

Basic Detail Report

Pietro Nenni, Giacomo Mancini, Francesco

de Martino and Antonio Giolitti

Date

1969-1979

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

Pietro Nenni was an Italian socialist politician, the national secretary of the Italian Socialist Party (PSI) and lifetime Senator since 1970. He was a recipient of the Stalin Peace Prize in 1951. He was a central figure of the Italian left from the 1920s to the 1960s. In 1943 he was arrested by the Germans in Vichy France and then imprisoned in Italy on the island of Ponza. After being liberated in August 1943, he returned to Rome to lead the Italian Socialist Party which had been reunified as the Italian Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity. After the surrender of Italy with the Allied armed forces on September 8, 1943, he was one of the political officials of the National Liberation Committee – the underground political entity of Italian Partisans during the German occupation. His daughter, Vittoria "Viva" Daubeuf, died in Auschwitz. Antonio Giolitti (12 February 1915 – 8 February 2010) was an Italian politician and cabinet member. In 1987, Giolitti left the Italian Socialist Party for disagreements with its leader Bettino Craxi. He joined the Italian Communist Party (Italian: Partito Comunista Italiano, or PCI) in 1940 and was arrested and tried, but acquitted, for his associations with them. There is dispute over his will and estate. Giacomo Mancini, was for many decades one of Italy's most controversial politicians, he was six times a minister in the first centre-left governments, and secretary of the Italian Socialist party in the crucial years from 1970 to 1972, when it was trying to

reunite with the anti-Soviet Social Democrats. Even at the age of 77, he was elected mayor of his home city of Cosenza, in Calabria, becoming the last socialist to win an institutional position after his party's collapse in 1991, in the wake of Bettino Craxi's disgrace. In that office, he was plagued by ill-health and trials for mafia association, but lived up to his reputation as a liberal anticonformist, though he was often accused of arrogance. During his first term as mayor of Cosenza, Mancini was suspended for two years to face curiously motivated charges of associating with the local mafia, the notorious Calabrian N'rangheta. After a no-holds-barred trial, with turncoat local criminals giving evidence against him, he was found guilty, only to win acquittal on appeal and after another trial, whereupon he was re-elected in 1997. Francesco de Martino (1907 - 2002) was an Italian jurist, politician, lifetime senator (1991-2002) and former Vice President of the Council of Ministers. He was considered by many to be the conscience of Italian Socialist Party. De Martino was, in two times, the PSI's candidate to the presidential elections, in 1971 and 1978. This time, however, the more popular socialist, the former Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, Sandro Pertini was elected. De Martino candidacy was tarnished when the family paid a 1bn lire ransom for his release his son Guido who was kidnapped by the Camorra. The kidnappers were eventually captured, but those behind them were never discovered. In 1976, he was ousted as party secretary by Bettino Craxi when the PSI lost in the elections falling below 10% for the first time. De Martino became the scapegoat, and Craxi became Italy's first socialist Prime Minister in 1983.

Dimensions

Overall: 20.3 x 30.3 cm (8 x 11 7/8 in.)