

# FEC Demands Free Hand For 'Plumbers' Operation' Against LaRouche Campaign

On June 28 in Washington, D.C., Federal District Judge Aubrey Robinson denied a motion for a temporary restraining order by the U.S. Labor Party and the Committee to Elect LaRouche (CTEL) against the Federal Election Commission's Gestapo-like "investigation" of those organizations and their financial supporters. Judge Robinson responded favorably to a circular argument by FEC attorney Charles Steele that the U.S. Labor Party's insistence on its constitutional rights in the face of unannounced and harassing interrogations of LaRouche contributors by FEC investigators constituted a "broad assault" on the FEC's investigatory powers. Steele noted that the visits and an array of FEC thug-like and financial warfare tactics in six states against the U.S. Labor Party were undertaken because of possible "criminal activity" by the CTCL and the U.S. Labor Party.

Judge Robinson's decision in *Jones v. Unknown Agents of the FEC* gives the FEC carte blanche to continue its harassment and intimidation campaign until July 11 when arguments on summary judgement motions begin in the case by the FEC, CTCL, the U.S. Labor Party, and the Justice Department, which officially entered the case at the June 28 hearing. Judge Robinson noted that the FEC had not denied any of the abuses of constitutional

rights noted in the Labor Party complaint. The only question, said the judge, was whether or not the FEC has the legal mandate to conduct this type of investigation — comparing the FEC's tactics and activities in this case to those of the FBI.

Judge Robinson is thus in the ironic position of trying to decide whether the Federal Election Commission's mandate by the Congress extends to wholesale violations of constitutional rights. This in itself is a total judicial contradiction. Judge Robinson has also noted that he will not actually decide the issue, stipulating that the entire case should be "dealt with quickly" and "kicked upstairs" to the Court of Appeals.

While Judge Robinson, the Court of Appeals and probably the United States Supreme Court bide their time deciding whether present events are actually lawful, the FEC has issued subpoenas against 13 individuals and organizations involved with CTCL for alleged "illegal campaign contributions" — including the U.S. Labor Party and its chairman and Presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

## *Enemies List*

Judge Robinson's decision coincides with reports from the intelligence community since December 1976 that

## LaRouche Charges Carter, FEC With Gross Violations Of Human Rights

*Through his New York campaign headquarters, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., U.S. Labor Party Presidential candidate, issued the following statement June 28 on the conduct of the FEC and Department of Justice in the case of the Labor Party:*

Jimmy Carter's filthy campaign to use the FEC as the vehicle of dirty tricks and financial warfare operations against my party is a gross violation of human rights. Hypocrite Carter needs some widescale international treatment of outrage and censure at the hands of all forces who cherish world peace and human rights.

Today, in Washington, D.C. the FEC's attorney lied before a federal court. The FEC lied by claiming that they have evidence about so-called Labor Party criminal activity. There is no such evidence. One of the primary objectives of these lies and hypocrisies from Carter and his FEC is to attempt to

stop the formation of my private International Development Bank. These lies will only backfire on the lower Manhattan and London monetarists. All key forces in the world, who have their eyes upon every move by different political factions at the moment, will see through the FEC's lies that they are 'investigating' criminal evidences which they refuse to make public.

Such 'investigations' will be seen as nothing but deliberate harassment and containment of the only world political force with a competent solution in the works against international monetary collapse. Which faction is the FEC working for? The Rockefellers, Rothschilds, or both? I am initiating moves which will not only determine such questions, but will take care of those who do not come over to my side immediately. They will be treated as insane war provocateurs who would destroy the world in thermonuclear war.

Carter is using the FEC as his personal "plumbers unit" against all political opponents. The FEC operations are aimed at bringing criminal indictments against Carter's opponents through entrapment, black propaganda, and other now commonly acknowledged Justice Department political watergating "investigative techniques." Such operations are already directed against the anti-Carter Liberty Lobby.

If there were any doubt that the FEC is proceeding under its own powers, Rockefeller "right-wing" operative Rep. Larry McDonald (D-Ga) destroyed them. He followed the Robinson decision by entering into the June 29 Congressional Record ludicrous charges that the U.S. Labor Party and unnamed right-wing organizations are funded by the government of Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qaddafi. McDonald called for the immediate convening of a full Congressional investigation.

Highest on the Carter enemies list due to the central role it has played to defeat Carter's no-energy program, the U.S. Labor Party is making substantial progress currently toward the establishment of a private International Development Bank under USLP Chairman LaRouche. LaRouche is currently organizing for the bank in Europe — an activity the FEC harassment is aimed to stop.

