

## Report from Rome by Antonio Gaspari

### Did Andreotti control the assassins?

*Explosive revelations at the trial of the killers of General Dalla Chiesa and other anti-Mafia fighters, in Palermo.*

A political bombshell went off at the "jumbo trial" against the Mafia in Palermo, when the lawyer for the family of the late anti-Mafia chief Gen. Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, Alfredo Galasso, asked that a series of high-ranking individuals be called to testify. They include Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini; ex-Interior Minister Virginio Rognoni; member of Parliament, Rinaldo Formica; representative to the European Parliament, Salvo Lima; and the head of the Communist regional group of Sicily, Michelangelo Russo. At the top of the list is none other than Giulio Andreotti, foreign minister, head of a faction in the Christian Democratic party, and leading "appeaser" of Moscow in the Italian government.

The attorneys for the Setti-Carraro family, whose daughter was married to the late General Dalla Chiesa, have supported the subpoena request, as have the legal representatives of Paolo Giaccone, a doctor assassinated by the Mafia. General Dalla Chiesa, who crushed the terrorism of the Red Brigades, was penetrating the secrets of the Mafia when he was killed.

The request to subpoena the above group came after the general's son, Nando Dalla Chiesa, gave one and a half hours of testimony, laying grave responsibility at the doorstep of politicians and government figures. Nando Dalla Chiesa pointed the finger, above all, at Andreotti. He said that his father, Gen. Carlo Alberto, had a very poor impression of the Sicilian

"Andreottians." The general had testified along these lines in 1973, to the first anti-Mafia commission, where his unequivocal evidence has stayed on the record. When he was named to head up the anti-Mafia battle, he presented himself to Giulio Andreotti, and announced his intention of a general cleanup. "The Andreottians were in it up to their necks," said the general, and added that Andreotti "did not seem to care about his electorate in Sicily."

According to Nando Dalla Chiesa's deposition, it seems that Andreotti answered the general by reminding him of the case of the mafioso Pietro Izerillo, who was returned from the United States in a coffin, with a ten-dollar bill in his mouth. General Dalla Chiesa was struck by Andreotti's reply, which sounded like a death threat, but decided to continue his work.

Mrs. Maria Antonietta Setti-Carraro, the mother of Emanuela, the general's wife, cited another significant episode, in which the Dalla Chiesas were invited to a ceremony of a strange entity in Sicily, called "Accademia degli uomini incamminati" (roughly, the Academy of the Initiates); four of its members work in Sicily's second largest city, Catania, and were recently accused of being the true heads of the Mafia. The president of this "Academy" is none other than Giulio Andreotti.

Journalist sources reached in Rome have confirmed that the ties between the Sicilian Mafia and Andreotti have historic roots. It was the vice-regent

of the Hapsburgs, sent to Palermo, Don Marco Antonio Colonna, who used the Inquisition and bands of assassins in ways which later became known as "typical of the Mafia," as early as 1577. Since Andreotti is notoriously protected by the Colonna family, this thread leads to the ties of brotherhood between the Roman oligarchy and the Sicilian Mafia.

More recent facts confirm the ties between Andreotti and the Mafia: Near the end of July, the head of the Andreottian faction of the Christian Democrats in the Apulia region, Giuseppe Caroli, who also acts as the undersecretary to the finance minister, was indicted for heroin trafficking, via Syria and Italy. The Honorable Caroli is a dear friend and powerful political collaborator of Andreotti, and has profited from the good offices of the foreign minister, especially the latter's excellent ties to President Assad of Syria, in order to organize his illicit drug trafficking. Telephone taps and intercepted letters, complete with letterhead stationery, are deposited at the Syrian embassy in Rome, which uncontestedly prove Caroli's guilt.

Apulia, with the benefit of some political "cover," has become the region of Italy which is the main pipeline for Syrian drugs, and the Syrian embassy in Rome has been caught in the center of drug traffic at least twice in the last few months.

Despite the international media which paint him as Italy's most expert and far-sighted politician, Andreotti is the worst gangster who has ever reached the level of minister and then prime minister. There is not a scandal in postwar history of Italy in which he was not implicated; 27 times he has evaded indictment, profiting from parliamentary immunity. Mysteriously, no commission of inquiry has ever been given "the authorization to proceed."