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By cbm, NARA, Date 1-18-07

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Bill -

Here is the latest dreary news from Italy. You will see the Embassy is swift to talk with Nenni on Socialist sins. But of course if we had been in there using our influence, instead of just observing, it would have been possible to influence the Socialist resolution on Vietnam. And of course the PSI has to think of its votes.

I really don't see much purpose in calling these things to your attention any more, since nothing happens. The Embassy is quite content to watch developments (the center-left and our interests going down the drain) from the sidelines, and we are content to watch the Embassy from the sidelines. Apparently everybody is entirely helpless, although terribly interested. Is that what I lost four years and dislocated my career for? I vote we intervene on this. Do you? If not, I will not bother you with any more of this. G Lister/