

Why the oligarchy hates LaRouche

by Jeffrey Steinberg

On Nov. 23, 1973, the Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's New York Field Office wrote to the FBI Director about "Subject: Lyndon Hermyle LaRouche, Jr.," and the National Caucus of Labor Committees (NCLC), the philosophical association that LaRouche had founded during the late 1960s. The Airtel read in part:

"In reviewing New York case file, it is noted that information has been received that the CPUSA [Communist Party U.S.A.] is conducting an extensive background investigation on the subject for the purpose of ultimately eliminating him and the threat of the NCLC on CP operations. . . . A discussion with the New York NCLC case agent indicates that it is felt if the subject was no longer in control of NCLC operations that the NCLC would fall apart with internal strife and conflict.

"New York proposes submitting a blind memorandum to the 'Daily Worker' CP newspaper, in New York City which has been mailed from outside this area to help facilitate CP investigations on the subject. It is felt this would be appropriate under the Bureau's counter intelligence program."

LaRouche first learned of the FBI Counterintelligence Program (Cointelpro) memo many years later, when it was released to him as part of a several-thousand-page Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (FOIA) disclosure, detailing the Bureau's decades of operations against him. However, shortly after the New York Special Agent in Charge wrote to the Director requesting permission to, in effect, help facilitate a Communist Party assassination attempt against LaRouche, precisely such an incident occurred, during a 1973-74 New Year's convention of the NCLC in New York City. Members of the Puerto Rican terrorist group MIRA, linked to Cuban intelligence and to elements of the CPUSA, were spotted conducting surveillance of LaRouche's apartment, during the conference.

Effective security measures were immediately activated by some of LaRouche's associates; the New York City Police Department and relevant federal agencies (ironically, including the FBI) were alerted, and news releases were widely circulated by a LaRouche-linked news service, revealing details of the aborted apparent assassination scheme.

When evidence began to surface of possible New York Police Department Intelligence and FBI collusion with the would-be assassins, and when broader international intelligence connections implicating British MI-5 and the East German Stasi in the anti-LaRouche operation also were unearthed

and reported in LaRouche movement news releases, the *New York Times* jumped in to bail out the FBI, publishing a several-thousand-word slander against LaRouche on the front-page of the Jan. 20, 1974 Sunday edition. Immediately following the publication of the *Times* libel, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) joined in the effort to disrupt LaRouche's activities.

The "Get LaRouche" collusion between the FBI, the *New York Times*, and the ADL, born in the cover-up of that 1973 effort to "eliminate" LaRouche, continued unabated for more than two decades, and led, ultimately, to the frame-up prosecution and jailing of LaRouche and a number of his associates, and the illegal bankrupting of four LaRouche-linked corporate entities, including one tax-exempt foundation.

On Oct. 6, 1986, as the result of a four-year illegal public-private "Get LaRouche" task force effort, run jointly by White House circles under the direction of Vice President George Bush and Bush-linked officials of the Department of Justice, 400 federal, state, and county law enforcement agents raided the offices of LaRouche's publishing company in Leesburg, Virginia. Government documents released following the raid revealed that a second attempt to physically eliminate LaRouche had been built into the plan, and this aspect of the plan was only aborted 24 hours after the paramilitary raid had been launched, and the heavily armed agents, backed up by U.S. military counter-terror teams, had surrounded the farm where LaRouche and his wife were residing.

Other strange Bureau bedfellows

The FBI's efforts against LaRouche and the NCLC began in the late 1960s, at the latest, according to documents released in the mid-1970s to the Church and Pike Congressional committees investigating abuses by the Central Intelligence Agency and the FBI. During 1968-69, FBI agents involved in Cointelpro had circulated bogus leaflets, aimed at soliciting violent attacks against LaRouche associates on the campus of Columbia University, by members of the Weathermen faction of Students for a Democratic Society.

The efforts by some officials of the FBI to pursue actions aimed at "eliminating LaRouche" did not slow down a bit, following the exposure of the New York City MIRA incident. In June 1974, Vernon Higgins, a member of the Ku Klux Klan from Pontiac, Michigan, admitted to NCLC members in Detroit, that he had been sent, by the FBI, to a May 1974 NCLC conference in New York City, with specific instructions to profile the security procedures, to determine the feasibility of an assassination of LaRouche.

