The Club of Rome complains that LaRouche intends to destroy it

EIR founder Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. released on Feb. 24 a communication addressed to him by attorneys for the Club of Rome. In a news bulletin accompanying the release, he stated, “I affirm here and now, that according to the standards of international law set forth by U.S. Justice Robert Jackson for the Nuremberg War Crimes Proceedings, the Club of Rome is an outlaw association, an international conspiracy whose principals ‘know or should have known’ that its advocacies would represent in practice of nations genocide on a scale as much as one hundred times greater than the genocide perpetrated by the Nazi regime. I also affirm that numerous officials of our federal government, including Club of Rome member [Sen.] Claiborne Pell [D-R.I.], fall under the categories of persons guilty of complicity in perpetrating crimes against humanity.”

The Club of Rome, founded in 1967 by personnel associated with NATO and NATO’s policy planning civilian counterpart, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OCED), advocates population reduction, and intensification of the economic backwardness and constraints on technologically advanced agro-industrial investments which have already condemned millions in the so-called Third World to misery and death.

A memorandum from the Club of Rome’s lawyer

February 23, 1982
Re: The Club of Rome; the U.S. Association for The Club of Rome (“COR”), the U.S. Association for The Club of Rome (“USA/COR”), and Aurelio Peccei in regard to a two-year pattern of harassment and defamation apparently perpetrated by you and a number of individuals and organizations closely connected with you.

1) Background. For almost two years, you and the printing presses you apparently control have directed a stream of abuse and invective toward our clients and those with whom they associate and wish to associate. Our opinion is that many of your statements constitute legally actionable defamation under the laws of New York, the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, as well as other jurisdictions in which National Caucus of Labor Committees leaflets, Fusion magazine, Executive Intelligence Review, New Solidarity newspaper, Citizens for LaRouche and National Democratic Policy Committee documents, and other materials produced by you have been published or disseminated.

Furthermore, you appear to have conspired and acted systematically to disrupt COR and USA/COR meetings and events by harassing participants, shouting vilification and insults, and otherwise behaving maliciously to inflict injury upon our clients and their associates. Our opinion is that your actions constitute a conspiracy to deprive our clients of federally protected rights and, as well, as tortious.

In the paragraphs which follow we summarize our major areas of concern and the legal actions, civil and criminal, which they invite.

2) Malicious Intent to Injure and Disrupt. Your goal does not appear to be simply engaging in healthy, albeit aggressive, debate with our clients. Rather, you have indicated time and again that you seek to destroy The Club of Rome and its affiliates and that you are prepared to utilize apparently unlawful means toward that objective. As stated in a 1980 Citizens for LaRouche leaflet, you seek to “[s] tamp out The Club of Rome!” See, also, “Stamp Out the Aquarian Conspiracy” issued by Citizens for LaRouche, June, 1980, p. 5.

In a December 8, 1981 issue of Executive Intelligence Review (“EIR”), a November 22 “statement” attributed to Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. urges the audience to
"[d]eclare war against all Malthusian, pro-genocide entities such as the Club of Rome" and states that you wish to "crush" that organization. This suggests that your malicious intentions have not abated since May of 1980 when your publication *New Solidarity* stated under the headline "LaRouche Campaign Team Confronts Club of Rome at United Nations" that a COR conference "was largely destabilized by a crack team of organizers from Citizens for LaRouche" via, *inter alia*, "targeted first hand encounters with the conference controllers" and a systematic pattern of "attacks" on conference organizers and participants.*

Let us be clear; our clients do not dispute your right to disagree with them and their views in law abiding fashion and to express yourself strongly. Rather, we must insist that malicious and otherwise unlawful actions intended to disrupt and injure The Club of Rome, USA/COR, their private events and public assemblies (all of which involve First Amendment protected activities) cannot and will not be tolerated.

3) *Defamation.* As you must be aware, even publicly visible organizations and individuals like our clients can secure legal redress for maliciously intended and uttered defamatory remarks, both written (libel) and oral (slander). Yet your constant barrage of outrageous defamation over the past two years shows no signs of abating.

You personally delivered remarks to a Fusion Energy Foundation conference in Washington only last week in which you called The Club of Rome "Nazis" (February 19, 1982). One month earlier, at New York’s Kennedy Airport, you picketed and distributed leaflets charging that COR is "100 times worse than Hitler" and that Mr. Peccei is a "cannibal" who "should not be allowed to enter the United States" (International Caucus of Labor Committees leaflets).

On January 5, 1982 at the American Academy for the Advancement of Science conference in Washington, D.C., Fusion Energy Foundation leaflets described the *Limits to Growth*, a COR sponsored study, as a "deliberate Malthusian fraud . . . cheerfully admitted to be by its own sponsor, Club of Rome head Aurelio Peccei!" You must know that Mr. Peccei made no such admission and the study, no matter how much you disagree with it, is not a deliberate fraud.

