

## NDPC seeks action on food, power, water

At the Senate and House Appropriations Committee hearings to receive public comment on the FY 1990 budget appropriations, testimony on the need for emergency action on energy, water, defense, and food policy was presented by the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC), the political action committee of the LaRouche wing of the Democratic Party.

Conducted by subcommittees, the public input into the budget appropriation process has been planned by congressional staff to be *pro forma*. For example, the Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture, Forestry, and Rural Development scheduled three days of public testimony (April 13, 19, and 20), with each witness allotted five minutes. Usually, only one senator is present to chair the meetings.

This year, the submissions by the NDPC caused a stir, both because Lyndon LaRouche is in jail after a federal show trial last year, and because of the NDPC's request for the Appropriations Committee to cease the budgetary restraint syndrome, and initiate measures to expand national food, power, and water supplies.

On April 11, testimony was given before the House Appropriations Energy and Water Subcommittee by William Jones, on behalf of the NDPC. When Jones was called to the speaker's table, subcommittee chairman Tom Bevill (D-Ala.) remarked, "Well, it's good to see the National Democratic Policy Committee Back again." Jones replied, "I can assure you, Congressman, that the NDPC is still very much alive and well." This statement was greeted with total silence among the aides and audience present.

On April 13, testimony was given before the Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture, Forestries, and Rural Development by Marcia Merry, on behalf of the NDPC. Again there was stunned silence when Merry directly raised the issue of the jailing of Lyndon LaRouche—as part of "secret government" operations that should be investigated and dismantled.

She said, "On the question of the shadow government: Around the Federal Emergency Management Agency—it's called FEMA—there has arisen a whole grouping connected to the National Security Council that is doing unlawful acts. In the Oliver North trial across town, names are coming out—Secord, others, including Mr. Revell, the second man at the FBI. Similar things came out in connection with Lyndon LaRouche in the Boston case against him, on which the lid was slammed shut. Since then, in the LaRouche case, an Agriculture Department person connected with this shadow government—his name is Buster Horton, who is the liaison

of the Agriculture Department to the Federal Emergency Management Agency—became foreman of the jury that was set up in Virginia in December, and they convicted LaRouche. He is now in jail, and they sentenced him to 15 years—an incredible sentence for a man in his sixties. In other words, that's this 'secret government' on the loose."

Merry further stressed, "And I want to put to the committee, that there is no need for emergencies around things like food, energy and such things. Because we could build our way out of the mess into which our country has declined, and that the West in general is falling into."

### Measures proposed

Both Merry and Jones presented specific measures to the Congress. In his testimony, Jones said that in light of the sabotage of the civilian nuclear power industry and electric utilities by the environmentalists, which has resulted in severe power shortages throughout the country, it was necessary to push forward with the nuclear program. For the defense industry, Jones stressed that a crash energy program approach was needed to complete three different "next generation" tritium-production facilities.

Jones referred the Senate to the day's *New York Times* article on experiments at Texas A&M University which corroborate the earlier "room temperature" fusion experiments at the University of Utah. Jones pointed out that the development of fusion power could put an end to the "limits to growth" hysteria.

In reference to the third straight year of drought, Jones drew attention to large-scale water projects, like the North American Water and Power Alliance (a 25-year-old project to divert water flowing north into the Arctic Ocean, to the south through Canada, to the United States, and to Mexico), which had originally been proposed by Sen. Frank Moss (D) of Utah. "Had this been done 10 years ago, we might not be facing the problems we're having today. But I'm an optimist at heart, and I always say, 'It's never too late—provided that it's done now.'"

On agriculture, Merry called for the committee to replace the Department of Agriculture's current restrictions of food output, with measures—as during the Second World War—to dramatically expand output. "There are 500 million people undernourished in the world . . . 15 million in the United States are dependent on some form of food assistance . . . in the face of this, 'set-aside' is genocide. Low-input 'sustainable' agriculture is genocide. Low inputs mean low food output. which means many are condemned to go hungry." Merry called for parity pricing for farmers, a stay on farm foreclosures, low-interest production credits for farming, and an investigation into the cartel companies manipulating the food crisis.

"We also need a stay on these exports to the Soviet Union," she said. "They are at an unprecedented rate, the food and grain exports."