

Bush is informed of responsibility if LaRouche is killed in prison

by John Sigerson

“If political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche is forced to die in the prison system, the world and history will read this as President George Bush’s personal intent. Whether that is true or not, the world will see it so, and fairly. If Lyndon LaRouche dies in prison, only Bush could be blamed, and fairly so.”

That was the central point made by Warren Hamerman, a contributing editor to *EIR*, on Sept. 15, after he learned the facts about an attempt on the life of the 67-year-old economist and statesman, who is being held in federal prison in Rochester, Minnesota pending the appeal of his politically motivated conviction and railroad trial. According to numerous physicians and medical experts who have been consulted since then, including Mr. LaRouche’s own personal physician, there could be no other explanation for the sequence of events from Sept. 11-15, other than an attempt to ensure that Mr. LaRouche does not survive up to the time of his appeal, which will be argued in Richmond, Virginia on Oct. 6. Physicians’ reactions were typified by that of Dr. John Seale, member of the Royal Medical Society of the United Kingdom: “In terms of medical procedure, it is plainly criminally outrageous, and beyond what is acceptable in the civilized world.”

The facts are as follows:

Chronology of torture

Monday, Sept. 11, 1300 hours: LaRouche is called to the clinic at the Rochester Federal Medical Facility and told that later that week he will have a surgical procedure for the removal of two intestinal polyps. He is instructed to report back the following day at 1100 hours. He is also told that he will have a no-residue diet on Tuesday, and then will be on a liquid diet until the procedure.

Tuesday, Sept. 12: After working a full work-shift from 0400 hours to 1200 hours, LaRouche begins receiving strong laxative medication in preparation for the procedure at approximately 1600 hours. On Tuesday he only ingests egg whites, coffee, and water. Between 2200 hours and 0200 hours into Wednesday morning he experiences violent bowel movements caused by the medication.

Wednesday, Sept. 13: At 0200 hours LaRouche finally falls asleep. At 0320 hours—less than an hour and a half

later—he is awakened to report to work. LaRouche is forced to work on Wednesday for the entire work-shift, from approximately 0400 to 1200 hours. During the entire day on Wednesday, LaRouche only ingests coffee and water. He is only able to sleep sporadically on Wednesday evening.

Thursday, Sept. 14: At 0320 LaRouche is awakened for his normal work-shift, to which he reports at 0400 hours. After working an entire shift, at approximately 1230 hours LaRouche is called to the clinic at the Federal Medical Facility, where he is informed that he will be brought to the Mayo Clinic for a “test” procedure. Officials at the prison have administratively classified it as a “test procedure” rather than a “surgical procedure.” LaRouche is taken in irons into the Mayo Clinic by two guards, and is brought in a wheelchair while in irons to the area where the procedure is to occur. After being interviewed by the physician responsible for the procedure, he is given a painkiller intravenously. Because of his accumulated exhaustion he falls asleep immediately, and sleeps through the entire procedure. The surgical procedure lasts approximately one hour, during which time a polyp is removed from his lower intestine. After being in the recovery room for three-quarters of an hour, LaRouche is brought back to the prison, where he arrives at approximately 1530 hours. On Thursday all LaRouche has ingested is coffee, apple juice, and a bowl of jello. On Thursday evening he sleeps from sheer exhaustion.

Friday, Sept. 15: At 0320 LaRouche is awakened to go to work as normal. At 0500 hours, after just beginning work, LaRouche has to sit down because he is exhausted. At 0600 hours he is asked to help the other prisoners in a group work assignment. LaRouche at that time reports to sick bay, unable to work. He requests to see a doctor. Shortly after 0900 hours, when his doctor has still not come, LaRouche is called out to see a paralegal visiting him on legal matters.

There is one additional element to this chronology: On **Friday, Sept. 15**, Soviet Politburo member Boris Yeltsin, on tour of the United States in order to further a series of secret deals between Moscow and the Bush administration, traveled to Rochester, Minnesota, ostensibly to visit former President Ronald Reagan, who was undergoing surgery at the Mayo Clinic—the same facility where Mr. LaRouche

was just operated on. Well-informed Western intelligence experts have expressed strong doubts that Yeltsin would have gone to Rochester, unless it were to enforce the Soviet Union's oft-repeated demand to the United States, that LaRouche and his political influence be obliterated.