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*It is noteworthy that the co-author of that article, Mark Burdman, also was the author of an anti-Club of Rome diatribe in *Fusion* magazine (September 1980) and was described at the foot of that article as "a counter-intelligence expert for the *Executive Intelligence Review* [who] has done extensive research on the Aquarian Conspiracy and its destruction of U.S. scientific capabilities." These inter-connections suggest that the above-quoted statements are not the product of a disinterested journalistic observer but, rather, or a member of your communications team.

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A November 22, 1981 statement attributed to you personally and reprinted in the December 8, 1981 *EIR* describes COR as a "creation of the OCED organization attached to NATO . . . and the British SIS-controlled Islam and West complex . . . working on behalf of a genocidal, Malthusian world-order" and a "pro-genocide entity[ ]." As I am sure you are aware, the Club of Rome was neither created nor has it ever been controlled by NATO and in no way advocates genocide . . .

Let us conclude this summary of recent apparent defamations with the following description from a December 8, 1981 article in your *EIR* (p. 52)—"U.S. Club of Rome plots an organizing take-off"—which, insofar as the following quotation is concerned, we believe accurately describes an event which took place at USA/COR’s November 17-19, 1981 meeting:

[A] representative of former Democratic presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche walked up to the microphone and announced, "I am indicting everyone here in this room under the Nuremberg statutes for crimes against humanity 100 times worse than Hitler. You are all murderers and genocidalists."
In summary, during the past two years you repeatedly have characterized our clients as "kooks," "genocidal," "cannibals," (and once in a May 1980 Citizens for LaRouche handout Mr Peccei was called a "atavistic cannibal"), employers of "Gestapo storm trooper tactics," "a creation of NATO intelligence," practitioners of "deliberate ... fraud," "body snatchers," "brainwash[ers]," a "monstrosity" and, to repeat a particularly detestable phrase you apparently favor, "100 times worse than Hitler."

Needless to say the above characterizations are intended to hold their targets to ridicule, vilification and disrepute and are patently false and must be known to you as such. Apparently, they were published in furtherance of a malicious conspiracy to injure and destroy our clients. Given the clear and abundant evidence of your ill will and malicious intentions toward our clients, we believe that (1) your comments do not fall within the judicial "fair comment" defense and (2) there is no defense available under First Amendment doctrine initially enunciated by the United States Supreme Court in New York Times v. Sullivan, 376 U.S. 254 (1964).

4) Harassment, Unlawful Interference with Plaintiffs Affairs, Intentional Infliction of Injury. Active harassment of our clients' conferences, meetings, and events by you began with the May 8-9, 1980 conference at the United Nations in New York City jointly sponsored by COR and the United Nations Institute for Training & Research. Your picketing and leafleting outside the UN, except to the extent that conference participants were assaulted or threatened or defamations were uttered, were constitutionally protected modes of communication. However, attempting to hand out leaflets inside the conference and shouting insults and disruptive remarks which led to your removal from the premises by UN police authorities plainly overstepped the legal bounds.

Similar behavior has taken place at other events of our clients, including the May 28, 1980 USA/COR Membership Conference at Marymount College in Arlington, Virginia (disruptive pickets were expelled from the campus) and the November 17-18, 1981 USA/COR Membership meeting at the 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. The latter was infiltrated by your supporters who, according to a December 8, 1981 article in EIR—"U.S. Club of Rome plots an organizing take-off", uttered defamatory remarks and disrupted the meeting to the extent that "[p]andemonium broke out." ... .

Then again, when Mr. Peccei arrived at and departed from JFK Airport on January 16-17, 1982, your picketers hounded, abused and confronted him, in an apparent attempt to inflict emotional distress and interfere with his ability to travel freely. ... .

In the past our clients have been lenient, satisfying themselves with removal of your unlawful presence from their events, restoring order, and focusing on more serious matters. However, your pattern of harassment seems to be escalating and we no longer are prepared to forego efforts to fully enforce the pertinent laws, criminal and civil.

We have reviewed the federal and local laws applicable to the District of Columbia in general and the Smithsonian Institution in particular and are alerting the appropriate law enforcement authorities about your past conduct and the types of violations which would arise if you continue your pattern of harassment. ...

We hope that you will see fit to conduct your affairs in a manner which does not violate any civil and criminal laws, including those alluded to above. Accordingly, we have chosen not to burden the courts with a request for preliminary injunctive relief prior to the March 2 event. Rather, we hereby put you on notice and, as noted above, have notified the appropriate law enforcement officials.

Furthermore, to assure that any disruptive or otherwise unlawful acts are graphically recorded, our clients' activities next week, including the March 2 conference, will be videotaped, photographed, and otherwise observed by appropriate security and police authorities.

In brief, we expect that your future activities, including those on and around March 2, will provide no occasion for our clients to initiate legal proceedings or for the police to arrest or prosecute you. If you disappoint this expectation, rest assured that we are prepared to pursue the appropriate avenues for legal redress. ... .

