

The judicial atrocities and abuses of power used to jail LaRouche

by Warren J. Hamerman

Mr. Hamerman is chairman of the National Democratic Policy Committee. He addressed the tribunal on Feb. 25.

The political targeting, persecution, frame-up, and imprisonment of Lyndon LaRouche and his associates is one of the greatest travesties in history. He sits as a political prisoner, thoroughly innocent but denied all normal bail pending his appeal, in a facility only a few miles from where we are today—not because he has committed crimes, but rather because he has exposed and challenged crimes, the policy crimes of the high and mighty in the Anglo-American Establishment and the Soviet command who have unleashed the considerable institutions and private capabilities at their disposal in an attempt to silence him and his independent international political movement. He is in prison at 66 years of age, given a 15-year “life” or “death” sentence, depending on how one views it, *not* for crimes he committed, but for “conspiracies” about crimes which in most nations of the civilized world would be classified as minor civil infractions.

Let alone that he should never have been indicted or convicted of state-manufactured crimes, approximately 10 days after his imprisonment the fact of the matter is that only a full-scale emergency mobilization by a team of lawyers prevented him from being torn away from his fellow defendants and shipped off alone halfway across the country to another prison, where he could not have the benefit of a joint defense on appeal.

The purpose of my presentation today is to give you a panorama of the scope, means, and tactics which have been thrown at LaRouche and his associates; but at the outset, I think that we must be conscious of certain fundamentals, because my perspective is not to merely register a protest about LaRouche’s imprisonment, but rather to free him immediately. Without freedom for LaRouche, there shall be no freedom for anyone in the fast solidifying tyranny in the United States. Therefore, I wish to emphasize two overarching themes:

1) All of the police-state methods thrown at LaRouche

and his associates have, in fact, not succeeded in stopping the growth of his ideas, policies, and movement. No political figure in history has withstood a more sustained extra-legal and all-embracing sequence of “end game” judicial and assassination attacks over the years than Lyndon LaRouche and his associates, and yet he remains alive and his movement grows in strength, boldness, and fresh creative energies in spite of, or in some respects because of, each renewed effort to destroy his association.

2) Because of the relentless and courageous counterattacks of LaRouche and his associates against each assault, he has succeeded not only in repeatedly forcing the attackers on the defensive, but he has obtained the documentary proof of those giving the orders of the attack. For instance, he has obtained thousands of pages of previously classified government documents stretching back to the 1970s, which detail Henry Kissinger’s personal letters and cables demanding that LaRouche’s operations be shut down for political reasons. Thousands of once “secret” and “classified” documents implicate the persons by name, dates, times, and means, as they united and/or deployed official government agencies of the United States and other nations to go after LaRouche.

Some of the individuals documented in the “Get LaRouche” efforts include: Henry A. Kissinger; Lt. Col. Oliver North; William Webster, the current CIA head and ex-FBI director; David Abshire, president of Georgetown University’s Center for Strategic and International Studies and member, along with Kissinger, of the President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB); the late Edward Bennett Williams, former member of PFIAB, Democratic Party kingpin, and lawyer for the *Washington Post*; William Weld, the judicial protector of the Bank of Boston/Crédit Suisse drug money-laundering operations and ex-head of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice; Oliver Buck Revell, the FBI assistant director who was key for running the cover-up of the Iran-Contra affair, as well as tens of espionage and national security operatives from the bowels of the CIA up to the White House.

Tyranny in Alexandria

The tactical elements of tyranny used against LaRouche are in many respects exactly the same, but in other respects even more sustained, more intense, and unprecedented, than in the previous classic cases of political persecution throughout history—from the Dreyfus Affair in France in 1894, to the abuses against the political enemies of the state in Nazi Judge Roland Freisler's Germany or Stalin's Russia, to the repeated jailings and eventual assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. First, there is an initial political targeting, then a sustained effort to shut down the movement through massive press smears and extra-legal means aimed at crippling its resources and sabotaging its political operations, and finally, the leader is accused of state-manufactured crimes, given a summary show trial in a carefully fixed procedure, under a judge or judges who specialize in state security cases and know how to pull the ropes efficiently without hesitating. Then the political prisoner is either executed—as were Socrates, Jesus Christ, and Joan of Arc—or put away forever in prison.

