Genoa March To Commemorate Slain Protester is Peaceful

By Elisabetta Povoledo

A demonstration in Genoa on Sunday to commemorate the six-month anniversary of the death of a protester during the G-8 summit did not end in violence, as authorities had feared.

Several thousand people marched along the same streets that last July 20 saw a demonstration nearly 200,000 strong end in urban warfare and the death of Carlo Giuliani, shot by an officer not much younger than himself.

Fearing a repeat of that disorder, police kept some 100 people marching under the banners of left-wing youth centers from joining the main group of demonstrators.

Some demonstrators shouted invectives at police, but the feared provocations by hard-line anarchists predicted earlier last week by Genoa police chief Oscar Fioriolli did not take place.

At the end of the march, Mr. Giuliani was remembered in elegies by his family and friends, who also asked that light be shed on the violence that marred the G-8 summit.

Mr. Giuliani was killed during what was supposed to be a peaceful anti-globalization march. He was shot while throwing a stolen fire extinguisher at a police vehicle trapped by about a dozen protesters armed with clubs amid a scene of burning cars and smashed shop windows.

Police regained control of the situation but were filmed wantonly beating protesters who did not appear to have a direct role in the violence.

Many of the leaders of last summer's anti-globalization protest were at Sunday's commemoration, including Vittorio Agnoletto, a doctor who organized the protest, and Luca Casarini, the spokesman for the Tute Bianche, a group whose members wear white overalls and often appear at scenes of urban unrest.

Refounded Communist leader Fausto Bertinotti urged prosecutors to continue to investigate police conduct during and after the G-8.

Genoa prosecutors have opened several probes into police violence during a night-time raid on a school used as a media center base by Dr. Agnoletto's Genoa Social Forum, an umbrella group, and later a Carabinieri barrack where some protesters were detained and beaten. Dozens of police officers are being investigated for police brutality but no one has been charged.

Several anti-global demonstrators are also under investigation, including Mr. Casarini, who is charged with inciting violence for pre-demonstration speeches during which he promised to ignore law enforcement officers. Many others were filmed committing crimes but could not be identified.

Mr. Bertinotti praised the anti-globalization "movement" and pointed out that demonstrations since Genoa have been peaceful.