
Documentation

The New Scientist on EIR and LaRouche

The following article titled "American Fanatics Put Scientists' Lives at Risk" by Ziauddin Sardar appeared in the Oct. 22 issue of New Scientist.

Scientists in the Middle East are worried that false rumours about their political activities spread by a group of American zealots are endangering their careers and lives. In December 1980 a weekly magazine called *Executive Intelligence Review* circulated a mimeographed "special report" entitled *Prospects for Instability in the Arabian Gulf* to officials in the Arab world. The report, which was sent free to selected civil servants, accuses scientists who have expressed concern about the environment or the rapid pace of development of being members of terrorist organisations and plotting to overthrow governments.

While the report does not accuse individual scientists directly, it paints an overall picture of conspiracy, and tries to link the activities and writings of certain scientists and technologists to this conspiracy.

For example, the report says that Prince Mohammad Faisal, chairman of the King Faisal Foundation and the Paris-based Iceberg Transport International, is working to create a "super-national [sic] 'zero growth' Islamic bloc" aimed at "undermining the national sovereignty of the nations of the Muslim world" and intends to "rid the Muslim world of nationalist modernisers, most emphatically the Saudis under Prince Fahd." Thus, by association, Prince Faisal is projected as someone who is not only anti-Saudi government but actively working to undermine the authority of Crown Prince Fahd. The report makes such allegations about a number of scientists and engineers.

In certain Middle East countries with hypersensitive governments, such as Syria and Iraq, these allegations, however indirect, can easily lead to arrests, prison sentences and even executions.

The special report names organisations and scientists at Cairo University and King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah as being part of a vast network of agencies connected to "Saudi centres of insurgency." One of the authors, Robert Dreyfuss, told *New Scientist*: "Environ-

mental and anti-growth organisations are planning to commit genocide in the world. They are working with the terrorist Muslim Brotherhood to take the Middle East back to the Dark Ages. We intend to fight these people and rid mankind of these evil organisations and the men who support them."

Executive Intelligence Review is one of a group of periodicals published by a network of organisations that derive their inspiration and direction from Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. These organisations are aggressively in favour of industrial expansion and nuclear power. They accuse individuals and organisations that oppose these goals of plotting "mass genocide." Organisations accused include the Club of Rome, the Aspen Institute of Humanistic Studies, The International Centre for Theoretical Studies in Trieste, the World Wildlife Fund, and a host of other scientific, environmental and technological organisations. LaRouche sees these organisations as being part of a vast conspiracy working under the guidance of British intelligence to "subvert American power."

According to his book, *The Power of Reason: A Kind of Autobiography*, LaRouche was born on 8 September, 1922 to a Quaker family. In the 1960s he led the U.S. Labor Party, a radical movement that broke away from Students for a Democratic Society. At that time he called himself "Lyn Marcus," and described himself as a Trotskyite. He now calls his group the National (or International) Caucus of Labor Committees, although it is difficult to discern its link with organised labour in the U.S. or anywhere else.

In the last U.S. presidential election, Citizens for LaRouche, "a nationwide campaign to support Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. for President," succeeded in raising enough money—\$5,000 in donations of less than \$250 each—to qualify for a matching federal grant in 20 states. LaRouche was the only fringe candidate to do so.

LaRouche may be a crackpot. But there is evidence to suggest that he is well-organised and dangerous.

According to Donald Lesh, co-director of the Global Tomorrow Coalition, a committee of people brought together by an interest in the U.S. Council for Environmental Quality's *Global 2000 Report*, LaRouche groups are very adept at financing their activities from industry and governments. "These organisations have great financial power. It is an internationally coordinated effort which also has the ability to work at grassroots level," he says.

Sam Nilsson, director of the International Federation of Institutes of Advanced Studies (IFIAS), says: "It is a highly organised and systematic attempt to disrupt and discredit the activities of environmental and other socially concerned organisations." Alexander King, IFIAS's chairman and a noted member of the Club of Rome, said "These people are doing their best to persecute us."

