

## Inside Canada by Pierre Beaudry

### Nazi justice through 'rule of law'

*A review of the Canadian Criminal Code shows it headed toward legalizing euthanasia—led by a former Justice Minister.*

Canada's Justice Ministry has commissioned a Law Reform committee to propose recommendations to Parliament for the legalization of euthanasia, marking a step toward the introduction of Nazi "rule of law" in Canada. It is no coincidence that this occurred at the same time former Justice Minister Jean Chretien has taken to defending the "rights" of World War II Nazi war criminals presently living in Canada.

The Law Reform Commission of Canada, headed by Louise Lemelin, is currently circulating a working paper on Parliament Hill that advocates a reform of the criminal code to allow doctors the right to kill terminally ill patients without fear of legal prosecution.

Although no Canadian physician has ever been prosecuted for letting terminally ill patients die, Lemelin insisted upon explicit recognition of the familiar "right to die" line. "Our legal system should be able to establish and protect the principle that a terminally ill patient has the right to die with dignity and not fall victim to heroic measures."

So far, this decision to stop treatment for "useless patients" has been fully approved by several medical officials.

Kenneth Evans, general counsel to the Canadian Medical Protective Association, an organization for the defense of doctors, reported to the *Montreal Gazette* Sept. 27 that this reform "would give doctors greater confidence that what they're doing is

proper." Dr. David Roy, an "ethicist" for the Montreal Center for Bioethics, is one of the key promoters of euthanasia legislation. Government officials in Ottawa refuse to comment until the final report is submitted for debate in Parliament.

Meanwhile, former Justice Minister Jean Chretien, now Energy Minister, has opened another flank—the defense of Nazi war criminals. Speaking before more than 1,000 delegates attending the Canadian Bar Association's annual meeting held in Ottawa on Sept. 3, Chretien announced that the Canadian government refuses to prosecute Nazi war criminals because their crimes were perpetrated outside Canada. "I don't think we should start in Canada today trials about crimes that have been committed in other nations," he said.

Chretien was defending a self-avowed Nazi SS man, Albert Rauca, a Toronto resident, wanted by the West German government for the murder of more than 11,500 Lithuanian Jews in Nazi death camps. "It's utterly unacceptable that someone should be tried for an alleged criminal offense that occurred more than 40 years ago," concluded Chretien in his defense of Rauca.

The *Montreal Gazette* reported Sept. 4 that Chretien said "he was 'dead set' against the enactment of legislation that would retroactively designate Nazi atrocities committed during the Second World War as crimes in Canada." Supportive of Rauca, the *Gazette* added Sept. 22 that,

according to defense lawyer William Parker, "although he [Rauca] admits serving in Kaunas [Lithuania] with the SS during the war, [he] is ineligible for extradition because of the mobility rights section of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms."

This is not only a test for the nazification of criminal law under the new constitution. Chretien is testing explicitly fascist policies against the "moral indifference" of lawyers and the Canadian population generally.

I spoke with the head of the Canadian Bar Association, Bernard Blanchard, who was present at Chretien's speech. He said that the Minister's statements "had not been taken up" by the association and that he, personally, "had not given the issue much thought."

Upon reviewing the working paper of the Law Reform Commission of Canada and the Chretien speech, Montreal mayoral candidate Gilles Gervais charged that Canada is now becoming a "haven for Nazism." Gervais called on all moral citizens and world leaders to express their outrage to Canadian embassies about this ongoing euthanasia policy, the crime for which Nazi doctors were hung at Nuremberg 35 years ago. "This attempt to have civil liberties for Nazis and to make believe that euthanasia is 'proper' is an outrageous attack against every human being. This is a total sham," Gervais insisted. "The same Anglo-Saxon racists that put Hitler in power are attempting to repeat their experiment in Canada, and people like Jean Chretien are attempting to use 'legalese' to sugarcoat it."

Gervais is the candidate for the Movement for the Commonwealth of Canada, a group associated with Lyndon H. LaRouche's National Democratic Policy Committee in the United States.