

# The Form of the Labor Committees' Influence

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ROME, Feb. 16 — In several published reports of which I have received copies, it is stated that key forces in Italy are now moving on the basis of agreement with our IDB policy. In the final analysis, such statements are essentially true and therefore defensible. Unfortunately, most readers of such reports would misinterpret the meaning of the words. The possibility of such misinterpretations should be prevented by a statement from me concerning current developments centering upon the Italian crisis.

There are in Italy and France certain relatively powerful industrial capitalist-oriented political forces closely intertwined with the state-owned industries. These forces are also interconnected with political currents within the Christian Democracy of Italy (DC), the Socialist Party of Italy (PSI), and the Gaullists and sections of the Communist Party in France. Those industrial capitalist forces and their allies know the following: (1) that the Atlanticist austerity program is specifically Schachtian and therefore fascist; and (2) that unless the Atlanticists' power is quickly destroyed, European industrial capital will be brutally crushed and general thermonuclear war and general ecological horror will follow. Such highly-placed and well-informed capitalist anti-austerity forces are essentially committed to destroying the Atlanticists as a matter of their own capacity to survive beyond mid-1976.

These forces confront two interrelated general problems. They are for both financial debt moratoria and new pro-development agreements of East-West cooperation and multilateral agreements with developing-sector nations and groups of nations. In the effort to implement such policy objectives, these forces in Italy confront the two problems of quickly establishing a favorable strategic correlation of forces necessary for Italy to actually institute financial debt moratoria against Atlanticist institutions, and the national-tactical problems of establishing an Italian government capable of conducting such policies.

The possibility of solving the strategic problem exists in terms of the developing sector's leading forces, advanced degrees of Italian economic cooperation with the Comecon, and a parallel to Italian self-interests among Gaullists in France and certain other pro-European forces. The required strategic deployment needed to realize such advantages is somewhat sophisticated, but feasible during the immediate short-term.

## The Role of the PCI

The national-tactical problem is first that the Christian Democracy and Socialist Party presently contain such proportions of Atlanticist agents and vacillating weaklings that it is difficult to establish an adequate parliamentary base for a government of anti-Atlanticist forces. These internal problems for the DC and PSI are massively complicated by the fact that the Communist Party of Italy (PCI) is under top-down control by Atlanticist agents. In fact, today's *l'Unita*, daily organ of the PCI, proposes to place that party in essential support of the Schachtian (i.e., fascist) economic

program presented as the Moro government program through Atlanticist Andreatta. The PCI leadership of today is a more vicious enemy of working-class forces than the Müller SPD forces of 1928. Since the PCI obtained 33 per cent of the popular vote in the 1975 elections, although PCI support of a fascist economic austerity for Italy would split the party itself into shreds, such PCI support for the Harriman-Rockefeller forces should potentially wreck the pro-development opposition to Atlanticism and create the basis for a pro-Atlanticist bonapartist regime of a Brüning type.

This national-tactical problem also requires sophisticated (and even somewhat Byzantine) footwork by the pro-development DC and PSI forces. Hence the bizarre crepuscular existence of the nominated Moro government. Italian political life today is a convoluted and involuted mass of writhing, subterranean tactical maneuvers such that any report appearing in the public press is necessarily a misrepresentation of fact. The Moro government is a short-lived chimera whose fragile life depends principally upon the tacit support of the Communist Party leadership for a fascist austerity against Italy. That government exists to take the blame for the horrors enacted during its reign and is kept in place because those with the power to bring it down on a moment's notice have not yet prepared themselves to present a government of their own.

What is impending is: (1) crucial congresses of the DC and PSI, at which there will be an effort to sort out the internal situation in those parties; (2) the virtual inevitability of early general elections; (3) an impending campaign to split the working-class, trade-union and communal base away from the pro-fascist Berlinguer-Amendola leadership of the PCI, creating a united front between the PCI and PSI working-class forces at the trade-union and commune levels. Meanwhile, on the strategic level, sensitive national and international negotiations are being pursued to the end of instituting financial debt moratoria against the Atlanticist interests and bringing Italy into the beginning of an IDB-oriented New World Economic Order.

## Myriad Channels

The crucial thing to recognize is that the Italy developments occur in an international environment in which the influence of the IDB and Labor Committee analyses has percolated through myriad channels to broadly shape the outlook on which all anti-Atlanticist forces inevitably converge. Although that influence is considerably enhanced by face-to-face discussions between ICLC representatives and others, it is the myriad channels of influence rather than the face-to-face discussions in themselves which are preponderant.

It must be emphasized that numerous leading forces in the corridors of power throughout the world support the conception of the IDB more or less exactly, sometimes even without direct knowledge of the Labor Committee authorship of that conception. It is the massive propaganda and educational

work, conducted simultaneously at all levels from the factory gate to the highest levels of governments and political parties, which generates such a cumulative effect.

This influence is essentially a reflection of our superior knowledge and methods of work, but our ideas are radiated ricochet-fashion through influential channels of thought because they are the only rational policy alternatives and analyses put into general circulation at a time when all other forces but our own lack any alternative competent programmatic perception of the current general breakdown crisis of the imperialist order. It is the transmission of such conceptions into many of the pores of society concurrently which results in the reverberation of those same conceptions throughout the corridors of power around the world.

The unwanted effect of the over-simplified accounts of how the present Italy situation is that such reports exaggerate the extent and importance of my direct personal work on the scene, and underrate the essential influence provided by a few thousand organizers organizing and circulating ideas throughout key centers of North America, Latin America and Europe. I am not a deity strewing goodies entirely of my own creation for the passive enjoyment and celebration of the masses; I am only one vital political weapon of the combined Labor Party and Labor Committee machine. It is the effectiveness of that machine as a whole which determines the potency of my special individual efforts in particular. It is the Labor Party organizer in Detroit, Boston, Mexico City and Duesseldorf who ultimately determines whether my current work in Europe will or will not be successful.