The crucial question

Apart from the myriad of obvious questions about the FBI's curious collusion with the Communist Party and the Ku Klux Klan in targetting LaRouche for potential assassination, another question should also be stirring in the reader's mind: Why, as early as 1973, when Lyndon LaRouche was certainly

not a household name, would the FBI go to such lengths to have him murdered? Years later, when LaRouche acquired a higher public profile as the architect of President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI); when candidates running on the LaRouche slate won Democratic Party primary elections in Illinois and grabbed nationwide headlines; and when LaRouche traveled to India, Mexico, Argentina, France, Italy, and so on, meeting with heads of state and other leading officials, such a high-level action against LaRouche might "make sense," the average citizen could surmise. But, why in 1973?

The answer is straightforward, even if it is not obvious. McGeorge Bundy, Henry Kissinger, and their patrons in the City of London and Wall Street financial oligarchy, saw LaRouche, very early on, as a "potentially dangerous adversary," someone who understood who they were, and how they operated. LaRouche was not targeted because of some spectacular operation associated with his name, such as the SDI. He was targeted because of the potential he represented, to disrupt the oligarchy's long-term plans.

During the early years of the NCLC, the philosophical association which LaRouche had founded, several facets of LaRouche's activities drew the attention of some of London and Wall Street's most important watchdogs.

First and foremost were LaRouche's published forecasts of the breakup of the Bretton Woods monetary system. The forecasts began back in the late 1950s, and became more precise in the late 1960s. When President Richard Nixon, under heavy pressure from three principal advisers (Kissinger, George Shultz, and Paul Volcker), "pulled the plug" on the gold-based, fixed-exchange-rate international monetary system, LaRouche gained substantial notoriety. On Aug. 15, 1971, the day that Nixon withdrew the dollar from the fixed-exchange-rate system, LaRouche penned a prophetic editorial, warning: Now that Nixon had brought down the postwar monetary system, he was of no further use to the oligarchy, and would likely be dumped from the White House. The forecast was published nearly a year before the Watergate break-in.

At a debate with Prof. Abba Lerner, an intimate of Bundy's, shortly after the Nixon disaster, on the Queens College campus in New York, LaRouche forced his opponent to openly defend the monetary and austerity policies of Adolf Hitler's economics minister, Hjalmar Schacht, in front of a stunned audience of students and faculty. Schacht was the architect of the Nazi police-state economy. The self-professed "liberal" economist Lerner was shown to be an apologist for Nazi economics. LaRouche had been writing for years that the policies of agencies such as the International Monetary Fund were no different than those of Schacht; and that Nazi-like policies were in the offing once again, unless concerted actions were taken to reverse the disastrous move toward the "post-industrial society."

LaRouche was politely informed, following the Lerner debate, that he would never again be given the opportunity to



McGeorge Bundy, the "Dean of the Eastern Establishment," targeted LaRouche early on, because LaRouche's ideas represent a strategic threat to the long-term plans of the oligarchy.

share a podium with any leading Establishment academics. He was told also that he had been characterized as a "potentially dangerous adversary," by the likes of Bundy, the so-called "Chairman of the Board of the Eastern Establishment," and then-head of the \$3 billion Ford Foundation.

In 1968, LaRouche had gone toe to toe with Bundy and the Ford Foundation. Associates of LaRouche at Columbia University had obtained "check stub proof" that the nascent Weatherunderground was being bankrolled by the Ford Foundation, through a poverty program called the East Side Service Organization, headed by the nephew of the Frankfurt School's Dr. Herbert Marcuse. LaRouche went beyond just exposing Bundy's links to the likes of Mark Rudd, Bernadine Dohrn, and other "days of rage" radicals. He penned a monograph, "The New Left, Local Control, and Fascism," in which he identified Bundy's efforts to draw the New Left rock-drug-sex counterculture into community control experiments, as the precursor to the creation of a new, left-wing fascist movement in America. Again, LaRouche was casting light on the Anglo-American oligarchy's most important social engineering projects of the decade, later referred to as the "cultural paradigm shift."

The point? The highest echelons of the London-Wall Street financial oligarchy singled out LaRouche for elimination when he was little more than the proverbial "flea on the rump of an elephant," because of the power of his ideas, and his uncompromising commitment to employ those ideas to benefit all mankind—even if it meant taking on the most powerful oligarchical "families" of both the East and the West.

Washington Post weighs in

In 1976, the *Washington Post* joined the *New York Times* in endorsing a systematic press blackout of LaRouche and his associates—except for vile slanders and disinformation. The message was delivered by *Post* editorial writer Stephen Rosenfeld. The *Post* would vigorously uphold that editorial policy, rarely covering LaRouche's activities, including his 1976 election-evenationwide televised campaign address, warning of the dangers of a Jimmy Carter-Trilateral Commission Presidency. In January 1985, when the public-private "Get LaRouche" task force was preparing to escalate its attacks, the *Post* chipped in with an 11,000-word, three-part series of front-page smear stories.

