

In the depths of the cold war, an Italian industrialist on the cusp of marketing the first personal computer dies on a train to Switzerland. Adriano Olivetti has had contact with Western spy agencies; his associates hint that his heart attack might not be what it seems. Is this really a thrilling tale of espionage, or a missed opportunity to tease out the intriguing history of the first PC? (F: Nature Briefing 25.10.19)