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## MORO KIDNAPPING--THIRD BRIGATE ROSSE MESSAGE

**Date:** 1978 March 30, 00:00 (Thursday)  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Handling Restrictions:** -- N/A or Blank --  
**Executive Order:** -- N/A or Blank --  
**TAGS:** DC - Christian Democratic Party in Italy (/plusd/?q=&qftags=DC#result) | IT - Italy (/plusd/?q=&qftags=IT#result) | MORO, ALDO - Aldo Moro (/plusd/?q=&qftags=MORO%2C+ALDO#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:** AUSTRIA VIENNA (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=AUSTRIA%23%23VIENNA#RESULT) | FRANCE PARIS (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=FRANCE%23%23PARIS#RESULT) | GERMANY BONN (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=GERMANY%23%23BONN#RESULT) | ITALY FLORENCE (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=ITALY%23%23FLORENCE#RESULT) | ITALY GENOA (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=ITALY%23%23GENOA#RESULT) | ITALY MILAN (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=ITALY%23%23MILAN#RESULT) | ITALY NAPLES (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=ITALY%23%23NAPLES#RESULT) | ITALY PALERMO (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=ITALY%23%23PALERMO#RESULT) | NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO) (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO)#RESULT) | SECRETARY OF STATE (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=SECRETARY OF STATE#RESULT) | TURIN POUCH (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=TURIN POUCH#RESULT) | US (/PLUSD/?Q=&QFDESTINATION=US#RESULT)

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

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AMCONSUL GENOA

AMCONSUL MILAN  
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SHAPEUSNR  
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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, IT  
SUBJ: MORO KIDNAPPING--THIRD BRIGATE ROSSE MESSAGE  
SUMMARY: A THIRD MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTORS OF CHRISTIAN  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DC) PRESIDENT MORO SURFACED IN FOUR  
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ITALIAN CITIES ON MARCH 29. THE MESSAGE PLATED IN ROME  
HAD ATTACHED TO IT A LETTER ALMOST CERTAINLY WRITTEN IN  
MORO'S HAND. IN HIS LETTER, OBVIOUSLY WRITTEN UNDER  
DURESS, MORO RAISES THE IDEA OF AN EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.  
MEANWHILE, THE AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT COME UP WITH  
ANY INFORMATION WHICH WOULD LEAD THEM CLOSER TO A  
SOLUTION OF THE KIDNAPPING. END SUMMARY.

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1. THE BRIGATE ROSSE (BR) RELEASED THEIR THIRD MESSAGE  
REGARDING THE MORO KIDNAPPING ON MARCH 29. COPIES  
OF THE MESSAGE, TOGETHER WITH A HANDWRITTEN LETTER FROM  
CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENT MORO TO MINISTER OF  
INTERIOR COSSIGA, WERE FOUND ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY  
IN ROME, MILAN, TURIN, AND GENOA ON THE BASIS OF  
TELEPHONE CALLS TO FOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPERS. THE BR  
MESSAGE WAS DIVIDED INTO THREE PARTS. THE FIRST  
REPORTED ON THE SO-CALLED TRIAL OF ALDO MORO, THE  
PREPARATIONS FOR WHICH ARE GOING ON QUOTE WITH THE  
FULL COLLABORATION OF THE PRISONER END QUOTE. ACCORDING  
TO THE MESSAGE, MORO IS PROVIDING QUOTE ILLUMINATING  
RESPONSES END QUOTE REGARDING THE THIRTY YEARS OF  
DC RULE WHICH HAVE SEEN THE CREATION OF A COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY REGIME IN ITALY. THE MESSAGE ADDS  
THAT  
QUOTE THE CAPTURE AND THE TRIAL OF ALDO MORO IS

NOTHING LESS THAN A MOMENT, IMPORTANT AND CLARIFYING,  
OF THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTIONARY CLASS THAT THE ARMED  
COMMUNIST FORCES HAVE ASSUMED AS THE LINE FOR THE  
CONSTRUCTION OF A COMMUNIST SOCIETY AND THAT POINTS  
AS THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE TO THE IMPERIALIST STATE  
AND TO THE LIQUIDATION OF THE DIRTY AND CORRUPT CHRISTIAN  
DEMOCRATIC REGIME END QUOTE.

