



January 30, 2005

Ambassador Spogli
United States Embassy
via Vittorio Veneto 119/A
Rome, Italy 00187

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Two recent speaking events in Rome have prompted this, our fourth letter to you.

On January 13th, Dave Lindorff, a U.S. investigative journalist and writer, and Maurizio Torrealta, an Italian journalist with RAI News 24, made a presentation to both U.S. and Italian citizens. The event was part of a new campaign, "*Crimini e Bugie*", centered on the crimes and lies, both U.S. and Italian, surrounding the war in Iraq.

Dave Lindorff, who has been commissioned to write his fourth book, "The Case for Impeachment: The Legal Argument for Removing President George W. Bush from Office", focused his comments probable articles of impeachment (i.e. illegal spying on U.S. citizens, lying to the U.S. people and Congress), war crimes, and on the complicity of European nations (Italy, France, Germany) in assisting the U.S. regime in their war effort. He specifically called on Italian citizens to pressure their elected representatives to investigate crimes with U.S. involvement.

Maurizio Torrealta talked about new investigations into the use of experimental weapons in Iraq, such as those based on microwave or laser technology. As co-producer of the video Fallujah: The Hidden Massacre, his work has been fundamental in informing the public and opening up the debate on the use of weapons such as white phosphorus.

The following week, on January 18th, Cindy Sheehan was hosted by the Rome Province in their *Sala della Pace*. Sheehan called on us as world citizens (U.S., Italy...) to hold our leaders accountable; their lies and deception must be exposed. She illustrated this by asking Bush the question, "What noble cause was worth killing my son for? What noble cause was worth killing thousands of Iraqis for? Not only do we have a right to question our government, we have the responsibility to."

We take that responsibility seriously. On the State Department web site, we read that one of the roles of ambassadors and the embassy team is to use diplomacy to "advance the rule of law". As residents of Italy, we therefore ask what steps have you taken to that end in criminal matters such as the forged documents from Niger or the CIA kidnapping and extraordinary rendition of Abu Omar as detailed in the recently release report by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

We look forward to the opportunity for dialogue with you about these critical matters, namely the lies and crimes of the Bush administration in both the U.S. and in Italy and the damage that such behavior has caused.

Sincerely,

U.S. Citizens for Peace & Justice, Rome