

Bombs in Italy are bombs against Europe

by Claudio Celani

On July 28, exactly two months after the bombing at the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, another night of terror shook Italy. One has the impression that there is no limit to the escalation of terror: This time three bombs exploded almost simultaneously, one in Milan and two in Rome, killing 5 people, wounding 54, and severely damaging historical buildings and monuments of incalculable value.

All three bombs were placed in the inner city core: in Via Palestro in Milan, outside the Villa Reale which is used as a municipal ceremonial office; in Rome, at the square adjoining the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the official seat of the Bishop of Rome; and in Via S. Teodoro, in the middle of the Roman Forum and outside the precious church of S. Giorgio in Velabro (1200).

It is impossible to "read" through these terrorist acts in a simple, linear way. One has to take into account the internal political situation, the international strategic context, and, last but not least, the aspect of cultural warfare. As Cardinal Camillo Ruini, head of the Italian Catholic bishops said, the destabilizers "want to eradicate from our people all that is authentically human and Christian."

Of course, nobody believes that behind the name of "Armed Phalange," the group that has been claiming responsibility for all recent terrorist bombings, there is a real terrorist group in the classical sense. Experts believe that the Phalange is the cover for highly trained and paid professionals (the Rome and Milan bombings, besides requiring expertise and coordination, cost a lot of money), many of whom originated in former eastern secret services, and now obey other masters.

Italy is going through a fight for its survival as a nation-state, with central institutions like the Parliament under the attack of a "prosecutors' party" steered from outside the country. Such institutional demolition, as we have explained in the past, serves the post-1989 destabilization of Europe, a geopolitical strategy with which readers of this review are familiar. The aim of the Italian destabilization is to turn that country against central Europe, i.e., against Germany, in a new version of the pre-1914 Entente Cordiale policy.

Vatican is also the target

The question is made more complex by the fact that Italy is also the seat of the Catholic Church, which has a distinct

international role, although often overlapping with Italian foreign policy and, above all, internal factional disputes.

Thus, there is no destabilization of Italy without destabilization of the Vatican. One of the bombs that went off, the one at the Lateran basilica, is a very direct threat to the pope, since St. John Lateran is the cathedral of the Bishop of Rome, and the pope himself is the Bishop of Rome. "The pope is being targeted for what he has said on Bosnia and on the recent wave of suicides in Italy," an intelligence source close to the Vatican and to former Italian intelligence chief Adm. Fulvio Martini told *EIR*. By this, he was referring to the strong Vatican condemnation of the western inactivity in the face of Serbian aggression, and the pope's recent intervention into the moral issues of Italian domestic politics, after the shocking deaths of former ENI chairman Gabriele Cagliari and former Ferruzzi conglomerate head Raul Gardini.

Both Cagliari and Gardini had committed suicide, in such dramatic circumstances as to indict the judicial abuses committed by the Milan prosecutors who are leading the famous "anti-corruption" investigation, otherwise called by the London *Economist* the "Italian revolution." Far from justifying corruption crimes, most of which consist in illegal party financings, one must realize that the so-called "revolution" has in reality been a progressive coup d'état by which political power in Italy is today less in the hands of the prime minister or of the Parliament, but more in the hands of Francesco Saverio Borrelli, the head of the Milan prosecutor's office.

However, such a process had suffered an unexpected setback just the week previous to the Milan and Rome bombs, when first Cagliari and then Gardini committed suicide in an extreme act of protest against the "prosecutors' party," who have been using imprisonment as a means of extracting confessions, possibly including torture.

The circumstances of the two suicides are made more shadowy by the connection to the Ferruzzi-Montedison scandal, a case which not only involves illegal party financing, but also a giant financial coverup (see p. 4). Cagliari killed himself by tying a plastic bag over his head. A Social Democratic parliamentarian, Antonio Pappalardo, does not believe in the suicide theory and has asked for an investigating commission, linking the death of Cagliari to that of Sergio Castellari, a high government official who was found a few months ago "to have committed suicide," although the pistol he ostensibly used was cocked when his body was discovered; and to former minister Franco Piga, also connected to the Montedison case, who died earlier of a "heart attack." The outcry over the deaths of Cagliari and Gardini had put the prosecutors on the defensive, and reestablished a constitutional balance of powers between the judiciary and the Parliament.

The church had intervened by allowing for Catholic funerals, and the pope himself stated that "God forgives even suicides." Although suicide by a person in full possession of



"There is no destabilization of Italy without the destabilization of the Vatican." Some of the recent bombings in Italy are an unmistakable warning to Pope John Paul II (inset). St. Peter's Square in the Vatican.

his faculties is deemed a mortal sin, the presumption that any suicide may have repented before dying, and that only God knows the true state of mind of a victim, is universally accepted Catholic doctrine. The fact that it was reiterated so emphatically signals the Vatican's public recognition of the extraordinary and inhuman pressures to which these "suicides" have been subjected.

This intervention could in itself suffice to explain the new terrorist wave, as it aims to induce in the public opinion the sense of impotence of institutions, and accelerate the cry for a "change." One can read, as a corroboration of this, statements made by Anglo-American spokesmen, beginning with CIA expert Vincent Cannistraro, who said that the bombs were planted by the "old" establishment, the same which is being investigated by the Milanese prosecutors; or by Yale University expert Joe La Palombara, who simply announced, "The Parliament is de-legitimized"; or, British expert on Italy, Denis Mack Smith, who pointed all suspicions to "the Italian secret services." According to such advice, the Italians should send all politicians to jail, close down Parliament, and dissolve the intelligence services. It is not difficult to see that the aim of these distinguished gentlemen corresponds probably to what the terrorists want to achieve.

Among all of them, Edward Luttwak, from the Center for International Strategic Studies in Washington, is the most candid: "The church should stay out of politics," he

said in an interview with national television channel TG2.

A masonic reading

Aldo Alessandro Mola, the official historian of the Italian Grand Orient Lodge, is convinced that internal reasons do not suffice to explain the destabilization. "The pope is the target not only for what he said on Bosnia, but also for Iraq and Lebanon," Mola said in an interview. The Grand Orient has recently split from the British mother lodge over, among other things, the issue of masonic policy toward the church. "Italian Freemasonry has made peace with the church at least since the 1960s," Mola said, contrary to British Masons, "who have such an animosity against the Vatican that it resembles the 17th century." Mola agrees that some of the strings of the Italian destabilizations are being pulled from the banks of the Thames. "The papacy has repeatedly distanced itself from Israel, and a very severe condemnation of Israel's ethnic cleansing is coming," Mola said. "It was expected today, Wednesday, since the pope speaks always on Wednesday."

That Wednesday, obviously, the subject of the pope's remarks was the bombings of the night before. The pontiff went together with Italian President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, in a demonstrative gesture, to visit the damaged Lateran basilica. Scalfaro underlined that "the Parliament is the unique interpreter of popular will."