

# Soviets again show fear of LaRouche

by Vivian Freyre Zoakos

We quote below a self-revealing article which appears in the latest issue of the Soviet magazine *New Times* (No. 42/87) which makes unmistakably clear what Moscow's true concerns and fears are today.

The article refers to the Soviet victory in a lawsuit brought in France against *New Times* by Lyndon LaRouche and his friends in the European Labor Party. After long deliberation, and much political pressure, the Paris court ruled against the plaintiffs, who had contended that they had been slandered massively by an earlier *New Times* article which claimed LaRouche and his associates were "Nazis without swastikas."

As the excerpts below amply demonstrate, Moscow's ceaseless campaigns against LaRouche stem from their fear of his growing political power—which the current *New Times* piece demands be rapidly crushed. In particular, the article, like many Soviet slanders before it, vents special virulence against LaRouche for his role as the intellectual author of the Strategic Defense Initiative.

The work of LaRouche's European friends, misidentified in *New Times* as the European Workers Party (EWP), in fighting to keep Western Europe inside NATO, also comes in for special attack, understandably, since decoupling Western Europe from the United States—after destroying the SDI—is uppermost on Moscow's strategic agenda.

"What is . . . worrying . . . is that such a small group, using dubious methods, can act so freely on the political scene. It regularly takes part in parliamentary and even presidential elections in various countries. . . .

"The argument advanced time and again is that this is merely a manifestation of democracy. Our invariable answer to this is that such democracy can destroy itself as happened in Europe in the 1930s. That is why the Soviet journalist Ernst Henry, whose articles have for many years denounced fascism, saw fit to remind our readers of the grim lessons of the past [referring to the article which prompted the LaRouche suit against *New Times*]. . . .

"We are convinced that democracy is obliged to defend itself, and not to pave the way for those who wish to destroy it.

"Political developments in many Western countries give grounds for such concern. Democracy is often used by anti-democratic forces spearheaded by anti-Communist organizations. They go on the offensive, resorting to law courts. . . . LaRouche and the EWP brought lawsuits first against us,

then against the Soviet magazine *International Affairs*. And we have learned that Jean-Marc Varaut, the lawyer who represented LaRouche's interests, is involved in litigation started against the Soviet paper *Literaturnaya Gazeta*. In the U.S., a lawsuit has been brought against the Soviet newspaper *Izvestia*.

"One cannot help thinking that it is an orchestrated campaign.

"The campaign is not being waged in the law courts alone. *New Times* correspondent Vladimir Zhitomirsky, who recently visited Chautauqua [New York], found that LaRouche's supporters were active at the Soviet-American meeting there. From that meeting we received a curious document. . . .

"The Commission's [to Investigate Human Rights Violations] aim was to prove the violation of the rights of Mr. LaRouche, who is allegedly the target of a virulent campaign by the U.S. authorities (notably by the Department of Justice) in conjunction with *New Times*.

"The American press has recently published some intriguing facts about these new 'champions' of democracy. An investigation into their financial swindles has long been under way. They are suspected of pocketing the money raised for 'research in energetics' (LaRouche is an active backer of SDI) and for combatting AIDS (a popular charity). . . .

LaRouche and his followers are consolidating their presence in Western Europe. We have already had occasion to write about a book by the West German authors Helmut Lorscheid and Leo Mueller, *Codename: Schiller*, about the EWP's activities in the F.R.G. (see *New Times* No. 28, 1987). To attract attention, the EWP has set up a 'Schiller Institute,' one of whose activities was to organize a conference to 'save the Western alliance.' Its main tasks are to strengthen links with the U.S., oppose the 'decoupling' of Europe from the U.S., beam weapon, conflict between East and West.

"These are just some of the details about those who brought and lost the Paris case. . . .

"Finally, we would like to raise a question that concerns Soviet journalists and lawyers.

pressed legal charges on what was clearly a fabrication. They accused us groundlessly of libel. But the Western press is full of slander of the Soviet Union and its citizens. And we often leave it unanswered. We should not do so. This was suggested to us by our French lawyers who have brought a counterclaim against the plaintiffs. . . .

"An element of risk remains, as it cannot be ruled out that LaRouche will appeal, and the case will then be heard in another chamber of the Palais de Justice. But, as in the first case, we count on common sense. . . .

"It is not customary to thank the court, but we would like to thank our defense lawyers. . . . Our thanks are also due to our fellow journalists in France, Sweden, the U.S., and the F.R.G., who helped us collect evidence. . . ."