How did these egregious elements play out in LaRouche's Alexandria trial?

First, the indictment on Oct. 14, 1988 was a hoax, intended to preempt a retrial of the previous Boston case against LaRouche, which had collapsed in a mistrial after massive government misconduct was exposed. Furthermore, the accused were rushed to trial only 38 days after indictment.

Second, before the trial began, Federal Judge Albert V. Bryan, Jr. summarily ruled against all defense requests for discovery and the normal materials and time to prepare an adequate defense.

Third, before the trial, the judge granted an extraordinary motion (motion *in limine*) of the prosecution to eliminate all evidence from the defense about the history of the massive attacks by government agencies against the LaRouche movement. The prosecution told the judge that if he outlawed a political defense and narrowed the case, he would have the ability to fix the outcome before the trial began; if he didn't, argued the prosecutors, then the defense could again mount a successful political defense and the trial could well repeat the mess LaRouche created for the government in Boston. Bryan willingly complied with the prosecution. He granted the prosecution motion in full, and ordered the defense not to mention the 20-year history of government "financial warfare," infiltration, and harassment against LaRouche and associates. He even ordered the defense to lie about the unprecedented government-initiated forced bankruptcy against the three companies involved in the case.

Fourth, Judge Bryan ensured that there could not be a fair jury by limiting the selection of the jury to less than two hours. The judge even refused to strike from the jury pool employees of the prosecuting FBI and Justice Department. As a result, the jury foreman himself—a man named Buster Horton—turned out to be a high-ranking career employee

responsible for "emergency preparedness" in the Department of Agriculture. Horton is linked to the same inter-agency government task force which had run operations against LaRouche for years.

Finally, Judge Bryan, the chief judge of the Eastern Federal District in Alexandria, himself was perhaps the nation's most experienced judge for containing sensitive national security matters. Bryan sat on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (the "FISA" Court) from 1979-86. The FISA Court judge has the power to authorize searches and seizures, wiretaps, and other surveillance and infiltration activities against individuals and groups in matters of national security. The FISA Court system is the first secret court in U.S. history, and its function can be compared to that of the British Privy Council or the Star Chamber. Bryan had been one of only seven elite judges appointed to the FISA Court at its founding in 1979. During the years he served, he may well have reviewed explicit matters of government counterintelligence operations against LaRouche.

Kissinger lights the fuse

LaRouche's Alexandria trial was only the last phase of an unprecedented government assault against the LaRouche movement, which has already lasted nearly double the dozen years that the Nazi regime lasted. Since the year that Martin Luther King was assassinated, after years of being hounded by the FBI, LaRouche has faced massive government misconduct in the form of extra-legal and quasi-judicial operations. Now, declassified government documents from the mid-1970s show that every single member of his association was already then on the so-called ADEX national security list, which meant that they were to be rounded up if a national emergency were declared. State Department documents from 1975 establish that Henry Kissinger was then engaged in activities against the efforts of LaRouche associates in Lima, Peru and elsewhere to promote his International Development Bank (IDB) proposal for world monetary reform. Government operations tried to "spike" LaRouche's proposal, by spreading lies that it was pro-Soviet with a Russian ruble currency base. Domestically, FBI operatives engaged in a veritable war of political harassment, espionage, and infiltration against legitimate political activities associated with LaRouche.

In August 1982, only days after LaRouche returned from a meeting with then Mexican head of state José López Portillo, Henry Kissinger personally launched a crusade to incite federal law enforcement agencies to go after LaRouche. An Aug. 5, 1982 document records Kissinger filing a bogus complaint that a LaRouche associate had threatened his life. Two weeks later—and only five days after Italian associates of LaRouche had submitted an investigative dossier linking Kissinger to the assassination of ex-Prime Minister Aldo Moro—Kissinger penned a "Dear Bill" letter to then FBI director William Webster, in which he urged a full-scale

investigation of LaRouche for going after him. Scores of official documents between Kissinger, Judge Webster, Kissinger's attorney, and Buck Revell over the next months demonstrate non-stop efforts to activate a security probe against the LaRouche movement.

A memorandum from Webster to Revell on Jan. 12, 1983 reports that the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB), of which Kissinger was now a member, that day launched a national security investigation of the worldwide activities and financing of the LaRouche movement. Since that infamous PFIAB meeting, the global and domestic operations against the LaRouche movement escalated. Official cables were sent around the world launching operations to sabotage LaRouche activities from Bonn to Rome to Bern. A phony Secret Service investigation of LaRouche associates in Chicago was initiated.

Beyond the unbelievable

Beginning in 1984, the government's extra-legal and quasi-legal operations against LaRouche took on the proportions of the Normandy Invasion. Every few months, the government threw a new major assault against the LaRouche movement, each one of which was characterized at the time by legal experts throughout the nation and around the world as unprecedented in legal history. The government itself bragged that many of the tactics—such as the notorious civil “forced bankruptcy” which shut down a national newspaper and scientific foundation—were beyond all precedent. Thus, the pattern was one of a *sequence of unprecedented actions each more outrageous and staggering than before*. While time does not allow me to detail a complete chronology of these events, I nonetheless will give you a sense of some of the major developments.

In October 1984, William Weld, the man who protected drug money-laundering at the Bank of Boston and Swiss accounts, launched a grand jury investigation for alleged credit card fraud. Weld's Boston grand jury eventually spun off a second grand jury in Alexandria, Virginia, and the two grand juries worked in tandem for at least two years from 1986 to 1988. In fact, John Markham, the Assistant U.S. Attorney in Boston who supervised the grand jury there, became the lead prosecutor in both the Boston and Alexandria cases.

On the eve of the presidential elections in 1984, a New Jersey bank under Weld's influence vacuumed out the accounts of LaRouche's presidential campaign committee. All through the next year, Weld's grand jury escalated its operations against the LaRouche movement, even to the extent of manufacturing incidents of supposed non-compliance and contempt of the grand jury by four LaRouche-associated organizations. Simultaneously, state authorities from California to Maryland launched investigations into LaRouche associates for alleged business law violations.

In February 1986, Weld hosted a meeting in Boston of

various federal and state officials to drum up further judicial targeting of the LaRouche movement. In October 1986, over 400 federal and state authorities raided LaRouche's Leesburg, Virginia headquarters military-invasion style, with the intent of staging an incident to assassinate LaRouche and shut down his organization. The same day, eight of his associates, his two political campaign committees, and the philosophical association he founded were indicted in Boston; seven months later, LaRouche himself was added to the indictment. A few weeks after the Leesburg raid, two of the offices of his California associates were raided by state authorities searching for evidence of illegality because they succeeded in placing the now-famous AIDS Proposition 64 on the ballot. In February 1987, a federal judge in Massachusetts imposed \$21 million in draconian fines against the national political action committee, scientific foundation, and two literature distribution companies associated with LaRouche, on the preposterous grounds that they were in contempt of the Boston grand jury which had long since ended. Virtually simultaneously, another 16 of LaRouche's associates were rounded up and indicted along with five scientific and First Amendment entities associated with him, in a preposterous charge that they had violated state business laws.

In March, another 15 associates of LaRouche were rounded up and indicted on the same charges in New York. One of those indicted was given a pre-trial bail of half a million dollars, because he was a “danger to the community” on the grounds that he was associated with the LaRouche organization.

On April 21, 1987, the U.S. government took the unprecedented step of transforming Massachusetts Judge Mazzone's contempt fines into a secret involuntary bankruptcy action, in which the U.S. government was the sole petitioning creditor. The action allowed the government to close down a national newspaper, *New Solidarity*, with over 150,000 subscribers; a local Virginia paper, the *Loudoun County News*; and a popular science magazine, *Fusion*. The bankruptcy proceeding not only violated the U.S. Constitution, but basic bankruptcy laws as well.

The Boston trial commenced in December 1987. The government's case began to crumble with the appearance of the first witness. By late January 1988, the lid began to come off the political prosecution. The government was forced to turn over evidence which graphically demonstrated that the entire case was being run by the National Security Council, an agency then tainted by the Iran-Contra scandal. A memo from Richard Secord, now an indicted conspirator in the Irangate affair, to his co-conspirator, Oliver North, showed high-level NSC surveillance of LaRouche's activities. The prosecution subsequently produced another document which substantiated the Secord-North memo. After this second document appeared, the trial judge ordered the government to search a large number of offices for exculpatory evidence,

including the office of Vice President George Bush.

