

Independent PAC Targeted

U.S. seizes NDPC bank account

Warren J. Hamerman, the chairman of the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC), the multi-candidate political action committee founded by Lyndon LaRouche and other Democrats in 1980, issued the following statement on Aug. 19. Mr. Hamerman was the only citizen in the United States to testify against the nomination of William Weld to head the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice:

"After sitting on an outdated and erroneous judgment for well over a year, the same U.S. Justice Department which has flaunted its non-compliance with constitutional procedures in the Iran-Contra secret government investigation, yesterday moved in to try and financially choke and silence the nationwide political action committee of the LaRouche wing of the Democratic Party.

"Acting on Aug. 18, under orders from the Boston U.S. Attorney's office now preparing for the September trial of Lyndon LaRouche and associates, Assistant U.S. Attorney C. Wingate Grant from Richmond, Virginia, and Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal Richard M. Reynold, marched into the First American Bank of Virginia with a summons to collect \$86,266.94 from the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC).

Just the first move

"The government has indicated that this is only their first move against the NDPC and expects to collect a multimillion dollar contempt fine against the NDPC as soon as its appeal is over. The 'garnishment summons' against the NDPC was issued out of the same Eastern District of Virginia office under U.S. Attorney Henry Hudson, which supervised the forced bankruptcy of three other LaRouche-associated organizations last April.

"The government left the bank with a check for \$1,214 in NDPC funds which represented all but \$1 of the amount which was in the account at the time. A bank official reported that never before had the bank been ordered to write a check on the spot to the U.S. Treasury in this manner.

"The pretext for the collection was the same contempt fines for 'non-compliance' with the Boston Grand Jury which

was at issue in the April bankruptcy caper. As Justice Department officials have stipulated, the NDPC and other organizations had produced 'hundreds of thousands' of documents in compliance with the Grand Jury subpoenas. The action against the NDPC was timed to occur just prior to the gear-up of the 1988 presidential campaign season and barely one month before the scheduled opening of the Boston trial against Lyndon LaRouche and his associates.

Attempt to silence candidates

"The action is a blatant attempt to try and silence hundreds of thousands of citizens from rallying around the policies associated with LaRouche and his associated candidates.

"The bank account seizure was orchestrated by Assistant U.S. Attorney David Schiller in Richmond, the anti-LaRouche operative who masterminded the unprecedented April 21 bankruptcy seizures. Schiller testified last month that his associate Wingate Grant had reviewed all of the bankruptcy filings. Such a politically sensitive action could not have been taken without explicit approval from the highest levels of the Justice Department.

"Since William Weld is both the head of the corrupt 'Get LaRouche' unit in the Department of Justice, coordinating the activities of federal and state prosecution teams around the country against LaRouche associates, and had to face a direct challenge himself to his nomination from the NDPC, there can be no doubt that he was integral to approving this latest action.

"Since its formation in 1980, the NDPC has coordinated the campaigns of thousands of candidates for federal, state, local, and party offices around the United States. Not only did the NDPC wage a vigorous campaign for last year's anti-AIDS Proposition 64 ballot initiative in California, but it is currently associated with the drive by hundreds of thousands of California citizens to put the public health measure back on the ballot.

NDPC opposes Soviet aims

"The NDPC was the only organization in America to oppose the nomination of Richard Burt as ambassador to West Germany; the only organization to oppose the renomination of Paul Volcker as head of the Federal Reserve; and the only organization to oppose William Weld to head the Criminal Division of the Justice Department.

"The same Justice Department which is cozying up to the Soviet Union on joint projects such as the deportation of scientist Arthur Rudolph, condemnation of Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, scandalizing of U.S. defense contractors as in the General Dynamics case, and the murder of Karl Linnas, has now shut down the American newspaper most hated by Moscow, brutally silenced the scientific foundation behind the Strategic Defense Initiative, and is now targeting a free political association of candidates which is associated with the Soviet's Public Enemy Number One, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr."