

Italy's Scalfaro fights threat of dictatorship

by Claudio Celani

"When freedom is attacked from the outside, it is a serious evil. But dictatorships generally arise not because of external pressures, and are the last act of a people that has lost the sense and the responsibility of its own freedom." These frightening words were spoken by Italian President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro on Oct. 16 before the Brandenburg Gate—exactly where, until three years ago, the wall began that divided Berlin, and Germany, into two parts. The Italian President was warning about a present danger for the Italian nation, which risks being destroyed by the assault of the separatist North League and other destabilizing formations, but his appeal, which he chose to launch during a state visit to Germany, was intended also for Italy's allies.

Scalfaro has repeatedly insisted on the concept of "solidarity" among the European partners, and recently reiterated that Europe should not close in on itself, but turn eastward. Within the diplomatic limits imposed on him as a head of state, Scalfaro trenchantly described the European situation as "moldy." The message is clear: Proceeding with the present free-market economic policy (decided at Maastricht), western Europe abandons the concept of "solidarity" with its own population, which is subjected to painful sacrifices, and with the "other part of Europe," the former communist East bloc, abandoned to the savage "free market."

Scalfaro's warning in Berlin should be listened to very seriously by the Bonn and Paris leadership. If her allies insist in forcing Italy to carry out the austerity budget decided by the European Community (EC) and International Monetary Fund (IMF), a dictatorship will soon be established in Rome. Even the liberal daily *Corriere della Sera*, no friend to Scalfaro, was forced to admit that the scenario laid out by the President is credible, insofar as the electoral growth of the North League forces national political parties to negotiate its entry into power.

To prevent that, Scalfaro has worked behind the scenes to prepare an anti-fascist "dam," a national unity government, ready to be elected by Parliament once the present cabinet led by Giuliano Amato has absolved its task, i.e., to get the austerity budget voted up. Scalfaro has met all party leaders and convinced most of them. Achille Occhetto, secretary general of the biggest opposition party PDS (formerly the Communist Party), has reportedly accepted. Not so happy

is Giorgio La Malfa, leader of the minuscule but powerful Republican Party, a masonic formation which is officially working on an alliance platform with the North League. But Scalfaro has a carrot for La Malfa: His government would be led by Senate chairman Giovanni Spadolini, a prominent member of La Malfa's own party. According to the weekly *Il Sabato*, the deputy premier would be Giorgio Napolitano from the PDS, currently House chairman. Scalfaro's government has already been named "the President's government" or "the institutional government," since it would be led by the top institutional leaders of Italy. Commenting nervously on it, pro-drug politician Marco Pannella objected that it is "an alibi to cover a comedy." Of course, the Leaguers reject it and call for early elections.

Whether "institutional government" could stop the North League, depends on the steps it would take to face two emergencies, very much connected: the political destabilization and the economic crisis.

Terrorist buildup

As happened in the past, whenever there was an attempt at forming a government of national unity, terrorism has reappeared. On Oct. 18, a bomb was found, unexploded, under the national office of Confindustria, the manufacturers' association. At the same time, a printing shop owned by Confindustria president Abete was burned down. A leaflet taking responsibility for the bomb was signed Communist Combatant Units, a name used in the 1970s in several terrorist actions. According to magistrate Antonio Marini, behind the leaflet there is "a 'subtle' mind, for sure not a very young person, who has experience, speculative capability, and historical memory." In other words, there is a continuity between the "new" and the "old" terrorism. Former terrorist Renato Franceschini, who has accused both foreign and Italian secret services of pulling the strings of the Red Brigades terrorists who kidnaped and killed Aldo Moro, is convinced that "the services" also hide behind the new terrorists.

The bomb at Confindustria seemed to be aimed at radicalizing labor strife, in the middle of a strike wave that threatens to get out of the unions' control. Investigators are worried, though, that a terrorist-mafia connection could lead to a major attempt against a prominent judge or politician.

In a strange coincidence, as during the kidnaping of Aldo Moro in 1978, when the State Department sent its own man, Steve Piecznik, to make sure that investigators were stymied, another Kissinger stooge happens to be in Italy, lecturing Italian authorities on the "anti-terrorism" fight. Georgetown University expert Edward Luttwak was in Rome on Oct. 20 telling an audience at the Center of Advanced Defense Studies that "the state's slowness in fulfilling the demand for decentralization could trigger a climate of tension and violence."