Paralleling the Secord-North revelations, the government was also caught hiding evidence that they used a Cointelpro informant, Ryan Quade Emerson, to infiltrate and disrupt the political organization of LaRouche. The trial judge suspended the proceedings and conducted a hearing which lasted many weeks into the Emerson as well as the NSC matters. The protracted nature of these hearings into government concealment of evidence eventually led to a mistrial in early May. On the day of the mistrial, the *Boston Herald* reported that the jury had conducted an informal poll and voted unanimously to acquit the defendants, citing government misconduct as their primary reason.

And then there was Alexandria. . . .

Freeing LaRouche

While the assaults against Lyndon LaRouche equal the tactics of the blackest tyrannies in human history, this drama unfolded in a nation whose constitutional and judicial systems were designed to be “immune” to such abuses of power. All Americans and freedom-loving people around the world have long viewed the United States as the bastion of hope, liberty, and equality before the law.

I personally am infuriated at the sight of Lyndon LaRouche and his courageous associates in prison uniforms, while Henry Kissinger and his associates rampage around the globe.

When I was a child, my grandparents described to me why they and their parents fled to this nation from the unbridled police-state repression in several countries. One of my great grandfathers was an intellectual and teacher who was politically persecuted and hounded out of the Ukraine. Another rushed to these shores from Poland because he yearned to live in a nation dedicated to opportunity and hope. They described what it was previously like to live in a gray, unhappy society which crossed the line into tyranny—the lack of opportunity, the terror of the police, the fear of the authorities, the absence of political freedom and saying what’s on your mind.

My own personal experiences are by no means unique, but in fact characterize millions of our people.

We owe it to our grandparents and great grandparents and those before them *not* to let this great nation of ours solidify into full-scale tyranny. We owe it to future generations *not* to let the principles and Constitution of our nation be arrogantly trampled under by the likes of Henry Kissinger and Judge Bryan.

We need fierce soldiers for justice who will stop at nothing in freeing LaRouche. At stake is the not only his biological existence. As Abraham Lincoln proclaimed at Gettysburg, let us resolve to fight “that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the Earth.”

Political organizing is called ‘conspiracy’

by Rochelle Ascher

Mrs. Ascher is the first of Lyndon LaRouche’s political collaborators to stand trial in the Commonwealth of Virginia’s “securities” case. The following is her speech to the tribunal on Feb. 25.

We have said that these are show trials. To understand what this means, I ask you to imagine the following:

First, imagine a state where grand juries meet in absolute secrecy—no notes are allowed, no transcripts exist, there is no written or verbal record of what goes on. No one can find out how long these grand juries sit, who testifies before them, what they do.

Then, one night, after dark, state police knock on your office door. You and your political associates are handcuffed and taken off to jail. In jail, you receive an indictment supposedly outlining your crime, What is that crime? Taking political loans to support political activities without registering as a stock broker with the state of Virginia—this is a supposed violation of Virginia securities law.

But there is a problem. At the time of your arrest, there is no such crime. Two months after you are arrested and charged, the State Securities Commission meets and decides that promissory notes issued by political organizations are, in their opinion, securities. They make this ruling two months after 16 associates of Lyndon LaRouche are charged with this so-called crime. This ruling, which itself is a political vendetta, does not even exist at the time of the arrest; the crime is created by the Commonwealth two months after the arrest.

Then the pre-trial motions begin. Eighteen months after the original indictments, a new indictment is added to the original charges. The charge is *conspiracy*. This time, the grand jury does not even have to reconvene. Now, what does it mean to be a political organizer in the United States charged with *conspiracy*?

Since my trial began, I now know.

Conspiracy law is a very strange thing. You don’t have to have any knowledge that you are a part of a conspiracy. You don’t have to agree to enter into a conspiracy. You don’t have to speak to or even know your co-conspirators. You somehow, by osmosis, simply become part of “the conspiracy.” You are then held responsible for any supposed acts, statements, or even *thoughts* of your alleged co-conspirators. You are responsible for what is adduced by the prosecution