By the late 1970s, the FBI's Cointelpro had been widely exposed, through the Church and Pike Congressional committee probes. There is compelling evidence that, rather than shut down their counterintelligence program, the FBI farmed out key aspects of the dirty tricks efforts to private agencies, such as the ADL, which had been integral parts of the "official" efforts throughout the 1950s, 1960s, and early 1970s. Under the FOIA, LaRouche associates have obtained over 6,000 pages of FBI documents, relating to collusion between the FBI and the ADL dating back to World War II.

As a result of this "outsourcing," the ADL became increasingly more visible in the "Get LaRouche" efforts; by 1979, Roy M. Cohn, another longtime asset of the FBI and its late director, J. Edgar Hoover, was drawn into the anti-LaRouche operations, in tandem with the ADL and the *New York Times*. Cohn, a Hoover intimate, mob lawyer, and notorious degenerate, stepped in, in the summer of 1979, when LaRouche associates unearthed and exposed a *New York Times* scheme to publish a string of wildly fabricated slanders against LaRouche. Cohn provided the services of a New York East Side weekly, *Our Town*, to publish a 13-part series of outlandish libels against LaRouche, aimed at stirring up violent groups such as the Jewish Defense League to attempt a new round of physical attacks, aimed at eliminating LaRouche.

Bankruptcy and frame-up

The efforts to physically eliminate LaRouche through government-linked operations continued unabated through the Oct. 6, 1986 Leesburg raid. The murder plot was aborted, and a Waco- or Ruby Ridge-style massacre averted in October 1986, because of a combination of factors, including a crucial telegram that LaRouche sent to President Ronald Reagan, as federal agents were encircling the farm where LaRouche and his wife were residing. LaRouche informed the President about what was taking place, and warned that "LaRouche's blood" would be on his hands if he did not intercede to order the raiders to stand down. Hours later, the raid was called off, although subsequent documents and testimony revealed that the invasion of Leesburg had been originally planned to continue for another 24-48 hours.

With the option of eliminating LaRouche by force no longer on the agenda, government prosecutors—with the backing of the Bush circles in the White House, the permanent bureaucracy within the Department of Justice, and leading political factions in London and Moscow—set out to railroad LaRouche behind bars and shut down his operations.

On April 20, 1987, attorneys from the U.S. Attorney's office for the Eastern District of Virginia filed a fraudulent involuntary bankruptcy petition against two LaRouche-associated publishing and literature distribution firms, and the Fusion Energy Foundation, a tax-exempt foundation. No attorneys representing any of the targetted entities were present when the federal bankruptcy court judge signed on to the shutdown. The next day, U.S. Marshals again raided LaRouche offices nationwide, shutting down company offices, seizing all records (including the legal defense papers relating to criminal indictments brought at the time of the October 1986 raid), and bringing the printing presses of the LaRouche movement to a halt.

The immediate result of the bankruptcy proceeding was to place court-appointed trustees in charge of the companies, precluding any possibility of repaying loans to a number of longtime, loyal political supporters of LaRouche. As soon as the bankruptcy had been carried out, FBI agents began systematically visiting and intimidating the supporters who had lost their money as the result of the bankruptcy. According to evidence subsequently unearthed, FBI agents told many of the victims that their only hope of getting their money back was through cooperation with government prosecutors.

Eighteen months after the illegal bankruptcy, LaRouche and six others were prosecuted in Alexandria, Virginia, by the same U.S. Attorney who brought about the bankruptcy. Prosecutors claimed that the LaRouche entities had never intended to pay back the loans. A previous federal attempt at prosecuting LaRouche in Boston ended in a mistrial earlier that year. Jurors in that case told the press that they would have voted "not guilty" on all 124 counts against LaRouche and his Boston co-defendants, on the grounds of lack of evidence, and strong suggestions of government criminality.

A different set of circumstances prevailed in Alexandria when the second LaRouche case went to trial in November 1988. Judge Albert V. Bryan issued a ruling on the eve of the trial, barring defense attorneys from informing the jury about the government role in the involuntary bankruptcy, which was the sole basis for the phony charges of loan fraud. LaRouche and the other six defendants were convicted. LaRouche was sentenced to 15 years in federal prison, and denied bail, pending appeal.

On Oct. 25, 1989, a federal judge ruled that the government's bankruptcy proceeding had constituted a "fraud upon the court." The bankruptcy was overturned; but, LaRouche and the others were already in federal prison, and the companies targetted in the bankruptcy had been shut down.