Bush can't say 'I didn't know'

Within hours after learning the news, friends and associates of Mr. LaRouche determined that, since a plot to murder Mr. LaRouche in prison could only have originated on the highest levels of government, only the President of the United States bears the responsibility for altering the current course. They decided to mount an international effort to make absolutely sure that President Bush would not be able to plead—as he has so many times in the past, such as in the Iran-Contra affair—that he just didn't know that such things were going on.

Even before the White House official comment line opened on Sept. 18 following its weekend break, calls began flooding into the White House switchboard from citizens demanding that the President be informed. By Sept. 19, calls and telegrams written by prominent individuals and ordinary citizens alike, were arriving not only from the United States, but also from Canada, Great Britain, Denmark, West Germany, Italy, Austria, France, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Sweden, Thailand, Malaysia, India, the Philippines, Australia, and New Zealand.

Although the text of only a few of these telegrams has been made available to *EIR* (see *Documentation*,) many prominent individuals immediately expressed shock and horror, and an acute knowledge that LaRouche's enemies are attacking the very basis of the constitutional state. A member of parliament in Switzerland said, "U.S. justice is a travesty; the fundamentals of freedom are being assaulted. What they are doing with LaRouche is a test case for the United States." A Polish political activist had an even more accurate comparison: "It's like what they do in Soviet prison camps: They create the conditions under which one can die." A German military expert recalled the comparison which has already been made between LaRouche's case and that of Alfred Dreyfus, the French Army officer who in 1894 was framed up as a German spy and physically broken at the Devil's Island penal colony, before he was completely exonerated of all charges.

Inquiries also poured into U.S. embassies around the world. In West Germany, where Mr. LaRouche's wife Helga Zepp-LaRouche is a prominent political leader, a demonstration was held outside the U.S. embassy in Bonn, with banners saying "Freedom for LaRouche" and "Stop the KZ [concentration camp] methods against LaRouche."

In the meantime, thousands of leaflets entitled "The World Shall Hold Bush Personally Responsible" began to be distributed around the United States, and LaRouche's condition began to be brought up by numerous callers into radio talk

shows in New Jersey, Baltimore, Albany, N.Y., Boston, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

Sioux Falls, Spokane, and Kennebunkport

But a number of LaRouche associates were not satisfied, and decided that the President should get the message personally. On Sept. 18, Bush arrived at Centennial Park in South Falls, South Dakota. As his motorcade passed into an event at the Coliseum, it was met with large signs reading "To Win the War On Drugs, Free LaRouche!" and "To Stop Farm Foreclosures, Free LaRouche!" The next stop was Centennial Park, where the President shoveled earth in order to plant a tree; during the entire ceremony, Bush could read the following message which appeared on a poster held by a person standing about five feet away from him: "George Bush: Stop the Murder of Lyndon LaRouche!"

On Sept. 19, as the President's motorcade was entering Spokane, Washington, a 12-foot banner was clearly visible, reading "President Bush, Don't Let Them Kill LaRouche." The President's nose was seen pressed to his limousine's window as it passed by.

And just in case the President or his wife Barbara thought they could forget about it at their vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine, on Sept. 24, the local newspaper, the *York County Coast Star*, ran a full-page advertisement on its back page, in which LaRouche associates called upon the President to take measures to protect LaRouche's life.

Begrudging acknowledgment

On first hearing the news about the attempt on LaRouche's life, many U.S. government officials expressed disbelief. "I cannot believe that someone who was operated on would be forced to work. You must be mistaken," was the response of Mrs. Meckensen, a press spokesman for the U.S. embassy in Bonn, West Germany. That attitude was also reflected in the cavalier treatment initially given to many callers into the White House's comment line, with operators either hanging up immediately upon hearing mention of LaRouche, or offering to transfer the caller to the Secret Service.

