

'Get LaRouche' force in new illegal ploy

Loudoun County, Virginia Sheriff's Lt. Don Moore has picked up the ball from Minnesota Attorney General Hubert "Skip" Humphrey, and has obtained a search warrant for bank records at two Virginia banks of several entities affiliated with the political movement associated with Lyndon LaRouche, including the *Executive Intelligence Review*, Publications and General Management, the Human Rights Fund, and the Constitutional Defense Fund, allegedly pursuant to an investigation on behalf of the Minnesota Attorney General. Moore took the action Feb. 15, the day after a Duluth, Minnesota judge ordered Humphrey's office to cease such activity.

In his affidavit in support of the search warrant, Moore says he was asked by Loudoun County Sheriff John Isom to assist an investigation being carried out by Richard E. Munson, an investigator for Humphrey. What Moore failed to mention in his affidavit is that the matter Munson is supposedly "investigating" was the subject of a civil suit which was settled months ago to the satisfaction of all parties.

Humphrey doing ADL's dirty work

Humphrey's investigation is being carried out on behalf of the "Get LaRouche" task force. Humphrey is personally tied to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) of B'nai B'rith which has been proven in court to be an integral part of the illegal efforts to shut down the LaRouche movement. Dwayne Andreas, the billionaire pro-Soviet grain magnate, is a key funder of both Humphrey and the ADL. Among Humphrey's top contributors are Burton Joseph of Minneapolis, an honorary chairman of the ADL, and Minnesota ADL National Commissioners Robert Latz and Stephen Lieberman. Humphrey's only out-of-state contributors are ADL-linked individuals and political action committees.

All four targeted companies or organizations are associated with presidential candidate and political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche who founded *EIR*. The Constitutional Defense Fund has been associated with efforts to beat back the harassment and persecution, including through the courts, of LaRouche and his associates.

All four entities plan to move in court to quash these warrants and obtain orders restraining the task force from any further such bad-faith actions.

This is not the first time law enforcement authorities have withheld information from judges in order to obtain access to these records. The Minnesota Attorney General's office has already been chastised by two judges, one in Philadelphia (where the CDF bank account was temporarily seized), and one in Minnesota, for failing to inform the judges of the civil settlement and other material facts of the case. Both judges ordered that actions to seize funds cease.

So far in the past year, prosecutors in Maryland, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Illinois have been slapped down by judges in illegal attempts to seize the records or bank accounts of organizations or companies associated with the LaRouche political movement, and to prosecute fundraisers for theft because they have raised contributions for that movement.

Now the question is: Will a judge in Virginia also be willing to uphold due process against the demands of the "Get LaRouche" task force?

Trial by press

In keeping with past practice of the "Get LaRouche" task force, Moore promptly contacted the Washington, D.C. and Northern Virginia media to get coverage of his search warrant. The story was covered front page in the *Fairfax Daily Journal*, and aired on the Washington ABC television affiliate. Using the media to further bad-faith prosecutorial objectives is a standard *modus operandi* of the task force.

Such a broad request as Moore's for records from political organizations is a violation of First and Fourth Amendment rights, and is extremely unusual. The usual procedure would be to attempt to obtain the requested material by subpoena, which would allow for a clear-cut means of contesting the request. Even under the broadest interpretation of the government's powers, and the most gracious view of the facts in this case, Minnesota authorities would only have the right to records that directly pertain to those transactions. By manipulating the use of multiple jurisdictions, effectively "whipsawing" the targeted organizations between the courts in Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and now Virginia, Moore and Humphrey have attempted to obtain by misrepresentation records that would identify, among other things, supporters and contributors of a legal defense fund, a human rights fund, and two companies that publish political literature.

In his affidavit in support of the search warrant, Moore brags of his "extensive" experience investigating the LaRouche movement. He says he has worked with the Virginia Attorney General's task force, the federal task force in Boston and Alexandria, Virginia, and other state investigations in New York, California, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Illinois, all targeting the LaRouche movement for shutdown.

With his military background with Oliver North in Vietnam, observers might wonder why Moore hasn't volunteered to fight in the Persian Gulf, instead of wasting taxpayers' money in pursuit of illegal search warrants.