

# PUBLIC LIBRARY OF US DIPLOMACY

[Specified Search \(/search.wikileaks.org/plusd/\)](#) [View Map \(/plusd/map\)](#) [Make Timegraph \(/plusd/graph\)](#) [View Tags \(/plusd/tags/\)](#)

[Image Library \(/plusd/imagelibrary/\)](#)

## PCI OFFICIALS CALL FOR MOBILIZATION AGAINST TERRORISM

**Date:** 1977 November 21, 00:00 (Monday)  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Handling Restrictions:** -- N/A or Blank --  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Tags:** IT - Italy (/plusd/?q=&qftags=IT#result) | PCI - Italian Communist Party (/plusd/?q=&qftags=PCI#result) | PINR - Political Affairs--Intelligence (/plusd/?q=&qftags=PINR#result) | PINT - Political Affairs--Internal Political Affairs (/plusd/?q=&qftags=PINT#result)  
**Enclosure:** -- N/A or Blank --  
**Office Origin:** -- N/A OR BLANK --  
**Office Action:** ACTION EUR - BUREAU OF EUROPEAN AND EURASIAN AFFAIRS  
**From:** ITALY ROME (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFORIGIN=ITALY%23%23ROME#RESULT)  
**To:** SECRETARY OF STATE (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=SECRETARY OF STATE#RESULT)  
**Canonical ID:** 1977ROME19077\_c  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Character Count:** 5841  
**Locator:** TEXT ON MICROFILM,TEXT ONLINE  
**Concepts:** POLICIES (/plusd/?q=&qfconcept=POLICIES#result) | TERRORISTS (/plusd/?q=&qfconcept=TERRORISTS#result)  
**Type:** TE - Telegram (cable)  
**Archive Status:** Electronic Telegrams  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 19077 01 OF 02 301057Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00

TRSE-00 NSC-05 PRS-01 PM-05 L-03 MCT-01 /050 W  
-----007817 301112Z /14-L  
R 211840Z NOV 77 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8633

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ROME 19077

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, PINT, IT  
SUBJECT: PCI OFFICIALS CALL FOR MOBILIZATION AGAINST TERRORISM

REF: MILAN 1839

SUMMARY. IN AN INTERVIEW IN CORRIERE DELLA SERA ON NOVEMBER 18, SENATOR UGO PECCHIOLI, CHIEF OF THE PCI SECTION FOR STATE PROBLEMS, PROPOSED THE FORMATION OF CITIZENS' COMMITTEES TO ASSIST POLICE IN GUARDING THE STREETS OF ITALIAN CITIES AND URGED CITIZENS TO COOPERATE MORE ACTIVELY WITH THE FORCES OF ORDER IN COMBATING TERRORISM. HE ALSO STATED THAT NEWLY-REFORMED POLICE INTELLIGENCE UNITS WOULD HAVE TO GO BEYOND "STRICTLY LEGAL" LIMITS IF THEY WERE TO COMBAT TERRORISM EFFECTIVELY. THOUGH THE OTHER MAJOR PARTIES HAVE NOT COMMENTED ON PECCHILLI'S ASSERTION THAT POLICE ANTI-TERRORIST UNITS MUST BE ALLOWED TO USE ILLEGAL METHODS, THERE WERE A NUMBER OF PROTESTS FROM THE DC AND THE PSI AGAINST THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF CITIZEN VIGILANTE COMMITTEES. PCI PRESIDENT LUIGI LONGO AND SECRETARIAT MEMBER GIANCARLO PAJETTA, ON NOVEMBER 20, BACKED PECCHIOLI'S CALL FOR A "POPULAR MOBILIZATION" AGAINST TERRORISM, BUT REFRAINED FROM A REPETITION OF HIS PROPOSAL FOR THE FORMATION OF "CITIZENS" COMMITTEES". END SUMMARY.

1. IN A NOVEMBER 18 INTERVIEW WITH CORRIERE DELLA SERA WHICH CAME ON THE HEELS OF AN ATTACK BY THE RED BRIGADES ON A LOCAL PCI OFFICIAL IN GENOA, SENATOR UGO PECCHILLI, CHIEF OF THE PCI SECTION  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 19077 01 OF 02 301057Z

FOR STATE PROBLEMS (REFERRED TO BY INTERIOR MINISTER COSSIGA AS "MY COUNTER-PART"), CALLED FOR A "POPULAR MOBILIZATION IN COOPERATION WITH THE FORCES OF ORDER". IN PARTICULAR, PECCHIOLI ASKED THAT FACTORY WORKERS IDENTIFY FOR THE AUTHORITIES COLLEAGUES WHO ENGAGE IN VANDALISM OR AGITATE IN THE NAME OF FAR LEFT PARTIES. HE ALSO PROPOSED THE FORMATION, IN LARGE CITIES, OF NEIGHBORHOOD "CITIZENS' COMMITTEES" WHICH WOULD FORM "POPULAR PATROLS TO GUARD THE STREETS"

AND "HELP THE FORCES OF POLICE TO DO THEIR DUTY."

