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## France

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# Cheminade blasts judicial frameup try

In mid-March, associates of French political figure Jacques Cheminade will distribute 15,000 leaflets in Paris, challenging the French population to rally against fraudulent indictments of Cheminade, and three others, all of whom espouse the political outlook of U.S. Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche and his American associates. The four, Cheminade, Christine Bierre, François Bierre, and Gil Rivière have been indicted in an outrageous case of “theft” that is scheduled to be heard before the criminal court in Paris on May 14.

The case arises from charges brought by the son and daughter of a 63-year-old woman, who died in October 1986, that loans and contributions she made to three political and publishing associations were based on false representations. The entire case hangs on “expert” medical testimony—compiled three years after her death and based on a single brain scan made eight months prior to her death—that she allegedly showed noticeable symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease during 1984-86 when she participated in the activities of LaRouche’s associates in France. Evidence was presented in preliminary proceedings that; until just shortly before her death, the woman lived alone, took care of all her own affairs, drove her own car in Paris, wrote coherently and legibly—even her own family expressed no need to provide any sort of legal supervision. Apparently her only weakness was that she detested Henry Kissinger!

The case is not new: In 1989, a court-appointed Instructing Magistrate rejected it, but the government prosecutor appealed and succeeded in having the case brought before a second magistrate during the period of the Gulf War. The second magistrate issued indictments and sent the case to the criminal court with no new evidence.

The real intent of the case is to silence nationally known leaders against Mitterrand’s complicity in the Bush new world order, as shown by an insertion into the indictment that the European Labor Party (of which Cheminade was secretary general) “is a direct offshoot of the party of Lyndon LaRouche in the United States, who is charged in a very important case of swindle and fiscal fraud.” According to the leaflet: “Thus, from the very beginning of the allegations, a presumption of guilt has been created based on political association. The allegations are drawn, almost word for word, from a political dossier furnished by the Renseignements Généraux, France’s political police.”

The lying assertion that LaRouche was convicted, or even charged with so-called “swindle and fiscal fraud,” has been circulated by the U.S. State Department and various U.S. embassies precisely to smear his political movement overseas through “guilt by association” (see article, page 62). More important, however, this line is being used to throw off persistent questions to the U.S. government about U.N. Human Rights Commission investigations into U.S. violations of LaRouche’s human rights.

### The case at hand

*The following is excerpted from a translation of the leaflet demanding a stop to the judicial railroad against Cheminade, the Bierres, and Rivière.*

In 1987, the heirs of a 63-year-old woman, who died in October 1986, initiated proceedings against Cheminade and his associates. They challenged the methods by which she had given them financial support over three years, from 1984 to 1986. The first Instructing Magistrate, who took sworn testimony from the defendants, refused to take the case further and rejected it. . . .

The indictment states simply that according to expert psychiatric testimony compiled three years after the woman’s death and based on statements of others, that the woman allegedly showed clinical signs, noticeable to others, of mental deterioration due to Alzheimer’s disease. Therefore, the named parties were allegedly stealing since she was suffering dementia—without the least need to introduce any proof of fraudulent action! . . .

The “proof” that she had Alzheimer’s disease—a single brain scan—is, moreover, considered notoriously inadequate.

It is therefore clear that during the period of the Gulf War, the case was revived, even though scandalously poorly put together, in imitation of the actions instituted against LaRouche in the United States.

The European Labor Party had previously been the subject of an inquiry from the tax authorities, concerning the period of January 1986 to Dec. 13, 1988, which never got off the ground. That case was a “first” of its kind against a French political party.

Why this persistence? Why the fantastic accusation of “theft” against a man, Mr. Cheminade, who, for the overwhelming period of his political association has worked and continues to work on a voluntary basis and who, certainly, had not benefited from any personal enrichment during the period in question but who, on the contrary, has contributed significant sums to the associations for which he worked? Why? . . .

### The LaRouche Affair, the Dreyfus Affair

Why? The allegation itself explains it: because of Cheminade’s ties to LaRouche.