LaRouche's obsession with the belief that the club is out to annihilate the Third World and compromise the power and influence of the U.S. by propagating anti-nuclear and anti-growth policies has led to a campaign of harassment against the club's members. At a U.N. meeting in New York last May, where Aurelio Peccei, the president of the Club of Rome was speaking, the Citizens for LaRouche group had pickets outside armed with signs and leaflets attacking the club for being "genocidal." They infiltrated the hall where Peccei was speaking and heckled him while he spoke. At their annual meeting at Marymount College, also last May, LaRouche's devotees picketed the U.S. Association for the Club of Rome. When they were expelled from the campus, the pickets turned to telephone threats. A prominent member of the association received [a] telegram: "Dear . . . having a wonderful time, wish you were here—Jim Jones."

In the Middle East, LaRouche's groups are playing a much more dangerous game. Scientists and engineers who speak out against rapid technological growth or show concern for the environment are branded as "communist" and "leftists" if they live in conservative states such as Saudi Arabia or "members of the terrorist Muslim Brotherhood" if they live in countries such as Iraq and Syria.

LaRouche followers sent "intelligence reports" containing these allegations to Arab embassies in the U.S. and to civil servants in the Middle East. They also present these reports at special seminars to which selected decision-makers are invited. One such seminar was held in Paris on 12-13 December under the title "The fight for progress and science."

In some circumstances this kind of rumour can lead to imprisonment or execution. Ali Kettani, director of the Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development, said: "They are picking up names and circumstances and putting them together in a way that has nothing to do with reality. But figments of their imagination could have quite serious consequences for Arab scientists. I hope that Arab governments do not pay attention to these people."

Abdus Salam, Nobel laureate and director of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics, said: "It is easy for us to dismiss LaRouche as a crank. But for scientists in some Middle East countries, the accusations of his groups can have very serious consequences."

One Arab scientist who has been mentioned in more than one report of the LaRouche groups said: "Their reports contain unbelievable rubbish. But the problem is that not everyone reads them to discover this. A lot of the harm they have caused, and in particular the problems they have generated for me, is the result of hearsay and the rumours they have produced."

LaRouche's groups have many names. His Fusion

Energy Foundation campaigns for nuclear energy and projects itself as an organisation of cool technocrats devoted to a fusion future. It publishes *Fusion* and the *International Journal of Fusion Energy*.

LaRouche's clean-cut young devotees sell *Fusion* at airports and other public places across the U.S. and West Germany. It is a professional-looking, slick magazine. *Executive Intelligence Review* is a newsletter-type advisory service sold for \$396 a year with the pitch: "Don't you need to know what Lyndon LaRouche knows?"

All of this indicates that LaRouche has a complex and well-financed operation, though the number of committed adherents may be small—about 2,000 in the U.S. And, as Faye Beuby, acting director of the U.S. Association for the Club of Rome says, "they are decidedly not looking, despite their claim to be neo-Platonic, for impartial dialogue."

Who controls the New Scientist?

by Vin Berg and Sylvia Barkley

British science is both a cover for intelligence operations, and itself an intelligence operation. *The New Scientist* is exemplary.

One reason the magazine singled out for attack the *EIR* Special Report on "Prospects for Instability in the Arabian Gulf" is that report's documentation of the subversive operations being carried out through the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy, King Abdul Aziz and Cairo Universities, and the Islamic Foundation for Science and Development, which are associated with the *New Scientist's* controllers.

The magazine's three-man advisory panel sheds a more general light on its origins and purpose.

Sir Harold Montague Finnieston headed the British Steel Corporation under James Callaghan, and drove it into a state of "post-industrial" wreckage. Sir John Mason is a long-time Royal Air Force executive. Finnieston was made General Secretary of the British Association for the Advancement of Science (BAAS) in 1970; Mason is a BAAS Honorary General Secretary.

The BAAS was founded during the last century by the Cambridge Apostles with aid of the Aristotle Society. The Apostles is an elite secret society whose members are tracked into British intelligence leadership (H. "Kim" Philby, Donald Maclean, et al.). The Aristotle Society was headed for years by Bertrand Lord Russell, one of