



# NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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FEDERAL COURT CONFIRMS ROCKEFELLER RAN NEW YORK POLICE STATE OPERATION; ACQUIRED MORE THAN 1 MILLION FILES ON POLITICAL "ENEMIES"

NEW YORK, DEC. 11 (IPS)—ON THE BASIS OF EVIDENCE SUBMITTED BY THE U.S. LABOR PARTY, A FEDERAL DISTRICT JUDGE HERE TODAY "FOUND AS FACT" THAT THE NEW YORK STATE POLICE, ACTING ON ORDERS FROM THEN GOVERNOR NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER, ACQUIRED OVER A FIFTEEN YEAR PERIOD MORE THAN A MILLION FILE DOSSIERS ON POLITICAL DISSIDENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE COMMITTED NO CRIMES.

SOURCES TODAY TERMED THE FILES "A POLITICAL ENEMIES LIST COMPILED BY THE STATE POLICE AND RELATED OFFICIALS FOR NELSON ROCKEFELLER."

THE JUDGE'S FINDING INDICATES THAT ROCKEFELLER PURJURED HIMSELF IN SWORN TESTIMONY LAST YEAR BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES INVESTIGATING HIS QUALIFICATION FOR THE VICE PRESIDENCY. AT THAT TIME, ROCKEFELLER HAD DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH "POLITICAL ENEMIES FILES."

THE JUDGE ALSO INDICATED THAT HE THOUGHT IT LIKELY THAT THERE WERE FILES ON THE U.S. LABOR PARTY. STATE OFFICIALS HAVE THUS FAR DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH FILES.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT COURT JUDGE CHARLES L. BRIEANT CONTINUED FOR 10 DAYS A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER BARRING ROCKEFELLER, HUGH CAREY, AND OTHER NEW YORK STATE OFFICIALS FROM DESTROYING THE FILES TO GIVE THE STATE LEGISLATURE SUFFICIENT TIME TO TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT THE DOCUMENTS.

THE JUDGE TERMED THE FILES AS "IMPORTANT" TO THE LABOR PARTY'S PENDING LITIGATION AGAINST THE DEFENDANTS' ILLEGAL HARASSMENT AND SURVEILLANCE OF USLP ORGANIZING. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD REGARD WITH "ADVERSE INFERENCE" ANY ATTEMPT BY THE DEFENDANTS TO DESTROY THE FILES PERTAINING TO THE PLAINTIFFS. SUCH AN ACT, JUDGE BRIEANT SAID, WOULD BE A SIGN THAT "CORRUPT MOTIVATION" WAS INVOLVED IN THE FILES' ACQUISITION.

IN TESTIMONY TODAY, WILLIAM F. HADDAD, HEAD OF THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT AND ANALYSIS, TOLD THE COURT THAT AS PART OF AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE FILES CARRIED OUT BY HIS OFFICE, HE HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO VIEW RANDOMLY SELECTED AND HIGHLY EDITED FILES - UNDER THE CAREFUL SUPERVISION OF STATE POLICE OFFICIALS. THE FILES,

WHOSE CURRENT WHEREABOUTS IS SUBJECT TO DISPUTE, ARE ALLEGEDLY KEPT SOMEWHERE IN ALBANY. THEY WERE AT ONE POINT STORED IN A LARGE ROOM FILLED WITH HUNDREDS OF FILE CABINETS, HADDAD SAID, EACH FILE ENTRY IS MATCHED BY AN INDEX CARD WITH A SYNOPSIS OF THE FILES CONTENTS.

A REPORT COMPILED BY MR. HADDAD'S OFFICE AND SUBMITTED TODAY AS EVIDENCE BY THE LABOR PARTY STATES THAT THE FILES INCLUDE DOSS- IERS ON STATE LEGISLATORS, CONGRESSMEN, REPORTERS WHO HAVE CRI- TICIZED THE STATE OR POLICE, EDITORS, PUBLISHERS, OPPONENTS OF THE WAR IN VIETNAM, COMMUNISTS, SOCIALISTS, CAMPUS RADICALS, OUT- SPOKEN STUDENTS, AND ALMOST ANYONE WHO SIGNED A CONTROVERSIAL NOMINATING PETITION.

MR. HADDAD TOLD THE COURT THAT SEVERAL COPIES OF POLITICAL NOM- INATING PETITIONS WERE KEPT IN THE POSSESSION OF THE STATE POLICE FOR WORK ON THE FILES. HE INDICATED THAT "SOME OF THESE HAVE NOW BEEN DESTROYED." IN AN INTERVIEW, MR. HADDAD SAID, THAT ONLY PETITIONS OF "SOCIALIST AND LABOR" GROUPS WERE USED FOR "FILE WORK."

SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF A LABOR PARTY MOTION FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION, MR. HADDAD TOLD THE COURT THAT AT THIS POINT NO ONE WAS ACTUALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFEKEEPING OF THE FILES. YESTER- DAY, THE LABOR PARTY HAD PRESENTED TWO WITNESSES WHO TOLD THE COURT THAT STATE POLICE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER DOUGLAS DALES HAD INFORMED THEM ON DEC. 9 THAT THE FILES WERE IN "THE PROCESS OF BEING DESTROYED ON ORDERS FROM THE GOVERNOR."

IN AN INTERVIEW, MR. HADDAD SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THAT MANY OF THE FILES HAD ALREADY BEEN DESTROYED "OVER THE LAST MONTH."

STATE ATTORNEY WILLIAM HAMMER, REPRESENTING THE DEFENDANTS APPEARED SHOCKED AT THE JUDGE'S FINDINGS.

"DO I HAVE TO INFORM NELSON ROCKEFELLER OF THE RESULTS OF THE PRECEEDINGS? HE DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH NEW YORK STATE ANYMORE," HE MEEKLY ASKED JUDGE BRIEANT.

"MR. ROCKEFELLER IS ONE OF YOUR CLIENTS. YOU MUST INFORM ALL YOUR CLIENTS OF MY FINDINGS," HE WAS TOLD.

MR. HAMMER WILL BE FILING A MOTION FOR CHANGE OF VENUE TO THE NORTHERN DISTRICT SOMETIME BEFORE THE FIRST OF THE YEAR.