

## Binda says for the first time: "I'm not guilty"

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"I'm not guilty and I didn't try to influence the witnesses". It is the first time that Stefano Binda, 48 years old, who is the man charged with the killing of **Lidia Macchi** says this to the judges. His lawyers, Sergio Martelli and Roberto Pasella **have always supported him** but until this morning the indicted for the Macchi case has always refused to speak.

**He did it in Milan** during the hearing of the court that has to decide whether to accept such a singular appeal of the defence. According to lawyers, the judges should cancel the extension of three months that the magistrate in charge of the preliminary investigations conceded to Public prosecutor for the remand in jail of Binda. But the decision will not concern all the three reasons that can justify the remand, **but concerns just the danger of tempering with the evidences.**

**The court has intended to take the decision**, but in any case Binda would not be released because the appeal concerns just a part of the precautionary requirements.

Lawyers explained that these months in jail have left their mark on Binda, indeed he was arrested on 15<sup>th</sup> January. He is now prisoner in S. Vittore, which is a prison in Milan, and today he appeared to be incredibly thin; indeed, he lost 18 kilos. Daniele Pizzi, the lawyer of the Macchi family says **"If Binda is really not guilty as he goes on repeating, it would be a good thing if he says, once and for all, what he knows.** Starting from the anonymous letter 'In death of a friend' that – without any doubts – has been attributed to him".

di Roberto Rotondo Translated by Miriam Bresciani (Reviewed by Prof. Robert Clarke)