LaRouche has been in prison for the last three years in the United States, victim of a political trial which has been denounced by hundreds of lawyers, former ministers of justice, and political and trade union leaders from around the world. His case is the subject of an inquiry addressed to U.S. authorities by the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations in Geneva. Contrary to what the French prosecutor says, which alleges an investigation of LaRouche in "a very important case of swindle and financial fraud," the charges brought by the American authorities were only "mail fraud," "conspiracy to commit mail fraud," and "conspiracy to impede the IRS." Thus LaRouche has been imprisoned on the basis of accusations as imaginary as those brought against his French friends.

Why? because LaRouche is the man who denounced George Bush's new world order, who goes after drug money laundering by British and American banks, and who has advised the countries of the South to unite in a cartel to refuse to repay the usurious debt that is destroying the lives of their people and the sovereignty of their nations.

Few have been as slandered as LaRouche, the victim of lynching by the media and the judiciary. Who are his enemies? A veritable intervention force was organized against LaRouche by the Anglo-American financial oligarchy and its appendages, including the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), the CIA, the FBI, and their offshoots.

All of these are well entrenched in Paris.

LaRouche and his friends are currently demanding release of 40,000 pages of documents on them, which the U.S. government refuses to make public. Just like the documents on the Kennedy assassination, the U.S. government wants to keep its "family secrets" concealed. The Kennedy affair, the LaRouche affair, an arbitrary connection? No, since those who denounced the big lie of the Warren Commission attest today that John Fitzgerald Kennedy and Lyndon LaRouche have the same enemies, the same smell of trafficking in arms, drugs and dirty money.

### The stakes

One observer has called this affair "sordid." Exactly. Nonetheless, the stakes are enormous.

- 1) The right to freedom of association in France.
- 2) The threshold of legal proof required to establish Alzheimer's disease. The conviction of Cheminade would establish a precedent for almost any other case.
- 3) Above all, use of the judicial system for political ends against someone who opposes the established order. Clearly the goal is to make Cheminade ineligible to participate in politics.
- 4) Finally, it is the incompetent use of psychiatry for partisan objectives.

If, after LaRouche, Jacques Cheminade and his friends are convicted, it will be clear why François Mitterrand thinks George Bush is "nice" and calls him his friend.

## Kohl faces ill wind from Washington

by Rainer Apel

In the foreground of the American visit of German Chancellor Helmut Kohl beginning on March 21 is an almost compulsive effort by official Bonn to downplay the significance of the Wolfowitz study, in which reunified Germany is represented as one of the major future adversaries of the United States. The study, leaked by the *New York Times* Sunday edition of March 8, states that U.S. defense strategy must be to "prevent the re-emergence of a new rival" comparable to the Soviet Union, and to "seek to prevent the emergency of European-only security arrangements which would undermine NATO." (See *EIR*, March 20, p. 58.)

Even the mass media put a consoling spin on the speech in Bonn by David Jeremiah, the American deputy chief of General Staff, who tried to give the impression that the study is "only one among many and in any case not the official policy of the United States." The German Foreign Office put out the word that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker had assured his German colleague Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher that there was no basis for the Germans to be upset.

It seemed like a lot of denials for something which in Bonn has been taken so seriously that Winfried Dunkel, the military attaché of the German Embassy in Washington, made a special trip to the Pentagon in early March to officially protest the statements in the Wolfowitz report.

Indeed, the study by Paul D. Wolfowitz should be taken more than seriously. For one thing the author is not simply "one among many," but is Defense Undersecretary for Policy. Moreover, he is a protégé for many years of Fred Iklé, who once held the same post. Iklé is the author of a similar study, which a few years ago—before German reunification and the breakup of the Warsaw Pact and U.S.S.R.—proclaimed that the strategic and political interests of the United States and Europe were in opposition. The Wolfowitz paper also coincides with President Bush's own ideas. Bush said on March 11 to journalists that he could broadly support the conclusions of Wolfowitz.

### Russia, France protest

In a commentary broadcast by Radio Moscow March 11, Victor Innikeyev said that the Pentagon paper says "in no uncertain terms" that the United States would act to prevent the emergence of a rival superpower on the European conti-