

# Italy will be the base for 'Islamic' terror upsurge against the West

by Paolo Serri and Marco Fanini

On April 19, according to reliable sources, a secret meeting was held at the Libyan embassy in Rome to plan the next phase of international terrorism. The meeting occurred two days after a terrorist fired from the Libyan Embassy in London on a crowd of protestors, killing a British policewoman.

The Rome meeting was hosted by one of the key figures of Libyan terrorism, Ahmed Qadafadam, cousin of Qaddafi and top official of the new, sinister Ministry for External Security. Present were the head of Khomeini's secret police (Savama), Hossein Fardhust; his assistant; and a representative of the radical-terrorist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) General Command of Ahmed Jibril.

Qadafadam had just been in Geneva meeting with the chief of Syrian intelligence, Ali Duba, on April 17—the same day as the London shooting incident. A week after he conferred with Qadafadam in Rome, Fardhust was reported in Paris on April 25 and 26.

Meanwhile, arriving in London as official mediator for the Libyans in the embassy siege was a well-known specialist in Italian affairs, Col. Abdul-Rahman Shaibi, the head of military intelligence. Shaibi, who maintains contacts with Red Brigades terrorists and mafia circles, was in Italy in 1980 during the killings of exiles by Qaddafi's death squads.

This emphasis on Rome and Italy is important. Several sources have told *EIR* that the Rome Libyan embassy will become the center for all terrorist operations European-wide, while Paris will be reinforced and Madrid will be used for flying the terrorists in and out. Now that Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti has brought Italian foreign policy officially into line with that of Moscow (see page 34), there is not much standing in the way of Italy's becoming the major European base for the spread of a New Dark Age under the aegis of "Islamic fundamentalism."

## Leamon Hunt case revisited

It was in Rome on Feb. 15 that the Red Brigades ambushed and killed the U.S. chief of the multinational peace-keeping forces in the Sinai, Leamon Hunt. Hunt had just arrived from Cairo on Feb. 13. This reinforces the hypothesis put forward by police investigators that information on his itinerary may have come from Egypt. The terrorist who shot

at his armored car used a Soviet-built Kalashnikov machine gun with specially reinforced bullets which penetrated the rear window of the auto. The terrorists knew that only 10 minutes after the attack, private security guards would have begun their surveillance shift at Hunt's residence.

Rome police investigators maintained that the Red Brigades carried out the action on behalf of Islamo-Soviet spy networks. This was confirmed on Feb. 17 by a three-and-a-half-page communiqué put out by the Red Brigades. Interior Minister Oscar Scalfaro declared to the press: "The Red Brigades operated for a foreign terrorist group, as an armed branch, whereas the mastermind behind the ambush of Leamon Hunt . . . is found elsewhere, abroad. . . . We have to give particular attention to the terrorist phenomenon, looking at its international ties. It is hard to think that the Italian terrorist groups have so much interest in killing a man like Hunt. . . . [Besides,] look at the communiqué claiming responsibility for the action: There is a catalogue of the positions and responsibilities of the American diplomat, compiled with extreme precision. One has to think of a dossier, files, extremely sophisticated information channels. . . ."

The communiqué reflected an obvious Islamic and Russian viewpoint. It attacked the Camp David accord and characterized Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, the victim of a massacre, as a "corrupt Pharaoh." This expression is used only by official Libyan publications. It proposed a solution to the Middle East conflict through an "international conference with the participation of the U.S.S.R.," a proposal "today put forward only by the Syrians and Soviets."

Merely hinting in passing at the social and economic situation in Italy, the Red Brigades' traditional focus, the communiqué instead strongly emphasized the "peace question," which led the leftist paper *Il Manifesto* to comment that "it could have been written by any half-knowledgeable Italian pacifist." The installation of nuclear cruise missiles in Comiso is another target of the Red Brigades: "Nuclear missiles are being installed in our territory which are not aimed at Eastern Europe, but above all against young nations which oppose Western imperialist plots." The communiqué had the slogans, "Imperialist forces out of Lebanon. Italy out of NATO. No to the Comiso missiles."

As *Il Manifesto* noted, "The reference to Libya is obvious." The same day that the Red Brigades put out their communiqué on Leamon Hunt, the Libyan press agency issued the final declaration of the Libyan Peoples' Councils affirming that "the Comiso missiles are a threat to the security and integrity of Libya. To hit and attack the American missiles in their positions will be considered a form of self-defense."

The Hunt assassination must therefore have been for the brainwashed Red Brigaders and their controllers the signal to activate international operations against all U.S. personnel, interests, and allies. According to informed U.S. sources, Hunt was playing a crucial role in the alliance to set up an anti-terrorist apparatus for the Mediterranean and Mideast.

