

Enemies of Constitution in Justice Department 'kiss Moscow's rump'

by Jeffrey Steinberg

U.S. presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr. put it most bluntly in a campaign statement issued on April 27 regarding the Karl Linnas deportation to the Soviet Union: "The U.S. Justice Department has sent a former U.S. citizen, Karl Linnas, to a death sentence in Russia, an action seen by some around the world as the U.S. government's kissing the Soviet dictatorship's rump on Main Street, at high noon, for all to see."

Other international voices, including the London *Express* and the *Times* of London, have expressed similar shock and amazement at the behavior of the U.S. government in deporting an American citizen, a refugee from Moscow's massive and unspeakable wartime and postwar crimes against humanity in the Baltic states, to certain death at the hands of the Soviet government—simply on the basis of evidence presented by the Russians themselves.

LaRouche's statement continued: "In no part of this proceeding did the U.S. Department of Justice even claim to have offered Karl Linnas due process of criminal law, in the matter of charges merely alleged by a Moscow government notorious for forging fraudulent evidence of this sort against U.S. citizens whom Moscow happens to consider members of U.S. anti-Soviet factions.

"It gets nastier as one goes deeper into the affair.

"Linnas's prior nationality, prior to his entry into the U.S.A. was as a citizen of Estonia, a nation now under Soviet occupation. The U.S. government has never recognized Estonia as Soviet territory. Thus, the nation to which the United States might have deported Linnas, had there been cause to do so, no longer exists, and the United States recognizes no Soviet juridical authority over the territory or nationals of Estonia. There was no basis in policy under which the United States could have deported a former Estonian national into the custody of the Soviet government or the satrapal government of any Warsaw Pact entity.

"The U.S. government chose to do so anyway, due process and policy be damned.

"The accusations against Linnas are purportedly based

on his 1962 trial *in absentia* by a Soviet occupation court whose jurisdiction in that nation the United States has never recognized. In these matters, Soviet trials of Baltic patriots were among the most notorious frame-ups, such that no intrinsic merit could have been attached to the evidence or findings of such a trial. Furthermore, in some cases of this type earlier handled by the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI), it has been proven that the charges were based on false evidence willfully forged by the Soviet government.

"It is also known that not only is Neal Sher's OSI notoriously insensitive to the principle of due process of law in such matters, but that Sher works with intemperate zeal in close cooperation with officials and de facto agents of Soviet and East German intelligence services, such as the VVN, in targeting members of anti-Soviet U.S. associations for such victimization. . . . To send a man to virtually certain death without due process, and solely on the basis of allegations from a source notorious for forged allegations, stinks to heaven. . . .

"These disgraceful events occurred during a period that elements of the U.S. government have shown extraordinary zeal in seeking an early summit negotiation with the Soviet secretary general, for the purpose of negotiating a proposed 'zero option' agreement which would virtually abandon Western Europe to Soviet military superiority. This agreement would give the U.S. government no compensating advantage, except to create a pretext for slashing U.S. defense expenditures to levels prescribed by Gramm-Rudman.

"Under those circumstances, many in the world view the affair as the U.S. government's kissing Moscow's rump, at high noon, on Main Street, for all the world to see. I regret that I must agree with that view."

72-hour pattern

As if to allay any doubts that the Justice Department had acted with full consideration of the global political consequences of its actions, over the 48-hour period following the

April 22 Linnas deportation, the same DOJ carried out its unprecedented, unconstitutional raid and shutdown of two publications associated with candidate LaRouche: the 20-year-old, 200,000 circulation national newspaper *New Solidarity*, and the mass circulation science journal and leading voice for the Strategic Defense Initiative, *Fusion* magazine.

And, as if those two actions were not enough to satisfy the Soviets' appetite for American groveling, on April 24, Attorney General Edwin Meese personally attached his name to an order barring Austrian President and former United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim from entering the United States as a private citizen on the grounds of his wartime Nazi activities.

As in the Linnas case, the "file" on Waldheim was compiled by the OSI, with liberal reliance on Soviet bloc documentation.