But as the pressure became a deluge, the White House changed its tune. On the morning of Sept. 19, a caller into the White House comment line received the following response: "I've received many calls already concerning LaRouche. Be assured, the President will get your whole message." Another operator confirmed, "The President is getting these messages. They will definitely reach him." By the afternoon of that day, another caller was informed that "The President is very concerned about it, and he *does* know about it." On Sept. 20, the response became even more serious, and at least one caller was put directly through to White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater, who promised that he would "make a note of this thing and bring it to the President's attention as soon as possible."

Telegrams protest LaRouche treatment

Below we reproduce the texts of some of the telegrams and letters which have been sent to President George Bush concerning the attempt on the life of Lyndon LaRouche. Affiliations are for identification purposes only.

As I learned, Mr. LaRouche is—despite his 67 years of age—being forced to physical labor subsequent to surgical treatment and only liquid nutrition. This is inhuman! Does one want to do away with him in accordance with Moscow as an uncomfortable American politician? Together with my family I protest against the viciousness of this treatment of Mr. LaRouche!

Paul-Albert Scherer
Brigadier General (ret.), West Germany

* * *

. . . I wish to call upon you to investigate this situation and rectify it. Further, I am requesting that you give an immediate presidential pardon to Mr. LaRouche and his six associates.

You should know that I, as a Jew, am totally outraged at hearing and reading about the charges made by self-appointed Jewish leaders in the Anti-Defamation League, that my good friend and patriot Lyndon LaRouche, is anti-Semitic.

This behavior is against our principles. Judaism teaches us that it is a serious sin to bear false witness against anyone. Judaism teaches us to hate and despise evil and work to stop it, not bear false witness against those who do good.

In my 80 years of life, I believe that Lyndon LaRouche is the greatest and most true patriot since Lincoln. He has the ability and morality, and the international support to save our country. You should take advantage of his advice. . . .

John Weber, Benefactor of Hebrew Union College

* * *

Dear Mr. President,

I am shocked and outraged about the treatment meted out to Lyndon H. LaRouche in the Rochester, Minnesota prison, which, if continued, will lead to his death.

I would like to tell you, that if this treatment is not checked it would seem that the world at large will hold you responsible for his death.

Sincerely yours,
Prof. Dr. Norbert Brainin
Violinist, Amadeus Quartet

* * *

We denounce the cruel treatment inflicted upon Mr. LaRouche, who is presently held in the prison of Rochester, in Minnesota, following a political trial. Everything is being done to ruin his health. Sixty-seven years old, long past retirement age, he is obliged to work from 4:00 a. m. to midday. This week, he had to work, although he was on a liquid diet as he was to prepare for an operation. Less than 12 hours after the operation, which took place without his permission, the prison authorities forced him to start work again. Mr. LaRouche collapsed from tiredness. We denounce such practices which violate the rights of man, in a way that reminds one of the violations the Nazis imposed on France.

M. Monjalon, Deputy, French Parliament;
Prof. Dodin, Pasteur Institute;
and 115 other signers

* * *

Dear President Bush,

I strongly protest against the inhuman treatment of U.S. congressional candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche in the Rochester, Minnesota, prison. I have been informed that Mr. LaRouche was forced to work only 12 hours after surgery, a treatment which led to total physical exhaustion.

Sixten Pettersson, former Member of Parliament, Moderate Party, Stockholm, Sweden;

Alf Enerstroem, Member of Parliament, Social Democratic Party, Stockholm, Sweden;

Monica Oehman, Member of Parliament, Social Democratic Party, Sweden;

Tore Nilsson, Member of Parliament, Conservative Party, Stockholm, Sweden;

Erik Holmberg, Judge of the Court of Appeals of Western Sweden, Gothenburg;

Irma Wright, M.D., former municipal politician, Gothenburg, Sweden;

Laila Andersson-Palme, opera singer, appointed singer to the King, Stockholm, Sweden.

* * *

Dear President Bush,

. . . I also protest in advance against any attempts to bring disciplinary action against the 67-year old LaRouche for refusing to work while exhausted. I ask: Is this an attempt to kill LaRouche? With this letter I would like to inform you, the President of the United States, about the threat to Mr. LaRouche and act to protect Mr. LaRouche's life.

