

LaRouche's 20-year war on Dope, Inc.

by Jeffrey Steinberg

On March 13, 1985, at a conference in Mexico City, a spokesman for Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. presented LaRouche's 15-point plan for conducting a hemisphere-wide war on drugs, a war which would marshal the same commitment of materiel and moral resources that went into the defeat of the Nazis during the Second World War. Just weeks earlier, Enrique Camarena, a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agent working in Guadalajara, had been kidnaped, along with his Mexican pilot, and tortured to death. One of the authors of the Camarena murder, Mexican dope baron Rafael Caro Quintero, had escaped scot-free to Costa Rica, with the complicity of a former president of that Central American nation. Just when the Camarena murder was to have sent a message of terror from the dope cartel, the LaRouche call answered that threat with a rallying cry for an international war to the death against the drug traffickers.

To this day, the LaRouche plan (see page 20) stands as the blueprint for victory in the War on Drugs. And not without good reason: It was the fruit of a 20-year effort, spearheaded by LaRouche and his closest collaborators, to assemble the most comprehensive map of who's who in the international drug cartel, and to poll anti-drug specialists from around the world on the most effective means for combating them. At every step along the way, LaRouche, above all other international political figures, dared to name the names of the top drug traffickers—including those Western bankers and Soviet and Chinese Communist officials considered to be "above suspicion."

A cultural war

From the very outset, Lyndon LaRouche always emphasized that the war against drugs was first and foremost a cultural war. To tackle the drug traffickers without taking on the drug-rock counterculture would be a recipe for failure.

This identification of the counterculture as the key problem has been the cornerstone of LaRouche's anti-drug program since the mid-1960s, when he founded an international political movement to revive the Italian Renaissance traditions of scientific and technological progress and to destroy the counterculture.

In 1967, in a widely circulated political tract called "The New Left, Local Control, and Fascism," LaRouche warned that the emerging drug-rock culture, with its anti-science bias and its radical ecology bent, represented the seed-crystals of a new fascist movement. Setting his sights on the Establish-

ment ideologues and social engineers attempting to shape this counterculture shocktroop army, LaRouche became immediately embroiled in a political war with McGeorge Bundy, the "chairman of the American Establishment" and president of the Ford Foundation. Years later, evidence turned up proving that the Foundation, during Bundy's tenure, had not only provided the seed money for the terrorist Weathermen and every radical environmentalist group in the United States; they had also funded psychotropic drug experiments and had been instrumental in the peddling of a synthetic morphine invented by the Nazis as a "cure" for heroin addiction.

The drug ring in the White House

When Jimmy Carter was installed as President of the United States in 1977 as the result of a massive vote fraud effort, one of the first undertakings of the Trilateral Commission-run regime was a campaign directed out of the White House to decriminalize marijuana use. Recognizing this as a first phase of a full-scale "Opium War" against the American people, Lyndon LaRouche initiated a mobilization to defeat the dope lobby.

In April 1977, the U.S. Labor Party, which had nominated LaRouche for U.S. President the previous year, published a report to the American people, titled "Bust the Drug Ring in the White House." In addition to exposing the role of Carter White House "drug czar" Dr. Peter Bourne as a leading sponsor of marijuana and cocaine legalization, the report included medical evidence of the dangers of marijuana, and the first comprehensive legislative package for carrying out a multi-national War on Drugs, "The Emergency Detoxification and Manpower Development Act of 1977."

Between the time of Carter's inauguration and the publication of that report, LaRouche associates had intervened to defeat marijuana decriminalization bills in New Jersey, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maryland, Missouri, New Mexico, and Hawaii. In late March 1977, U.S. Labor Party medical experts testified before state legislative hearings that led to the passage of a bill recriminalizing marijuana use in South Dakota—the first such "rollback" in the United States. The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), after having spent enormous sums of money fronting for the drug cartel in this decriminalization drive, folded up its tent.

Dope, Inc.

Even with the successful rollback of the Carter-Trilateral legalization scheme, LaRouche assessed that a powerful international combination of forces in the East and in the West was committed to the proliferation of drugs. And so, in early 1978, he commissioned a comprehensive study of the drug trade, to be widely distributed as a field manual for fighting the war.