It is difficult to prove that Luttwak runs terrorism, but the case for his friend Henry Kissinger is all too clear. After the

Moro assassination, it was discovered that the leaders of all the military, police, and secret services were member of the secret masonic Propaganda-2 lodge, whose official plan was to dissolve the democratic institutions of the Italian state. P-2 was exposed and its leaders put on trial (the trial started officially Oct. 16), but the power of the outlawed lodge is still intact, as Sen. Sergio Flamigni, an ex-member of the P-2 investigating committee in Parliament told *EIR* (see issue No. 40, Oct. 9). The P-2 has been officially dissolved, but it persists under another name and most of its members still have a lot of power in institutions, parties, media, and business.

In an article in the daily *L'Unità* of Oct. 16, Gianni and Antonio Cipriani recalled that the P-2 was run by a "higher pyramid" whose center is likely to be overseas, since Judge Carlo Palermo, a top investigative magistrate, discovered that P-2 Grand Master Licio Gelli had to ask Alexander Haig and Henry Kissinger for permission to recruit 400 Italian high military officers.

The "institutional government" that Scalfaro is trying so hard to build could finally take on the P-2 secret government. Besides being a devout Catholic, Scalfaro is known for having proposed, when he was interior minister, to ban Freemasons from all public office. The clock is ticking. "We are 30 minutes before midnight," said Leoluca Orlando, the leader of a new party called La Rete, which was formed to free the

Italian institutions from the power of the Mafia and Freemasons. Orlando, whose party colleague Senator Mancuso endorsed Lyndon LaRouche's presidential candidacy in the United States, explains that only if "new people," not belonging to the old system, take the leadership, can the traditional parties succeed in stopping the fascist North League.

The investigations of corruption scandals in northern Italy, targeting especially Christian Democrats and Socialists, have devastated both parties and fed into a pro-League mood among voters. Due to the scandals, the League could get as much as 40% of the vote in December in major industrial centers like Monza and Varese. The point about the scandals is that it was generally known that political officials took kickbacks from businessmen to finance their electoral campaigns; but suddenly, somebody decided to pull the plug and started the investigation, now seven months old, called *mani pulite* ("clean hands").

The protagonist of the ongoing "clean hands" probe is Judge Antonio Di Pietro, who apparently needs help from the FBI to get the job done. Di Pietro is, at this moment of writing, in the United States to take a course on the latest methods used by the American justice system against "political corruption and organized crime," methods which have mostly been used to rid the political and banking establishment of effective opposition voices.

Kissinger called 'war criminal'

The *London Review of Books* has published a rare, truthful profile of Kissinger, which echoes many of the points that *EIR* has made about him over the years.

Senior British commentator Christopher Hitchens, in his review of Walter Isaacson's *Kissinger: A Biography*, compares reading about Kissinger's career to "reading the profile of a serial murderer." Hitchens points to Kissinger's "identification with the sub-Darwinist depravity of those who worshipped only 'strength.'" Kissinger's world view was in large part shaped by his perverted view of how Jews survived the Nazi concentration camps, as he wrote in a late-1940s letter that survival meant "to disregard ordinary standards of morality. One could only survive through lies, tricks."

Hitchens enumerates the wars and/or destabilizations caused and/or encouraged by Kissinger, including Vietnam, Bangladesh (derided by Kissinger as "a basket case"), Chile, Cyprus, Kurdistan, and East Timor: "It goes on and on until one cannot eat enough to vomit

enough." Hitchens also blasts Kissinger's "nuclear pornography" posing as strategic doctrine, and his conflicts of interest in Communist China, where he defended the massacre in Tiananmen Square in 1989, in order to promote his own lucrative business-consultancy.

Hitchens wrote: "Will anyone say what Kissinger's achievement was? Will anyone point to a country, not excluding his own, which is in the slightest degree ameliorated by his attention? And the old 'realists' of Vienna and Locarno and Yalta, though they may have looked at nations and peoples and borders as disposable and dispensable, did not axiomatically confuse crudeness and brutality with strength and (a significant Kissinger favorite) 'will.' They did not reach hungrily for the homicidal, self-destructive solution."

Hitchens has one other plaint: "The masochism of the press in all this has been contemptible. . . . There have been other war criminals, law-breakers, phonies and pathological liars during the long decline of the Empire and the Cold War," but none was treated with such "sychophancy" and "toadying" as Kissinger has been.

Hitchens' ultimate verdict is that "Kissinger was the Albert Speer rather than the Adolf Eichmann of the crimes against humanity that he assisted in perpetrating, but he lacked Speer's readiness to apologize."—*Mark Burdman*