3. THE SECOND PART OF THE MESSAGE CARRIES THE FULL  
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TEXT OF THE LETTER FROM MORO TO COSSIGA. THE ORIGINAL  
OF THE HANDWRITTEN LETTER WAS APPENDED TO THE MESSAGE  
LEFT IN ROME AND FOUND ONLY A SHORT DISTANCE FROM  
THE DC'S HEADQUARTERS AT PIAZZA DEL GESU. IN THE  
LETTER, WHICH VIRTUALLY ALL BOSERVERS ARE CERTAIN IS  
WRITTEN IN MORO'S HAND, THE DC PRESIDENT NOTES  
THAT HE IS UNAWARE OF EVENTS THAT HAVE TRANSPIRED  
SINCE HIS KIDNAPPING ALTHOUGH HE NOTES THAT HE  
IS QUOTE A POLITICAL PRISONER, SUBJECTED, AS  
PRESIDENT OF THE DC, TO A TRIAL DIRECTED AT ASCERTAINING HIS 30 YEAR RESPONSIBILITY (A TRIAL LIMITED  
NOW IN POLITICAL TERMS THAT BECOME CONSTANTLY NARROWER)  
END QUOTE. MORO ASKS HIS COLLEAGUES TO REFLECT  
ON WHAT SHOULD BE DONE QUOTE TO AVOID WORSE DIFFICULTIES  
END QUOTE AND SUGGESTS THAT THEY AVOID SACRIFICING  
MORE INNOCENT PEOPLE QUOTE IN THE NAME OF AN ABSTRACT  
PRINCIPLE OF LEGALITY END QUOTE. MORO THEN TOUCHES UPON  
THE IDEA OF AN EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS REFERRING  
TO THE FACT THAT ALL NATIONS OF THE WORLD  
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ISRAEL AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC  
OF GERMANY (EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF PETER LORENZ) HAVE

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AMEMBASSY PARIS  
SHAPEUSNR  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
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VIEWED SUCH ACTION POSITIVELY. HIS LETTER POINTS  
TO THE PRISONER EXCHANGE BETWEEN BREZHNEV (BUKOVSKIY) AND  
PINOCHET (CORVALAN), TO THE NUMEROUS EXCHANGES OF SPIES,  
AND TO THE EXPULSION OF DISSIDENTS FROM THE SOVIET  
UNION TO ADD WEIGHT TO THE ARGUMENT. MORO ADDS QUOTE I UNDERLIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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STAND HOW A FACT OF THIS NATURE, WHEN IT IS OUTLINED,  
WEIGHS, BUT ONE MUST LOOK LUCIDLY AT THE WORST WHICH  
CAN OCCUR. THESE ARE THE ALTERNATE VISSITIDES OF A  
GUERRILLA WHICH ONE MUST EVALUATE WITH COLDNESS BLOCKING  
EMOTIONALITY AND REFLECTING ON POLITICAL FACTS.  
END QUOTE. THE LETTER THEN GOES ON TO SAY THAT A QUOTE  
PREVENTIVE STEP END QUOTE MIGHT BE MADE BY THE  
VATICAN OR SOMEONE ELSE.

4. THE FINAL PART OF THE LETTER IS ADDRESSED TO  
BR SYMPATHIZERS. THEY ARE ADVISED THAT IN THIS  
HISTORIC PHASE QUOTE THE PRACTICE OF REVOLUTIONARY  
VIOLENCE IS THE ONLY POLICY THAT HAS THE REAL POSSIBILITY  
TO CONFRONT AND TO RESOLVE THE ANTAGONISTIC CONTRADICTIONS  
WHICH PIT THE METROPOLITAN PROLETARIAT AGAINST THE  
BOURGEOIS IMPERIALIST. END QUOTE.

5. MEANWHILE, THE INVESTIGATION OF THE KIDNAPPING  
CONTINUES WITHOUT LETUP. BASED ON INFORMATION WE HAVE  
RECEIVED FROM A VARIETY OF SOURCES, IT APPEARS THAT  
THE AUTHORITIES HAVE NO INFORMATION WHICH BRINGS THEM  
NEARER TO SOLVING THIS DRAMATIC EPISODE.

6. COMMENT. WHILE THERE HAS BEEN SOME SPECULATION

IN THE LAST 48 HOURS THAT THE PHOTOGRAPH CONTAINED IN  
THE FIRST BR MESSAGE WAS DOCTORED, ON ONE IS QUESTIONING  
THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE LATEST MESSAGE NOR OF THE  
LETTER FROM MORO. (POLICE AUTHORITIES HAVE DENIED THE  
SPECULATION ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPH, CLAIMING THAT IT IS  
NOT A MONTAGE.) NOW THAT A LETTER IN MORO'S HAND  
HAS BEEN RECEIVED, THERE IS GENERAL DEPRESSION OVER  
THE LANGUAGE WHICH HIS CAPTORS HAVE OBLIGED HIM TO  
USE. FOR IT IS MORO THAT IS PLACED IN THE HUMILIATING  
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POSITION OF ASKING HIS COLLEAGUES TO CONSIDER  
THE IDEA OF EXCHANGING HIM PRESUMABLY FOR IMPRISONED  
MEMBERS OF THE BR RATHER THAN THE BR CAPTORS OF MORO  
ASKING IT DIRECTLY. IN FACT, THERE IS NOT ONE  
MENTION OF THE IDEA OF AN EXCHANGE IN THE  
THREE BR MESSAGES THUS FAR RECEIVED. GARDNER

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