Literally hundreds of drug enforcement professionals from the Americas, Europe, and Asia were polled. Archives were

combed, and in late 1978, a 400-page book, *Dope, Inc.: Britain's Opium War Against the United States*, was published. Among the groundbreaking conclusions in this book, which sold over 75,000 copies, were that:

- The international financial community from the top down was responsible for laundering an estimated \$300 billion a year in illegal drug revenues.
- The Bronfman family of Canada, Max Fisher of Detroit, the United Brands multinational, and other corporate giants "above suspicion" were kingpins of the drug trade.
- Secretary of State Henry Kissinger had personally intervened to cover up the role of Communist China in the Golden Triangle opium trade.
- All international terrorism was narco-terrorism, a direct outgrowth of the spread of the rock-drug counterculture of the 1960s.

What today passes for common knowledge was heady stuff back in 1978, when no U.S. federal agencies had the foggiest idea about drug money laundering and the role of the major financial institutions. The best measure of the accuracy of *Dope, Inc.* was the massive propaganda blitz unleashed against Lyndon LaRouche from such quarters as the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) of B'nai B'rith and the Heritage Foundation.

In December 1978, Lyndon LaRouche keynoted the founding convention of the National Anti-Drug Coalition, an organization founded as a popular movement committed to the crushing of *Dope, Inc.* Within a year, similar anti-drug coalitions were founded in Western Europe and Ibero-America. By 1980, a monthly magazine, *War on Drugs*, was being published by the NADC, and similar publications would eventually be published in seven different languages.

The drug lobby went berserk. Through official organs such as the glossy *High Times* magazine, and through more powerful support agencies such as the ADL, and the flagrantly pro-drug *Chicago Sun-Times*, the already ongoing anti-LaRouche campaign escalated dramatically. All of the elements that combined to constitute the "Get LaRouche" task force that railroaded the four-time presidential candidate and dozens of associates in a series of political show trials beginning in 1986, were conspiring by no later than 1979-80 to blunt the impact of *Dope, Inc.* and the anti-drug coalitions.

The Pope in Ibero-America

In Ibero-America, this campaign turned bloody. In the spring of 1984, Colombia's courageous Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla was assassinated by professional killers hired by the cocaine-pushing Medellín Cartel. Weeks before his murder, the minister had written a personal letter commending the Colombian Anti-Drug Coalition for its efforts and pledging to protect the coalition's anti-drug efforts. Shortly after he was assassinated, a leading member of the Colombian ADC was kidnaped by narco-terrorists associated with the Gnostic Church. Her eventual safe release came only after an international mobilization to expose the top politi-

cians, including ex-Colombian President López Michelsen, who were patrons of the cartel.

With the entire Andean region turned into a full-scale battleground between narco-terrorist forces such as Peru's Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso) and increasingly out-gunned government anti-drug forces, Pope John Paul II announced plans in late 1984 to visit the region in an act of defiance against the mafia.

In response, Lyndon LaRouche commissioned the preparation and rapid publishing of an updated Spanish-language edition of *Dope, Inc.*, to be released throughout Ibero-America on the eve of the Pope's visit. Included in the updated edition, which came out in January 1985 under the title *Narcotráfico S.A.*, was extensive evidence of the role of the Bulgarian secret police in the attempted assassination of John Paul II, as well as in the international heroin trade.

For the time being boxed in by the massive circulation of *Narcotráfico S.A.* throughout the Andean region, and by the extensive media coverage it received, the drug mob chose instead to strike out on two other flanks. First, DEA agent Camarena was murdered in Mexico. Simultaneously, Venezuelan police units under the thumb of the powerful Cisneros family raided the Caracas offices of *EIR* and seized all copies of *Narcotráfico S.A.*, declaring the book banned in Venezuela and arresting and eventually deporting several *EIR* correspondents.

Guatasa

Events in Ibero-America had defined the fight against the drug cartel as the major national security issue facing every nation of the hemisphere. Increasingly, the role of the Soviet



Under Lyndon LaRouche's policy guidance, publications such as these forced Jimmy Carter's pro-drug lobby to drastically curtail their operations. Top left: the Italian Anti-Drug Coalition's edition of *War on Drugs* magazine; top right: "Bust the Drug Ring in the White House," put out by the U.S. Labor Party in 1977; bottom: the second English-language edition of *Dope, Inc.*, 1986.

