Train feels the heat for libel of LaRouche

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Months before the scheduled publication date of a slander against Lyndon LaRouche, Jr., Worth magazine is already feeling the heat from citizens who are incensed at its role in Wall Street investment banker John Train's latest "Get LaRouche" effort. According to a story in the May 23 New York Post, Worth's editors were not at all amused when picketers showed up outside their Midtown Manhattan offices protesting the planned hatchet job.

When an item appeared the next day on the computer bulletin board of Worth-on-Line, the personal finance magazine's interactive computer service, detailing the role of the magazine in the renewed slander drive against LaRouche, the publisher summarily deleted it.

If the publishers at *Worth* are squirming, the Anglophile John Train is probably feeling even more heat. Back in 1983, Train was delegated by the George Bush-led Project Democracy apparatus inside the Reagan administration to orchestrate an illegal domestic "active measures" campaign against LaRouche. Bush, Henry Kissinger, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL), and the Andropov regime in Moscow were all committed to the elimination of LaRouche from the political landscape, especially after President Reagan adopted LaRouche's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) plan on a nationwide TV broadcast on March 23, 1983.

One month after Reagan's TV address, Train assembled a group of reporters from NBC, Reader's Digest, the Wall Street Journal, and the New Republic for a series of war councils, also attended by ADL official Mira Lansky Boland, Project Democracy spook Roy Godson, FBI informant John Rees, and the Nicaraguan Contras' moneybags Richard Mellon Scaife. The non-stop libels against LaRouche generated by the Train salon were a vital part of the frameup of LaRouche and a score of his associates between 1984 and 1989.

But by 1992, exhaustive evidence of the criminal libel campaign against LaRouche was on file with the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Department of Justice. Both bodies are still reviewing LaRouche petitions for action against Train and his co-conspirators.

New dirty tricks

Now, since LaRouche's release from prison in January 1994, the Train salon is up and running once again:

 On May 12, the ADL released a report assailing LaRouche for forging what Mira Lansky Boland described as a "partnership in bigotry" with Nation of Islam leader Minister Louis Farrakhan. News stories based on the ADL diatribe have appeared in Jewish news weeklies in several cities. What has the ADL particularly upset, is the fact that EIR's book The Ugly Truth About the ADL has sold over 175,000 copies, and the League's ties both to organized crime and to the FBI are becoming well known, particularly among black civil rights leaders.

• Editors at Worth magazine have confirmed that a lengthy story on LaRouche by contributing editor Christopher Byron is being prepared for publication. Byron was dumped recently by New York magazine, purportedly over some shoddy reporting on the Pan Am 103 bombing, which included a swipe at LaRouche for accusing George Bush and Margaret Thatcher of covering up the origins of the terrorist attack on the flight over Lockerbie, Scotland in December 1988. Byron's other literary "accomplishments" have included a fawning piece for New York on the private investigative firm Kroll Associates, longtime allies of the ADL who made their name during the Bush years by hunting down the missing loot of Saddam Hussein, Ferdinand Marcos, and Haiti's "Baby Doc" Duvalier for the State Department.

The claw-marks of John Train are all over these new smear stories. ADL's Lansky Boland admitted in sworn testimony that she was a key player in the Train salon scheming; her husband, a wanna-be investment counsellor, has earned a reputation for his propitiatory interviews with Train for a now-defunct financial newsletter.

Train's ties to Worth are prominently advertised in the magazine's ad copy, and Train's latest excursion into the literary world, a book called The New Money Masters, features a chapter on Peter Lynch, Worth's senior contributing editor and the head of Fidelity Magellan Fund, a Boston-based mutual fund that is part of the Fidelity Investments Corp., owners of Worth.

Perhaps the biggest drawback that Train faces as he plunges once again into the "Get LaRouche" fray is the fact that he is widely known to be British-owned property. His Train Smith Counsel private investment house is a 50% owned subsidiary of English Association Trust, a Rothschild family holding. This puts Train squarely in the camp of those British Tories who are out to destroy the U.S. presidency by scandalizing President Bill Clinton. Not only is Train extremely close—via the Rothschilds—to the Hollinger Corp., the architects of the "Whitewatergate" and "Troopergate" Clinton-bashing efforts. Train has contributed three articles in the past two years to the American Spectator, the Tory-linked U.S. neo-conservative monthly that has been unabashed in its "Get Clinton" fervor.

Taking on Lyndon LaRoudhe and the Office of the President at the same time may not be the wisest thing to do. But then again Train, whose hobby is filling up pages in leather-bound notebooks with unusual and goofy-sounding names, has never been known for his intellect.

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