specifying what type of reform he wanted was the governor of the Bank of Italy, Carlo Ciampi, who in his annual report, given at the end of May at the height of the electoral campaign, called for abolishing the 1936 Banking Law in order to permit the banks to operate on the stock market and to place financial policy completely in the hands of the Bank of Italy, excluding Parliament. This would remove national sovereignty over economic issues.

Italy has always been the borderland between the western and eastern worlds, a terrain where opposing tendencies clash. It would not make sense to look at what is happening in Italy today without taking this into consideration.

It is not an accident that the investigation which brought to light the “Bulgarian connection” took off from the Italian magistrates' probe of the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II. The “Bulgarian track,” as it is called in Italy, is an international mafia complex, linked, as *EIR* has documented, to powerful groups such as the Bulgarian and Soviet secret services, the Sicilian-American mafia, the Swiss financial apparatus, and the old “Mitteleuropa” Nazi networks. Some months ago, Lyndon H. LaRouche warned that these groups would do anything to silence the inquiries of the Italian magistrates, and would perhaps go so far as to bring about the equivalent of a civil war or coup d'état in Italy, in the context of a “repartition” of Europe: Germany with a

Nazi-type regime under the control of the eastern part of the “Bulgarian Track,” which is to say under Andropov, and Italy with a neofascist regime under the control of Andropov's opposite number in the West, the Trilateral Commission.

This is exactly what is happening today.

The Case of Emanuela Orlandi

It is not a coincidence that the case of Emanuela Orlandi exploded at the time of the June 26 elections. A 15 year-old citizen of Vatican City, the daughter of an employee of the Pope, was kidnapped June 22. The kidnapers, who have never identified themselves, were careful only to make known that they were foreigners, perhaps Croatians, and are demanding, in exchange for the life of the girl, the freeing of Mehmet Ali Agca, the man who tried to kill the Pope, whom they say they want to take to East Germany.

Agca reacted by declaring that the order to shoot the Pope was given him by the Soviet KGB and by the Bulgarian secret services and asking the Italian state not to accept the exchange. Agca is obviously concerned that someone wants him “freed” in order to silence him once and for all.

The case has the eerie quality of being stage managed, perhaps in preparation for a wave of destabilization like the “Moro case,” when the scenario set up was the conflict between the “party of negotiations” and the “party of firmness,” under conditions in which, as the Hon. Tina Anselmi, head of the Parliamentary Commission investigating the illegal P-2 lodge has declared, P-2 control of the investigating bodies guaranteed that law enforcement could never free Moro. Today, the scenario which the kidnapers of Emanuela Orlandi seem to be following is to force a split between the Vatican and the Italian state, possibly foreseeing that the Pope might call for the liberation of Agca.

The objective in the 1978 Moro kidnapping was to prevent Italy from realizing a policy independent from the Trilateral Commission mafia typified by Henry Kissinger. In the case of the kidnapping of Emanuela Orlandi, the objective is exactly the same: silencing the investigations of the “Bulgarian Track” and its mafia and Trilateral Commission connections in the West. Parallel to this, perhaps, is the aim of unleashing a national wave of emotionalism that would cause the institutional reforms and perhaps other special laws to be passed automatically and without opposition.

The reforms

Parliament has been increasingly paralyzed during the past years. Since 1972, when the first "early elections" took place, there have been no elections following the normal schedule, but always early elections. This is due to the constant political tensions among the parties, which is the result of the shrinkage of the "economic pie" since the end of the 1960s, when the effects of the policy of industrialization imposed by Enrico Mattei through the state sector industries came to an end. It is a bitter irony that the same Bank of Italy which, by usurping control of economic policy constitutionally belonging to parliament, caused capital flight and blocked the policy of industrialization, today proposes to totally take away control of the economy of the country from Parliament.