The international connections of the re-emerging Red Brigades were confirmed by analysis of the material discovered in the hideout of two Brigaders arrested in Milan. Documents in Italian, English, French, German, and Spanish were found, which prove connections with Action Directe in France, the Red Army Fraction (Baader-Meinhof gang) in Germany, the Basque ETA, and other international terrorist formations.

### **Iranian Embassy to the Vatican: terrorist haven?**

The Islamic angle in this latest Red Brigades operation led Italian investigators to take a closer look at the role of the Iranian Embassy to the Vatican in Rome. Directed by Ambassador "Ayatollah" Shadi Koshrowshahin, the embassy plays a key coordinating role. With its 84 rooms and a park (adjacent to the Libyan Embassy in Italy), it is paradoxically far larger than the Iranian embassy to the Italian state, and during the past year and a half it has come to replace the Iranian consulate in Cologne as the center of European coordination. Every Sunday about 30 Pasdaran (Revolutionary Guards) arrive at Rome's Fiumicino airport from Teheran accompanied by a religious figure who flies back to Iran the following Sunday. The Pasdaran are trained in the embassy and subdivided into small three-to-four-person groups.

Ayatollah Koshrowshahin participated on Dec. 15, 16, and 17 in a Rome conference organized by the Italo-Arab Association on the question of the reconquest of Jerusalem. Among those invited to the conference was the "Italian" magazine *Jihad*, ("holy war" in Arabic) from Carmagnola, near Turin, whose editor, Giovanni Oggero, brags about his acquaintance with the Swiss Nazi banker François Genoud. Oggero is a former member of the MSI, the neo-fascist party of Italy. Oggero recently said that Genoud is a respected person, "highly recommended by our Swiss [Muslim] brethren." As *EIR* has exposed, Genoud sits on top of an international nerve center of Nazi-communist networks.

In fact, a frequent writer for *Jihad* is Claudio Mutti, who is still at liberty although he has been indicted for numerous fascist terrorist actions—which suggests high-level political

protection. Mutti is the principal translator of Khomeini's writings into Italian under the Arab pseudonym Umir Amin. Charged in several massacres including the "Italicus" train atrocity which killed a dozen passengers, Mutti was accused by Judge D'Ambrosio, one of Italy's leading magistrates, of being the head of a "Libyan-Italian Friendship Association" which "functions as a cover for terrorist acts."

The Italian press agency Adn Kronos in February published a study asserting that out of a total of about 20,000 Iranian exiles in Italy, at least 3,000-4,000 are pro-Khomeini—potential recruits for the Iranian terrorist training operation.

The Islamic community in Italy is getting more and more organized. They have a mosque in Catania, Sicily, and want to build others in Rome and Turin. In Turin, home of Oggero and Mutti's *Jihad* (and of the Fiat auto company, in which Libya has large investments), the "Islamic Community of Italy" has sprung up. The Islamic press is widely circulated. In addition to the CESI Islamic press agency in Rome, there are also the *Messaggero dell'Islam* in Milan, *Per un Mondo Nuovo* in Rome, *Jihad* in Turin, and the Arabic-French-English paper *Risalat al Jihad* in Rome. A few months back CESI transmitted the appeal of the Grand Mufti of Tashkent in the Soviet Union for the struggle in the West against American missiles and for "peace."

### **Sardinian separatist angle**

In the Sardinian capital of Cagliari, Judge Mario Marchetti and Prosecutor Walter Basilone are concluding their long preliminary investigation into the Sardinian separatists who tried to split Sardinia from Italy through a series of terrorist acts and armed revolts. This separatist plan, nurtured by the Soviet KGB since the 1960s, was financed by Qaddafi. The Cagliari magistracy has accused Mehmet Ageli Tabet, an agent of Libya, of financing and supporting the separatist plot led by Salvatore Meloni and Bainzu Piliu.

The meetings between separatists and Libyan emissaries took place in Catania and were mediated by the well-known Catania lawyer Michele Papa, who arranged Billy Carter's influence-peddling trip to Libya. It seems that Libyan Colonel Messaud, who trains foreign terrorists at the Sebha camp, participated in these meetings at least once. Today, with Sardinia assuming an ever more important role in NATO defense strategy, all the Sardinian grouplets have set aside separatist folklore and embraced anti-American "pacifism." Meloni and the other Cagliari figures under investigation have even founded a separatist party, the PARIS, which will run for regional Sardinian elections on June 27, and proposes to unify the various separatist groups from "Sardynya e Libertat" to the Sardinian Action Party, the Sardinian Independentist Front, and Proletarian Democracy. Separatism has found its armed branch in the MAS—Armed Sardinian Movement—and oriented its propaganda against American bases in Sardinia.