2. PECCHIOLI ALSO DISCUSSED THE NEW POLICE INTELLIGENCE AND ANTI-TERRORISM UNIT WHICH IS TO BE FORMED WITHIN THE INTERIOR

MINISTRY

UNDER A RECENTLY PASSED REFORM ON THE SECURITY SERVICES. "WHAT IS

NEEDED," HE SAID, "IS AN EFFICIENT INTELLIGENCE SERVICE THAT KNOWS ITS JOB; AND NOBODY PRETENDS THAT IT CAN ACT WITH STRICTLY LEGAL METHODS." PECCHIOLI ADDED THAT "TO EXPECT A SECRET AGENT TO MOVE

WITH FORMAL RESPECT FOR THE LAWS AND IN THE FULL LIGHT OF DAY IS CONTRADICTIONARY, RIDICULOUS." (COMMENT: PECCHIOLI IS THE PCI'S CHIEF

SPOKESMAN ON QUESTIONS OF PUBLIC ORDER, AND HIS COMMENTS CAN THUS BE CONSIDERED AN AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT OF THE PCI POSITION ON THE

SECURITY SERVICES. THEY REPRESENT A CONTRADICTION WITH THE PARTY'S PAST PRACTICE IN THAT THE COMMUNISTS HAVE ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS

CRITICIZED THE SECRET SERVICES STRONGLY FOR EXCEEDING THEIR AUTHORITY AND ACTING OUTSIDE THE LAW. END COMMENT)

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 19077 02 OF 02 301100Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00

TRSE-00 NSC-05 PRS-01 PM-05 L-03 MCT-01 /050 W  
-----007846 301112Z /14-L

R 211840Z NOV 77 ZDK  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ROME 19077

3. WHILE PECCHIOLI'S COMMENTS ON FUTURE POLICE INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

HAVE NOT RECEIVED A GREAT DEAL OF ATTENTION FROM THE OTHER MAJOR

PARTIES, HIS PROPOSAL FOR THE FORMATION OF LOCAL VIGILANTE GROUPS  
PROVOKED STRONG REACTIONS FROM THE DC AND THE PSI. DEPUTY FRANCESCO

AZZOLA, WHO HEADS THE DC OFFICE MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC  
ORDER QUESTIONS, PROTESTED THAT SUCH CITIZENS COMMITTEES COULD

DEVELOP

INTO A PARALLEL POLICE FORCE WHICH WOULD "WEAKEN THE AUTHORITY OF THE

STATE" AND THAT THEY WOULD ULTIMATELY BE AN UNHEALTHY FACTOR IN THE  
COUNTRY'S POLITICAL LIFE. HIS SENTIMENTS WERE ECHOED BY THE DC

WEEKLY LA DISCUSSIONS WHICH FORESAW THE EVOLUTION OF A SITUATION  
SIMILAR TO THAT IN ARGENTINA, WITH POLICE AND PARAMILITARY

FORCES "ANSWERING TERRORISM WITH TERRORISM". DEPUTY NEVOL QUERCI,

A MEMBER OF THE PSI DIRECTORATE, OPPOSED THE FORMATION OF VIGILANTE  
GROUPS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY WOULD GIVE RISE TO A "CLIMATE OF

SUSPICION" THAT WOULD EVENTUALLY LEAD TO REPRESSION. POLICE AND  
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WERE ALSO CLEARLY NOT PLEASED WITH PECCHIOLI'S

INITIATIVE (SEE REFTEL).

4. ON NOVEMBER 20, IN A FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL IN COMMUNIST DAILY  
L'UNITA', PCI PRESIDENT LUIGI LONGO REPEATED PECCHIOLI'S CALL FOR  
A "MOBILIZATION" AGAINST TERRORISM AND URGED THE PARTY TO USE ITS

"CAPACITY OF PERSUASION AND CAPILLARY INITIATIVE AMONG THE MASSES"  
TO COMBAT TERRORISM AND AID THE FORECES OF ORDER. HE ALSO CALLED

ON THE POLICE AND THE GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE THEIR EFFORTS AGAINST  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 19077 02 OF 02 301100Z

VIOLENT EXTREMISTS WHO USE "FASCIST METHODS". LONGO, HOWEVER,  
DID NOT REPEAT PECCHIOLI'S CALL FOR THE FORMATION OF "CITIZENS'  
COMMITTEES". GIANCARLO PAJETTA, A MEMBER OF THE PCI SECRETARIAT WHO  
SPOKE IN TURIN THE SAME DAY, STRESSED THE NEED FOR "A POPULAR  
MOBILIZATION THAT DENOUNCES AND ISOLATES TERRORISTS", BUT ADDED  
SPECIFICALLY THAT THE PARTY DID NOT PROPOSE TO "BUILD A PARALLEL  
POLICE FORCE."

5. COMMENT. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT PECCHIOLI, IN PROPOSING THE ES-  
TABLISHMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD VIGILANTE COMMITTEES, WENT SOMEWHAT  
FARTHER THAN THE PARTY INTENDED, AND THAT THE STATEMENTS BY  
LONGO AND PAJETTA WERE AIMED, AT LEAST IN PART, AT CORRECTING  
PECCHIOLI'S MISSTATEMENT. GARDNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Help Expand The Public Library of US Diplomacy

Your role is important:  
WikiLeaks maintains its robust independence through your contributions.

**Please see**

**<https://shop.wikileaks.org/donate> (<https://shop.wikileaks.org/donate>) to learn about all ways to donate.**

Top



WL Research Community -



Tor is an encrypted



Tails is a live operating



The Courage Foundation is



Bitcoin uses peer-to-peer


user contributed research based on documents published by WikiLeaks.  
(<https://our.wikileaks.org>)

anonymising network that makes it harder to intercept internet communications, or see where communications are coming from or going to.  
(<https://www.torproject.org/>)

system, that you can start on almost any computer from a DVD, USB stick, or SD card. It aims at preserving your privacy and anonymity.  
(<https://tails.boum.org/>)

an international organisation that supports those who risk life or liberty to make significant contributions to the historical record.  
(<https://www.couragefound.org/>)

technology to operate with no central authority or banks; managing transactions and the issuing of bitcoins is carried out collectively by the network.  
(<https://www.bitcoin.org/>)

 (<https://www.facebook.com/wikileaks>)

 (<https://twitter.com/wikileaks>)