#### *Harassment, Not Investigation*

At present the U.S. Labor Party is participating in two court cases against the FEC. CTEL, LaRouche's principal campaign committee, applied for federal Presidential primary matching funds after meeting the defined requirements. For a numerically small political party, meeting the current FECA requirements meant raising \$5,000 in contributions in each of 20 states. After CTEL verified that it had met the requirement in October, its books were audited for an entire week by FEC investigators in early November and then its application was stalled until the Carter Administration took office.

In January the FEC sent its investigators into Massachusetts, Delaware and Wisconsin for unannounced interrogations of LaRouche contributors — threatening them with criminal indictments if they did not answer questions. One visit occurred at 7 a.m. Following this so-called "compliance check," the FEC denied LaRouche's request for matching funds despite the fact that the FEC staff had conditionally recommended such a grant following its November audit. Attorneys for LaRouche immediately petitioned for review in the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals, *LaRouche v. FEC*, asking the court to review the entirety of the FEC's conduct in denying the funds and to grant CTEL its \$110,000.

Following the January harassment and the filing of a record for review for the Court of Appeals stating the dates and decisions of various FEC meetings on the CTEL request by FEC attorneys, a motion for extraordinary discovery was filed in *LaRouche v. FEC* by attorney Robert Liotta in order to ensure that the court had a full view of the Carter-directed harassment operations. That motion is still pending before the court, with the FEC yet to file an answer.

In March 1977 the Labor Party filed *Jones v. Unknown Agents of the FEC* a class action suit on behalf of all

LaRouche contributors covering the numerous civil rights violations which occurred in the January harassment visits. The suit seeks \$2,260,000 in damages for violations of First, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Fourteenth Amendment rights as well as violations of the Helsinki accords on human rights.

Just at the point the FEC was due to answer the *Jones* complaint exposing itself to a full round of legal discovery on June 13, the FEC initiated another round of visits to contributors in Michigan and Indiana. This time the FEC covered its tracks by alleging "possible violations" of the campaign financing law. The accumulated dossier for discovery in the *Jones* suit would expose the Carter Administration's participation in crimes which are far more serious than those at Watergate.

The dossier shows that since December the FEC, the FBI and the Institute for Policy Studies have directly coordinated an all-out attempt to bankrupt the U.S. Labor Party. Aside from the joint FEC-Justice Department "organized crime and political corruption investigative tactics," so described by a prominent New York attorney, the harassment includes direct contact by the FEC, and FBI, with U.S. Labor Party vendors in an attempt to dry up credit lines; arrests and lockouts from municipalities throughout the country; and physical assaults against campaign workers.

The recent FEC visits to contributors occurred in the context of an outpouring of complaints by the FEC delivered to CTEL, its contributors and vendors in April and May, charging possible violations of the campaign financing laws. Under the pretext of alleged criminal violations, the FEC seeks all financial records of the U.S. Labor Party and its vendors in a typical corporate financial warfare fishing expedition. The purpose: to trump up criminal charges and dry up through harassment the sources of U.S. Labor Party funds.

The United Autoworkers in a lawsuit filed in the Southern District of New York in November 1975 also demanded just such financial disclosures by the Labor Party. Freedom of Information Act documents released to the Labor Party by the FBI demonstrate that the UAW sought and retained active collaboration with the Department of Justice and former Attorney General Edward Levi in this effort.

Since January, the FEC and the UAW have been joined by the Rockefeller-aligned Bank of Nova Scotia and David Rockefeller's own Chase Manhattan Bank in the battle for financial disclosure. Both banks allege that credits appearing in accounts held by the National Causus of Labor Committees for \$65,000 and \$90,000 dollars respectively were, despite numerous checks by the NCLC with the banks for a period of two months, in reality "bank errors." The banks too asked for full financial disclosure under the pretext of civil lawsuits.

#### *Counterattack-Cartergate*

By the time the U.S. Labor Party brought its request for a TRO before Judge Robinson after the June harassment visits, the FEC had already issued its 13 subpoenas to individuals and corporations, allowing it to justify to the judge that it was pursuing a "criminal investigation." According to Attorney Steele the FEC

determined in January that there were "possible violations" of the law and, whatever the violations of civil rights, the issue was the FEC's power to conduct a "criminal investigation." This outrageous circumlocution by the FEC comes very close to abuse of the legal process (raising bogus criminal issues in order to evade a civil lawsuit) and effectively protects the FEC from discovery until the issue of its powers can be litigated.

