

Basic Detail Report

Giuseppe Umberto "Pino" Rauti with friend.

Date

1969-1979

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

Giuseppe Umberto "Pino" Rauti was an Italian politician who was a leading figure on the far-right for many years, although Rauti described himself as leftist and non-fascist. Involved in active politics since 1948, he was one of founders and, for many years, the leader of the Social Idea Movement. Alongside his political career Rauti was also the subject of a series of allegations linking him to the terror campaigns associated with the 'strategy of tension'. A noted anti-communist, Rauti sought to use a twin-track approach against the communists, with both strands calling for violent action. He supported the old tactic of direct street fights with far left militia groups but also endorsed a process of infiltrating these groups and thus provoking them to more action and more direct confrontation with law enforcement. Rauti hoped that his policy would create an atmosphere of civil unrest that would be more conducive to a neo-fascist takeover. Rauti's name cropped up in the inquiry into the Piazza Fontana bombing while he had also been named as having attended high-level terrorism planning meetings in Padua in 1969. The Treviso magistrates brought Rauti to trial in 1972 over possible involvement in the Piazza Fontana attack but ultimately he was acquitted due to a lack of evidence. Rauti was aided in this by being able to provide an alibi for the Padua meeting.

Dimensions

Overall: 30.1 x 21.4 cm (11 7/8 x 8 3/8 in.)