

Outcry on LaRouche case continues

BONN: Above, all-night vigil in the capital city of the Federal Republic of Germany, on the eve of the Jan. 27 sentencing of Lyndon H. LaRouche and six associates to outrageously long prison terms in Alexandria, Virginia. The banner reads, "Rescue the Freedom of the West, Justice for LaRouche." Below, Helga Zepp-LaRouche (in light colored coat) visits Andreas Ranke-Heinemann during his first protest action, when he chained himself to the church opposite the Beethoven monument. The sign next to Ranke reads, "Freedom for LaRouche" and the banner held by two others, "Appeal to President Bush: 'Justice for LaRouche.'" On Feb. 7, Mr. Ranke began a hunger strike (see article, opposite).



MEXICO: Marchers demand "Death to the Narcotics Traffic," "Down with Russian dictatorship" and "Freedom for LaRouche" at a Jan. 12 mass rally in Mexico City. On Jan. 19, Marivilia Carrasco, secretary of the Mexico Labor Party, led protestors before the U.S. Embassy: "We are here to make it clear that if anything happens to LaRouche, the United States will never regain the trust of the governments and peoples who were once its friends. If they jail LaRouche, the fury of our peoples will . . . flare up as an implacable flame." Other rallies demanding justice for LaRouche and his associates have been staged in front of the U.S. consulates in Baja California, Sonora, Nuevo León, and Jalisco. On Feb. 1 Oscar Mauro Ramírez, leader of the PARM party caucus in the Mexican Congress, denounced the political jailing of LaRouche to the Permanent Commission of Congress.





WASHINGTON: Demonstrators from the U.S. Midwest and Eastern seaboard march before the White House on Feb. 9, during a week-long lobbying campaign to force Congress to investigate the trial and sentencing of former presidential candidate LaRouche, to halt farm foreclosures, and to stop shipping wheat to Russia. Banner reads, "Pardon LaRouche, KGB Will Kill Him in Jail." See Congressional Closeup for details on the lobbying.



PARIS: A huge banner reading "LaRouche Affair, Dreyfus Affair" is unfurled before the Opéra in late January. (The wrongful conviction of Col. Alfred Dreyfus, framed up on espionage charges in 1894, was the most notorious case of politically-motivated injustice in modern France.) On Jan. 31, at a press conference in Paris, statements protesting the trial and sentencing of LaRouche were released from Resistance leader Marie-Madeleine Fourcade, attorney Jean-Marc Varaut, and American civil rights leader Amelia Robinson. Varaut called the justice meted to LaRouche "a river of mud." On Feb. 6, an authoritative legal analysis published in *Le Monde* stated that in France, even if convicted, LaRouche would never have been jailed for the acts he was accused of.

Hunger strike to free LaRouche shakes Germany

by John Sigerson

Andreas Ranke, the grandson of Gustav Heinemann, the first President of the Federal Republic of Germany, on Feb. 7 began what he called an "open-ended" hunger strike, in order to dramatize his demand that Lyndon LaRouche and six associates be immediately released from federal prison, where they have been sitting since Jan. 27, following a political frameup and show-trial in Alexandria, Virginia.

This action by a young man from one of Germany's leading families has sent shockwaves through the political system, helping to break what had hitherto been a generalized press blackout in Europe on the LaRouche jailing. Ranke is the son of Uta Ranke Heinemann, a left-wing Catholic theologian and feminist; he is also the nephew of Polish Cardinal Josef Glemp.

In a statement which received wide coverage in Europe through the leading German daily *Die Welt*, the 28-year-old law student declared, "I grew up in a politically engaged, pro-American family, which always maintained a critical standpoint. The sentencing and imprisonment of my political friend Lyndon LaRouche, carried out by trampling on justice, has deeply shattered my respect for the United States of America as a democratic nation. Apparently, for Lyndon LaRouche's political enemies, his years-long battle for a new, just world economic order and his indefatigable commitment to the rights of the underdeveloped sector, were thorns in their side."

Die Welt's article is remarkable, given the policy of the German media to give no coverage whatsoever to LaRouche, apart from an occasional nasty libel.

Ranke has stationed himself in a van in the West German capital Bonn, directly outside the office of the federal chancellor. He has vowed to remain there, despite the efforts of local authorities to come up with some pretext to remove his van from its location.

Ranke likened the proceedings against LaRouche to "the ugliest images from the period of political trials before the 'People's Court' of Roland Freisler," the Nazi hanging-judge.

Hunger strike in Boston

Meanwhile, as Ranke's hunger strike entered its third day, in Boston, Massachusetts, William Ferguson, another