Union in peddling drugs had become evident as a central feature of its global irregular warfare program. In the summer of 1985, Lyndon LaRouche launched a pilot project to demonstrate the viability of his War on Drugs strategy and to expose the Soviet hand in narco-terrorism in the hemisphere.

Senior military officials from Guatemala had provided LaRouche with damning evidence that Soviet- and Cuban-sponsored guerrilla groups in Central America had been integrated into the Ibero-American drug cartel. After producing a documentary film on this new insurgency, "Soviet Unconventional Warfare in Ibero-America: The Case of Guatemala," LaRouche proposed to the Guatemalan government that it launch a series of special forces assaults on the marijuana plantations along the country's northeastern border with Belize. The idea was to take out the drug production sites and capture evidence linking the dope trafficking to the guerrillas, thereby exposing to the Guatemalan people the Communists' role in dope profiteering and terrorism.

The proposal was accepted, and a U.S. observer team, including unofficial representatives of the Pentagon and *EIR* anti-drug specialists, was invited to participate in the effort, which took place in October 1985 on the eve of the first civilian elections in Guatemala in two decades. The success of the limited operation, dubbed "Guatusa I," was further evidence that the LaRouche War on Drugs plan was a genuine war-winning strategy.

An English-language second edition, *Dope, Inc.: Boston Bankers and Soviet Commissars*, was released in the United States in April 1986. Included in the expanded edition was a preface documenting the virtual takeover of the Reagan administration Department of Justice by frontmen for Dope, Inc. One pivotal figure named in the preface, U.S. Attorney William Weld, had been caught red-handed in early 1985 negotiating a plea bargain with the Bank of Boston that protected the bank's involvement in laundering over \$1 billion in drug money into Swiss bank accounts in violation of U.S. currency laws. Weld, since 1984, had been the point man within the Justice Department for the "Get LaRouche" task force formed at the behest of Henry Kissinger and other Dope, Inc. figures.

In June 1986, William Weld was nominated as head of the Criminal Division. His confirmation in September was nearly blocked when testimony by a LaRouche associate detailing Weld's involvement with the Bank of Boston, as well as his close affiliations with opium-trafficking Communist China, delayed the committee vote. Weld's nomination finally passed through the Senate. Within less than a month after his arrival in Washington, 400 federal, state, and county police carried out a paramilitary raid against the Leesburg, Virginia offices of companies associated with LaRouche. Six months later, in an unprecedented *ex parte* bankruptcy hearing, in which the Department of Justice was the only plaintiff, four LaRouche-linked companies, including the original publisher of *Dope, Inc.*, were forcibly shut down.

The Drug Legalizers

Foundation seeks end to dope 'prohibition'

Plenty of money is being spent in Washington, D.C. to promote one of the most hated policies of the Jimmy Carter administration: drug legalization. As Congress began to gear up following its summer recess, a series of press conferences and seminars sponsored by a group called the Drug Policy Foundation has blitzed the capital city in preparation for a major conference to be held on Nov. 2-5, titled "Beyond Prohibition."

According to Kevin Zeese, a legal adviser to the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), the conference will "paint the picture of what the world would look like without prohibition," and will showcase an array of denizens of the academic, legal, and political spheres who aggressively demand national surrender to drugs.

The November conference will be modeled, in content and speakers' list, on a similar conference held last year to promote the same issue. The 1988 conference featured workshops on themes including:

- "The Dutch Approach," with a focus on the Dutch and English models of drug legalization, especially the Liverpool "Harm Reduction" program of free hypodermic needles, free drugs, etc.

- "Coping with Stress and Corruption: The Police and Criminal Justice System in the Drug War," which developed the idea that drug police are inevitably corrupted by the attempt to suppress trafficking.

- "The Campaign to Reestablish Heroin and Marijuana as Medicines," which outlined a plan to win a favorable ruling from an administrative law judge which would re-schedule these substances as prescription medicines.

The Drug Policy Foundation's subsequent success with these projects is an indication that the schemes outlined at this year's conference should not be taken lightly. Earlier this year, an administrative law court ruled that Lester Grinspoon and other pro-marijuana advocates had shown by a preponderance of the evidence that a "viable minority" of practicing physicians has come to accept the value of marijuana in certain treatments.

In a series of press conferences in the days prior to the