Report from Rome by Mark Burdman

The case of Trieste Satanist Moncini

Investigations by Italian officials in the United States, could uncover pedophiliac rings and even cults that sacrifice children.

uring the first days of 1989, an influential personality from Trieste, Italy, Alessandro Moncini, was released from a U.S. penitentiary, after having served less than three months of a one-year sentence, on charges of having imported child pornography into the United States. Moncini has returned to what he calls "my beautiful Trieste," but his stay may not be so relaxed. According to information being made available to the Italian press, the "Moncini case" involves much more than importing child pornography, but potentially points to a ring of pedophiles and Satanists operating at a high level within the transatlantic oligarchical establishment.

When Moncini was first arrested on March 18, 1988, U.S. authorities made it known, through leaks in the Italian daily *La Repubblica*, that he was involved in "satanic rites . . . with sexual undertones, which should have ended up with the sacrifice of the designated victims." The relevant U.S. law enforcement officials have tapes of phone calls made by Moncini to a certain Anthony Crowley, identified by *La Repubblica* as head of "the pornography front" in the U.S., in which Moncini is heard asking for young girls.

According to partial transcripts of the tapes made publicly available, Moncini talks about committing the most disgusting perversions against the young girls, ranging from "whipping" and "chaining" them, to urinating in their mouths. There is also an exchange about how one of the girls might be killed after she is abused. As the daily *Corriere della Sera* put it, it was clear that Moncini was planning to have a "satanic night."

In the trial, presided over by Los Angeles Judge Richard Lew, none of this material was allowed as evidence, formally because information obtained from wiretapping is not admissible in the court. Even so, the oneyear sentence was ludicrous: Even possession and import of child-pornography videos, a violation of the U.S. Child Protection Act, carries with it a potential sentence of 30 years in prison and a fine of \$1 million.

Now Lew has released Moncini "on good behavior," although he had only entered a U.S. penitentiary on Oct. 8. The judge received at least 36 letters from influential personages from Trieste, a city that is home for some very powerful international interests, typified by the Assicurazioni Generali di Trieste insurance/reinsurance giant. (Earlier in this century, AGT employed Czech writer Franz Kafka, whose famous novel *The Trial* may be a useful guide to the American judicial process today.)

One letter, astonishingly, came from the Roman Catholic Bishop of Trieste, Monsignor Bellomi. Others came from the heads of the Lloyd Adriatico insurance giant and the Cassa di Risparmio di Trieste bank, and from the vice president of the Trieste Region, Gianfranco Carbone. Reportedly, intervention also came from Assicurazioni Generali directly.

The public explanation for this rush to support the degraded Moncini is that the Trieste influentials are worried about their city's reputation. Also, Moncini's local and international standing is cited: head of the World Association of Automobile Clubs, former president of the Italian branch of the Automobile Club (ACI), former president of the Trieste Football Club, a leading member of the Rotary Club, etc.

However, there is a darker explanation. According to *La Repubblica*, Moncini is a member of the notorious Propaganda-2 (P-2) Freemasonic lodge of Licio Gelli. As the Turin daily *La Stampa* characterized Moncini in a Jan. 13, 1989 article: "a Mason in the capital of the Masons." The city of Trieste alone has 10 Freemasonic lodges. International pedophiliac rings are often protected, and in some cases encouraged, by the upper degrees of certain branches of Freemasonry.

On Jan. 13, *La Stampa* reported that two senior Trieste officials working on the Moncini case, chief of police Piervalerio Reinotti, and deputy state investigator Oliviero Drigani, were soon to return from a mission to the United States, where they were searching for evidence "to prove the existence of a most exclusive club of international pedophiles."

Pedophiliac rings are often fronts for procuring children for cults that practice satanic black masses and rituals, including child sacrifice. If Reinotti and Drigani can find such connections in their research about a "most exclusive club of international pedophiles," the earthquake effects will be felt way beyond Trieste.

In any case, the normal citizens of Trieste are making their voices heard—and seen. As Moncini returned to Trieste, graffiti appeared on the walls of public places, with the words, "Attention children, Moncini is returning," which sounds more colorful in Italian: Attenti bambini che torna Moncini.