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## Background to the News

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# Palme murder used to frame LaRouche

by Göran Haglund

The very persons and institutions who were the quickest to exploit the Feb. 28, 1986 murder of Swedish Premier Olof Palme in a veritable vendetta against their foremost political opponent, American statesman and economist Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., now find themselves in the spotlight of international attention concerning their own role in the chain of events leading to Palme's death. The order issued on July 5 by Italian President Francesco Cossiga for an investigation of the role of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and prominent Americans along with the Freemasonic lodge "Propaganda 2" in "igniting" terrorism in Italy and participating in the plot to kill Palme, opens a track leading directly to the so-called "Get LaRouche" task force of the American political establishment, a U.S. Department of Justice-centered group of judges, prosecutors, journalists, and political activists unified by their hysterical hatred of LaRouche and his policies.

Acting on cue from their Soviet partners, it was this unwholesome coalition of LaRouche's enemies who in the days, weeks, and months after Palme's murder, championed the thesis that LaRouche, either personally or through his political associates in Sweden, somehow "stood behind" the assassination. And, since even the slightest piece of circumstantial evidence was lacking, a virtual magic box of dirty tricks and lies was conjured up to "prove" the case. No sooner had the echo of the shots that late February evening reverberated from downtown Stockholm throughout a world caught by surprise and shock, than the campaign to blame LaRouche for the assassination was moving at full speed.

### Arbatov points finger at LaRouche

On the morning of March 1, within hours after news media had carried the first headlines on the spectacular political murder, Soviet Central Committee member Georgi Arbatov, chief of the U.S.-Canada Institute, offered a ready-made explanation of the event, as broadcast by Radio Moscow from the ongoing 27th Party Congress of the Soviet Communist Party (CPSU). "I do not know who killed Palme," Arbatov intoned, "but I know all too well who hated him. . . . I saw demonstrations against him by fascist hooligans, inflammatory articles, and provocations. Reaction loathed Palme."

In other Soviet disinformation organs filled in the picture by explicitly pointing the finger at LaRouche and his Swedish affiliates by name, characterizing them as "reactionaries," "fascists," and "militarists," who propose that "Sweden join NATO."

By March 3, the first explicit Western press mention of LaRouche and associates by name in a Danish newspaper, *Ekstra Bladet*, was escalated day by day into a full international media hurricane by mid-March. On March 18 in the U.S., NBC Nightly News broadcast an item alleging a connection between LaRouche and a "suspect" arrested one week previously by Swedish police. The Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) Fact Finding Division head Irwin interviewed as a specialist on LaRouche—whom he identified as a neo-Nazi—certifying that an associate of LaRouche's would be capable of committing such an assassination.

While its hostility toward LaRouche dated back at least to 1977, when LaRouche had initiated an in-depth investigation of the international drug trade, leading to the publication of the best-selling book *Dope, Inc.*, the organized crime-linked ADL, up to its neck in dirty tricks run jointly with Soviet intelligence agencies against common enemies in the West, played a prominent role in the "Get LaRouche" task force, using the Palme murder as a pretext.

### 'Violence prone' label key to frameup

On March 18, the same day as NBC broadcast its interview with Suall, two LaRouche Democrats, Janice Hart and Mark Fairchild, won the nominations for secretary of state and lieutenant governor in the Illinois state Democratic Party primary elections—a major setback and threat to the goals of the "Get LaRouche" task force, the work of which now had to be upgraded and escalated significantly. At a meeting of the American Society of Newspaper Publishers in Washington, D.C. on April 11, 1986, Arbatov charged that "LaRouche is a fascist," and characterized the Illinois victories of Hart and Fairchild a month earlier as "very disturbing. . . . This is an event which should not be overlooked, it could be very serious."

Coordinating with the Swedish police investigation into the Palme murder, directed by Stockholm Chief of Police Hans Holmér, a fanatic LaRouche hater, the U.S. FBI Department of Justice "Get LaRouche" task force were all too eager to heed Arbatov's warning. While failing ultimately to pin the Palme murder on LaRouche or his associates, they scored a complete success in covering up the real authorship of the assassination.

The investigation ordered by President Cossiga, if carried out scrupulously and unhindered by U.S. interference, might demonstrate that those who ran the coverup of the Palme assassination, and the effort to blame it all on LaRouche, were also chief actors in the plot resulting in the assassination itself.