The Moro assassination ended the policy of construction of nuclear plants for energy independence and collaboration with the communist opposition with the aim of bringing the PCI totally into the western camp in the framework of East-West entente. Such a policy was sponsored by Pope Paul VI, who aimed to constitute a Europe economically independent from the International Monetary Fund and able, through the European Monetary Fund, to develop the economy of the Third World. Right after Moro's death, Bettino Craxi, the friend of Kissinger and the Trilateral and its policy of destabilization, got the upper hand, and announced a few months later that the Italian Socialist Party he heads was aiming at institutional reform.

The MSI specified and formalized this policy in a bill proposing "to give more power to the executive," as the Trilateral Fiat president Agnelli also began demanding at every opportunity. This would mean getting rid of parliamentary control over the executive through creation of a populist presidential republic. Executive powers would be concentrated in the hands of the prime minister or president of the republic. The MSI demands direct election of the President and, in order to totally exclude political forces, frequent popular referenda, and finally, election to parliament of spokesmen of the economic forces, according to the old corporatist tradition whereby those who have money prevail over the majority. The similarity with the demands of Ciampi is evident. The Socialist, Republican, and Liberal parties, even though they have not officially expressed themselves, have privately indicated their accord with these ideas of reform, which are those for which the freemasonry is also working.

Meanwhile, Craxi and De Mita have introduced the presidential system into their parties: the secretary of the party is elected directly by the Congress so as to be able to corrupt the leadership and the secretariat. Practically it is a matter of extending this party model to the Parliament. Christian Democratic secretary De Mita has signaled his personal agreement with the reform policy, declaring himself favorable to the direct election of mayors.

In the Christian Democracy, the going proposal is the election of deputies through the winner-takes-all principle, which would be in the main consistent with the presidential

proposal, and parallel to the French system. All these proposals aim at shrinking the power of the parties, and forcing the electoral process into two large opposing fronts—if the winner-takes-all principle replaced the present proportional election system—which would define a stable, unmovable executive for the full duration of the legislature.

As evidence of how these proposals are being pushed with the goal of destabilizing the government, it is enough to realize that the masonry, which in Italy is promoting this type of reform, is proposing in France exactly the opposite reform, i.e., to go from the presidential system to a proportional parliamentary system. The activity of parliament, after the death of Moro, has been increasingly tormented by internal struggles among the political currents and by the obstructionism of the Radical or MSI parties.

Added to all this, the "politics of scandal" has been imposed. The first, a short time after Moro's death, was the Lockheed scandal, whose most prominent victim was President Leone. It is significant that it was Kissinger who first created the conditions for the scandal through the lavish Lockheed bribes, allowing the indiscriminate elimination of various persons in the world in order to destabilize national institutions.

The politics of scandal has run a long road, passing through the petroleum scandal, the scandal of the P-2 lodge, reaching finally the last electoral campaign in which, in place of political debate, there were only scandals. In Turin and in Liguria, Craxi's Socialists and P-2ers have been charged with illegal activities, while in Naples 900 arrest warrants for members of the camorra (the Neapolitan mafia) have shed light on the links of the camorra to the Christian Democrats, Socialists, priests, nuns and various others.

If these scandals have brought to light situations emphasizing the mafia connections in the political world, they have also laid the basis for the total discrediting of political institutions. If it were not for the "politics of scandal," Craxi and his cronies—in the PSI or in jail or sought by the law for cases ranging from conspiracy against the State to swindle—would have already ceased to exist as a political phenomenon. But the PSI of Craxi has been held together, as the case of Calvi showed, even when it took the injections of billions of liras, because the PSI of Craxi is the party of destabilization.

Today the reform of the institutions is taken for granted by everyone. It is only a question of time, and that means the increased power of the executive wanted by Agnelli, which translates into economic dictatorship.

The fundamental question today is this: whether the reform will serve only to impose a new fascism in Italy, or if the political forces will wake up in time to adopt the reform of the heavy lira proposed by Lyndon LaRouche's collaborators in Italy. The crucial immediate test is that of the Bulgarian connection. The kidnapping of Emanuela Orlandi must not become a new national tragedy, but must rather strike out at those principally responsible for the Bulgarian track: from Andropov to Qaddafi to the Swiss financiers who are their allies in this destabilization project against Italy.