While attorneys for LaRouche argue in their summary judgment to Robinson that the FEC has no power to rip up the U.S. Constitution, they are exploring other legal avenues to ensure full discovery.

Simultaneously, a heated factional debate in the House Administration and the Senate Rules Committee, the FEC's Congressional oversight committees is in progress over launching a full investigation of the FEC. Such an investigation could lead to immediate impeachment proceedings against President Carter. The U.S. Labor Party has announced plans to help this Congressional debate into daylight by seeking the disqualification of FEC Commissioner Harris, the current Chairman and chief Carter operative of the Commission from all future deliberations on CTEL and the U.S. Labor Party. Disqualification will proceed through the full exposure of Harris' background and the proofs of his prejudice toward this case.

Harris is a top Rockefeller operative who has been variously associated with the Edward Levi-Thurman Arnold Justice Department and law firm networks. He was close to the Robert Kennedy networks and is described as "very close" to Washington attorney

Joseph Rauh, director of Institute for Policy Studies union-busting networks like Miners for Democracy, PROD, and the Ed Sadlowski operation against the United Steelworkers. Harris also helped draft the legislation to set up the FEC, which intelligence sources say was designed solely as a harassment operation since the day of its inception. During World War II Harris served with the Board of Economic Warfare under Nelson Rockefeller.

#### *Financiers Push World Toward War*

At this moment, there are strong indications that the world's two major financier factions, the Rockefellers and the Rothschilds, are united in supporting the Carter plumbers' attack on the USLP and other pro-development forces. If this is the case, it means that both of these factions, while maneuvering for leverage against each other in the impending collapse of the international debt structures, are insanely agreed on a policy of global austerity and deindustrialization. This policy will inevitably lead to world monetary and industrial chaos and thermonuclear war, as financiers attempt to impose fascist austerity regimes throughout Europe and the Third World.

It was this danger that Lyndon LaRouche warned of on nationwide television election eve, Nov. 1, when he called on the world to prevent at all costs the consolidation of a Carter dictatorship in the U.S. If the fraudulent Carter election is not overturned, LaRouche warned, thermonuclear war is likely before the end of 1977. It is not accidental that the FEC has focused its ire on the financing of this message to the public.

## Carter's Enemies List: Targets For Cointelpro

The Federal Election Commission sits in the middle of a Cointelpro octopus created by the Carter Administration and its private intelligence apparatus to silence all resistance to its policies. In the first six months of the Carter presidency, the Federal Election Commission (FEC), the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Organized Crime Strike Force and the Public Integrity Section of the Justice Department have been unleashed under Executive order in a campaign reminiscent of the Hitler regime's outlawing of all opposition as "treason against the Nazi Party."

These criminal operatives have not been directed only at the U.S. Labor Party. Sources close to the Administration have confirmed that Carter has compiled an "Enemies List" composed of all forces acting to defend the Constitution and the American system of progress. Each of the individuals and organizations so targeted have been subjected to consistent illegal harassment carried out through the Justice Department and the FEC. The accompanying annotated chart provides only a sketch of the targets of the Carter octopus during the first six months of 1977.

#### *The Federal Election Commission*

*Case 1: The Liberty Lobby — The Liberty Lobby, publishers of a weekly conservative newsletter, Spot-*

*light*, was subpoenaed in May 1977 by the FEC and ordered to provide a detailed accounting of its principal financial backers, its creditors and the personal financial situations of its members and sponsors. The Liberty Lobby is not a political party and did not endorse a Presidential candidate in the 1976 elections, but the FEC claimed jurisdiction on the basis that a *Spotlight* series of articles documented the connections between Jimmy Carter and the Coca Cola Corp.-Capricorn Records cocaine trafficking operations in Atlanta. This special supplement documented that over \$1 million in matching funds was provided to Carter on the basis of funds conduited illegally through rock concerts. It is a fact that under the FEC's own enabling legislation and codes, newspapers are declared outside its jurisdiction; however, this has been wholly ignored in this case.

*Case 2: National Chamber of Commerce (National Chamber Litigation Center) — During 1977 the Chamber of Commerce's Litigation Center initiated a series of federal court actions against the FEC, making a limited Constitutional argument that the FEC's restrictions on political action associations are illegal. The FEC then initiated action against the Chamber of Commerce, claiming that that body's longstanding practice of issuing "score cards" on the voting records of every*