Sincerely yours,
Knut Ahnlund

University professor, member of the Swedish Academy of Sciences

* * *

I was deeply concerned by reports on the inhuman treatment and the heavy labor regime to which Mr. Lyndon H. LaRouche is being subjected in the Rochester, Minnesota Federal Prison. [He is] a man who, at the age of 67, needs humanitarian treatment. It is inconceivable that the country considered the "beacon of hope and the temple of liberty" subjugates one of its citizens as if it were the worst of tyrannies.

We expect that the United States demonstrate in practice the respect for dignity and for human rights consecrated in the very Constitution of your country.

Sincerely,
Aluizio Bezerra
Member of Brazilian Federal Senate

* * *

It has come to my attention that former candidate for President, Lyndon LaRouche, is being brutally mistreated in prison at Rochester, Minnesota.

The information I received is treatment in complete violation of the Human Rights of the individual of which you spoke on nationwide television this past week. LaRouche was purged prior to an operation on the colon and at the same time forced to work long nighttime hours from 4:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and getting no rest during the day. I understand that he was operated on *Thursday* against his will because he felt he was not physically up to it. He was forced into a wheelchair, chained in, and taken to surgery. *Friday* he was awakened again and forced to work his regular shift. In his weakened condition he collapsed. I don't believe you or I would treat a dog in this manner.

According to your talk to the people of the nation this past week, you said Human Rights means we must reach out, serving others on a one to one basis. President Bush, I do not know if you had any knowledge of this treatment of Lyndon LaRouche or not but now that you have will you please investigate it? Let it be your mission to reach out and lift up Mr. LaRouche. You have it in your power and I believe it is your responsibility to intercede on his behalf. Not only that, you have the power to pardon this man who many people believe is a political prisoner and innocent of any wrongdoing—convicted because of an unfair trial. I am believing more and more in his political philosophy. His ideas are unquestionably for the good of all humanity. I believe Lyndon LaRouche's life is entirely in your hands.

Mrs. E.W.
Iowa

* * *

[Letter to U.S. Attorney General Richard Thornburgh]

I direct myself to Your Excellency to request of you, in the name of the joint effort of all nations to guarantee human

rights, that Mr. Lyndon LaRouche, 66 years old, should receive treatment as a prisoner in accordance with the humanitarian norms and care that his age requires.

A prisoner, after a trial of scarcely two months, in circumstances considered by numerous international jurists as on a par with the famous Dreyfus case, Mr. LaRouche has the right to be treated in the strict terms of the letter of the law that guarantee him the attention due one in his sixties.

Sincerely,
Vicente Bogo
Federal Deputy of the Republic of Brazil

Note: On Sept. 20, Deputy Bogo delivered a speech to the Brazilian Congress denouncing the persecution of Lyndon LaRouche. Clips from his speech were included in a government news feed that is obligatorily carried by every radio news program in Brazil, such that Bogo's speech was transmitted nationwide and heard multiple times on every single radio station in Brazil.

* * *

[Letter to General Colin Powell, head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff]

Friends who just returned from the United States reported to me how the economic scientist Lyndon LaRouche, who is personally known to me, is—speaking from soldier to soldier—being physically and psychologically crushed. This terrible information causes painful doubts on my part, whether the United States of America can also in the future be the protective power for the civilized part of Europe—a cooperative function which we members of the Steuben-Schurz Society support. The news about Mr. LaRouche in prison in Rochester equals what I used to receive from my comrades about the conditions in the Lubljanka in Moscow. Maybe you, Mr. General, could on the basis of your very special position and responsibility help to provide a humane treatment or even Mr. LaRouche's release from prison.

Sincerely yours,
Friedrich-Wilhelm Grunewald
Brigadier General, German Air Force (ret.)

* * *

A unanimous message of "friendship and moral support" was sent to Mr. LaRouche from a Schiller Institute-organized conference in defense of Lebanon, in Paris on Sept. 21, stating in part: "We salute the terrible risks run by all those fighting for liberation of oppressed peoples, for justice and against any violation of any nation's sovereignty. We are in a good position to understand the price exacted for challenging established powers, and especially that of the present Soviet-American condominium and its mastermind in the U.S., Henry Kissinger."