

# LaRouche slandered in pro-drug books

by Mark Burdman

Lyndon LaRouche has often said that he wears as a badge of honor, the attacks on him by his enemies, since his enemies are so evil. And no wonder: A barrage of wild slanders against LaRouche has appeared in a series of French-language books published in Switzerland and France this year. These books, all by pro-drug legalization activists, depict LaRouche as the mastermind of the past years' "war on drugs" strategy.

Not coincidentally, there is a dramatic escalation in the campaign for drug legalization in Europe. In France, during the second half of September, both the widely read weekly *L'Événement du Jeudi* and the daily *Libération* have run commentaries calling for "decriminalization." *L'Événement du Jeudi*, which in 1986 lost a lawsuit in France after it had published a defamation of LaRouche, ran a cover story in its Sept. 23 issue, asking, "Should Drugs Be Decriminalized? What They Don't Dare Tell You." On Sept. 27, *Libération* published a lengthy commentary: "Lift the Prohibition on Cannabis."

In the last six months, three books have been published in French, openly pushing for drug legalization. One, by an American named Jack Herer, who heads a group called Help End Marijuana Prohibition (HEMP), originally appeared in the U.S. in 1985 as *The Emperor Wears no Clothes: Hemp and the Marijuana Conspiracy* and was reprinted in 1992. Herer asserts that LaRouche wants to "declare rock music illegal, to burn albums and books, and to lock up anybody who doesn't agree with him."

A second book is *Clandestine Smoke: Once Upon a Time, There Was Cannabis*, by Jean-Pierre Galland, who heads the Collective for Cannabis Information and Research (CIRC). He attacked the Anti-Drug Coalition (ADC) in France, calling it a branch of the "American Labor Party" (sic) of "Lynder LaRouche" (sic). Galland lied that the French ADC's *Guerre à la Drogue* publication "expresses strongly fascist ideas. Mussolini is the idol of LaRouche. The KGB, the Jewish lobby, the Queen of England, and the CIA are the big enemies."

## Where there's smoke. . .

From Switzerland, a book titled *Cannabis: Is It a Drug?* appeared this year, co-authored by a Swiss writer under the nom de plume "Michka" and Hugo Verlomme. The authors

cite the deranged Yippie leader Dana Beal, who they say is now with the U.S. National Institute on Drug Abuse, as well as Herer, for their claim that Lyndon LaRouche and anti-drug expert Gabriel Nahas have collaborated since 1948, and in the 1950s, they write, Nahas and LaRouche were at Columbia University, where LaRouche "spied on the Socialist Workers Party." According to this hallucinatory line, there has been collaboration for 40 years, between the leading "respectable" fighters against drugs—Nahas, Robert S. Dupont, Carlton Turner—"with the leader of a neo-Nazi sect, Lyndon LaRouche," but these "respectable" individuals keep this link secret. Why? "Precisely because they share his pronuclear and anti-jazz obsessions, among others, they fear that his legal problems could come to compromise certain of their long-term common plans."

More luridly, Michka-Verlomme insist that Nahas, who fought the drug plague within U.N. agencies, and LaRouche had both benefitted from the covert protection of "Nazi" Kurt Waldheim, during his tenure as U.N. general secretary!

Another section which profiles U.S. anti-drug organizations, says that "one of the most powerful" is the one that gave its name to "the entire movement, naming itself very simply 'War on Drugs'. . . This powerful organization depends on . . . Lyndon LaRouche." Again, the collaboration with Nahas is mentioned, as well as the allegedly shared views of Nahas and LaRouche, citing Nahas that "the drug traffic is directed by the Russian and British secret services." They then retail the 1986 slander against LaRouche from *L'Événement du Jeudi*, followed by lying assertions about his "close links with the Ku Klux Klan," and paranoid musings of U.S. journalistic sources from the mid-1980s about LaRouche's "very close links with certain of the highest levels of the Reagan administration, as well as with the CIA."

In the last section, Michka-Verlomme show the most pernicious effects of psychotropics. They develop a theory, taken largely from kook psychologist Thomas Szasz, that the ancient Greeks' practice of "sacrifice of human scapegoats" has been revived in the "war on drugs." According to Szasz, the ancient Greek practice was further advanced "in the Middle Ages and then by the Inquisition," which burned heretics and sorcerers at the stake. Michka-Verlomme add to this: "Fully into the 20th century, we find, again, stakes for immolating scapegoats, but, thanks to technology, transformed into crematoria ovens. And, as if chance, one finds with Lyndon LaRouche, this great anti-drug crusader, another obsession: anti-Semitism." The two authors again cite the 1986 *L'Événement du Jeudi* slander, whose author, Hervé Muller, had written the lie: "For [LaRouche], Judaism is responsible for all the evils of humanity, from the crucifixion of Jesus to the assassination of Kennedy. The Holocaust is only a myth propagated by the Zionists." In brackets, Michka-Verlomme add: "Irony of history, the clothes worn by the prisoners destined for the crematoria ovens were really made of cannabis."