In the cases of Linnas and Waldheim, the Soviet authorship of the Justice Department's moves was direct and explicit. The department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI), under the direction of radical leftist Neal Sher, has been in official liaison with the Soviet justice ministry since its late 1970s creation during the Carter administration.

Through OSI "consulting counsels," including Harvard Law School professor Alan Dershowitz, ex-OSI director Alan Ryan, also at Harvard Law, and Martin Mendelsohn, formerly with OSI and now the head of a Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., the Soviet government has been receiving reassuring messages for months—that at the appropriate opportune moment, Linnas' deportation order would be rammed through the Justice Department.

Dershowitz told a caller during the week of April 27 that the crucial first step in the Linnas and Waldheim cases was the forced resignation last year of White House Communications director Pat Buchanan. Buchanan had been an outspoken critic of the OSI, and particularly of the OSI's willingness to deport American citizens without due process on the basis of highly suspect Soviet manufactured "evidence."

The more recent "opportunity," Dershowitz continued, came when Attorney General Edwin Meese's name surfaced in the special prosecutor's investigation into the Bronx, New York defense contractor WedTech. Meese was grilled by the FBI on April 28 on his possible role in arranging non-competitive contracts for the Bronx company, in which he held blind trust investments. Although it appears that Meese was innocent of any wrongdoing, the media hype around the case threw the Attorney General onto the defensive. According to Dershowitz, DOJ officials Steven Trott and William Weld seized that opportune moment to force through both the Waldheim and Linnas moves.

Soviet reconnaissance

Other OSI linked figures went even further in confirming the ultimate Soviet authorship of the moves. Martin Mendelsohn told a caller on April 29 that he had personally attended

a Washington, D.C. reception for a visiting Soviet military delegation led by General Milshtein on April 27. "Yes, this was a signal to the Russians. I have been promising them for months that Linnas would be delivered. I'm going to Moscow in two months. . . ."

Gen. Mikhail Milshtein, an official of IMEMO and a reported high-level Soviet disinformation specialist, has been touring the United States for over a month. According to one source, Milshtein was in attendance at the San Francisco Trilateral Commission session at the end of March. Milshtein will remain in the United States until at least May 20, when he will attend a meeting of the Atlantic Council as part of a 10-person Soviet delegation that begins arriving in the United States this week. Included in that delegation are Georgi Arbatov, director of IMEMO, IMEMO deputy director Zurkin, and officials of the Soviet foreign ministry, defense ministry, and economic ministry. Another leading IMEMO official, Henrik Trofemenko, has been in the United States since April 15.

Reached by phone at his New York hotel on April 30, General Milshtein told a caller, "Yes, the Linnas decision is a positive step: How could the Soviet government, after all, negotiate in good faith with a U.S.A. government that allowed Nazis to remain unprosecuted in their country? The Demjanjuk deportation to Israel in a similar way was a positive move. And, yes, the LaRouche crackdown is also a good signal. . . ."

Picking up on the theme struck in the March 1987 issue of the Soviet government journal *International Affairs*, Milshtein continued railing against LaRouche: "He is a reactionary, a slanderer. But you can't take LaRouche in isolation. What he says about Marshal Ogarkov [Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, the preeminent military thinker in the Soviet Union today and the author of the present Soviet war plan against the West] is just crazy. But it's not just LaRouche. Others in the administration share his view about Ogarkov and the Soviet military."

One leading official of the American Jewish Committee described the pattern of recent Justice Department OSI-centered actions as "a coup for Edgar Bronfman." The organized crime-tainted Canadian billionaire just returned from an extended negotiating trip to Moscow in time to launch a campaign to shut down all LaRouche-associated activities in Canada.

As in the August-October 1986 period of pre-Reykjavik negotiations, the intensity of U.S.-Soviet back-channeling has been accompanied by revived Soviet media hysteria against LaRouche and subsequent compliant U.S. Department of Justice illegal moves to shut down the LaRouche political movement in the United States. Serious patriots should view the current anti-LaRouche assault on the U.S. Constitution by the Trott-Weld crowd at DOJ as a unique opportunity to root out one of the most protected and deeply held secret nests of Soviet penetration into our government.