Sincerely yours,
Asher & Schwartz
by Thomas R. Asher

LaRouche responds to Club of Rome message

Thomas R. Asher
Asher & Schwartz
1232 Seventeenth Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
RE: The Club of Rome/ U.S. Association for the Club of Rome

Dear Thomas Asher:

Your communication, dated February 23, 1982, is not an accurate representation of the whole matter it purports to embrace. Not only are the publications associated with me probably the most scrupulously accurate in known general circulation today, although often egregiously accurate; every representation known to me as made by myself or my associates respecting Mr.
Aurelio Peccei and the Club of Rome is accurate, and all charactizations of Peccei and the Club of Rome adduced from fact is well within the bounds of fair comment.

Perhaps you are too young to have experienced the shock so many Americans of my generation experienced, as the facts of the Nazi-directed genocide were exposed at the close of the last World War. Contrary to a popularized misrepresentation of that genocide circulating widely today, although perhaps as high as a million and a half Jews were killed by the Nazis directly and simply because of homicidal anti-semitic projects such as Goering’s Green File project, the majority of the Jews, Gypsies, slaves, social-democrats, communists, and others killed by the slave-labor/death-camp system died as a result of Nazi versions of Malthusian doctrines of practice.

Since 1973, upon study of the Limits to Growth text sponsored by the Club of Rome, my associates and I have worked to stamp out the influence of the evil policy doctrines advocated by Aurelio Peccei and his Club of Rome associates. The reduction of the policies of the Club of Rome to practice among nations must surely mean genocide on a scale one hundred times or more greater than that which the Nazis perpetrated.

I admit that the public conscience of courts and public has much decayed in the United States since the time Justice Robert Jackson submitted his famous and noble opinion respecting international law to the Nuremberg proceedings. Today, even a significant number of political figures in the United States support or merely condone policies and practices of euthanasia identical with those for which the United States condemned Dr. Karl Brandt and others in the postwar Nuremberg proceedings at Nuremberg. So prominent public figures as George Ball and General Maxwell Taylor propose policies of population-reduction against Mexico and other nations, policies which can be accomplished in practice only by methods as evil or worse than those for which the Nuremberg proceedings condemned the Nazis. I admit that our legal practice and public conscience has degenerated in these and other connections during the recent decades, toward a pragmatic form of “value-free” notions of public policy, which denies the existence of any such higher moral authority over the laws of nations as Justice Jackson identified in connection with U.S.A. policy for the Nuremberg proceedings. Perhaps, indeed, such decay in public policy of practice signifies that we are a nation and people losing the very moral fitness to survive.

In fact, by reference to the standards of policy embedded in the Nuremberg proceedings, the Club of Rome is a conspiracy stubbornly dedicated to promoting policies which become genocide in practice of nations, and that conspiracy has repeatedly avowed its dedication to woo nations as well as supranational officials and other institutions into adopting such policies for practice. Therefore, by Nuremberg stipulations as to standards of evidence, your clients are guilty of crimes against humanity, as persons who “know or should know” that the practical consequences of the policies they advocate mean genocide potentially on a scale one hundred times greater than that perpetrated by the Nazi regime.

At present, the work of the Club of Rome represents a direct danger to the lives and other fundamental human rights of aged and ill in the United States, as well as threatening to make me, as a citizen of the United States, complicit as a citizen in mass murder of sections of populations in many parts of the world, should the Club of Rome succeed in its growing influence over official and other policy-makers and policy-influencers in this nation.

Evil as the work of Aurelio Peccei et al. have been, I believe in the possibility of redemption of the individual from evil ways and Advocacies. I and my associates have frequently sought public debate with Peccei et al., to the purpose that we might not be guilty of failing to seek their redemption from evil ways through efforts to activate something decent within their own conscience. However, for the sake of the victims of Nazi genocide as well as the threatened hundreds of millions today, I can not regard the Club of Rome as anything but what has proven itself repeatedly to be a conspiracy dedicated to advocating policies whose clear consequences must be genocide one hundred times greater than that perpetrated by the Nazi regime.

Finally, thus far, your clients have emphatically refused debate on these issues of policy, a pattern of refusal which dates from no later than the FAO [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations] conference [on population reduction] in Rome of 1974. Therefore, we have been obliged to confront them in debate on these grave issues by whatever alternative means were available to us. Your letter implies a willingness for civilized debate on your client’s behalf which has never been manifest but on one recent occasion, a proposal by Peccei for a U.N.O. debate between himself and myself, an offer made recently at Kennedy International Airport.

Within the conditions required for my physical security as an endangered international public figure, I would readily accept Mr. Peccei’s offer for a U.N.O.-sponsored setting for such a debate.

Sincerely yours,
Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

P.S. Respecting documentation identifying fact and establishing “fair comment,” your letter refers to publications in which the facts and inferences are more than adequately represented. It is not necessary to repeat the content of the equivalent of several volumes of evidence in a single item of correspondence.