

Nuova Rivista Storica

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Abstracts

EUGENIO DI RIENZO, Il 2 dicembre di Luigi Bonaparte. Un riesame

The *coup d'Etat* of December 2, 1851 was traditionally viewed as a «political crime» of a bloody *caudillo*, predecessor of the great totalitarian dictators of the XXth century. On the contrary the «Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte» developed a new original system of government surely not comparable with the nature and meaning of the mainstream Right. The French Second Empire was an effort to correct the «Latin Democracy» malfunctions, by creating a *centre-gauche* alternative founded on authoritarian but not despotic anti-politics, fierce anti-parliamentary mood, populist and charismatic leadership. The «Bonapartist Revolution» against the old financial powers tried to develop the industrial modernization and a social market economy in France.