

Cheney Faction Goes Berserk Over LaRouche Exposés

by Jeffrey Steinberg

According to a well-placed Washington source, in October of this year, a series of heated, closed-door debates took place in the office of Vice President Dick Cheney. The subject: whether or not to launch a public smear campaign against Democratic Party Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, over LaRouche's year-long campaign to expose the Vice President as the leader of the neo-conservative war party inside the Bush Administration, responsible for the disastrous Iraq war and schemes for a string of future, similar senseless military engagements, all aimed at promoting a unilateral American imperium.

While some Cheney political aides opposed getting into such a flight-forward confrontation with LaRouche, some of the office hotheads, including the Vice President himself, as well as his chief of staff Lewis "Scooter" Libby, reportedly insisted that the LaRouche exposes could not go unchallenged, according to the source.

Now, with the publication, on Nov. 24, of a scurrilous attack on LaRouche by neo-con scribbler Kenneth R. Timmerman, in the Moonie-owned *Insight* magazine, it is clear that Cheney and company have launched a dirty tricks effort against the Democratic Presidential candidate.

Parallel Dirty Tricks in Europe

In Europe, a similar Cheney-led smear campaign is underway against LaRouche, emanating out of England, and spreading into Germany and elsewhere. The ostensible subject of the European slander is the suicide death of a young British man, following his participation in a Schiller Institute youth conference in Germany. Despite a thorough investigation into the incident by both German and British authorities, the smears have persisted, confusing many in Europe. The publication of the *Insight* attack on LaRouche now confirms that the British media slanders of LaRouche are

part of the same Cheney-led dirty tricks effort, to subvert LaRouche's Presidential campaign in the United States.

A 'Rogue Intelligence Cabal'

The Nov. 24 *Insight* piece, accompanied by a photograph of Undersecretary of Defense Doug Feith and Pentagon Office of Special Plans (OSP) head William Luti, accused Lyndon LaRouche of being the architect of a campaign to expose the OSP as a "rogue intelligence cabal," behind the unjustified and unwarranted Iraq war. Timmerman, whose attack on LaRouche is also being promoted by neo-con propagandist Frank Gaffney, through his Center for Security Policy website, lamented, "All this silliness could become deadly serious if Senate Democrats get their way, led by Sen. John D. Rockefeller IV of West Virginia, the vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI)."

Rockefeller has launched an SSCI probe into the OSP, and, in an Oct. 1 letter to Feith, demanded answers to a series of questions. A subsequent Oct. 30 letter to Defense



"But always, I am still Caesar..."

OSP's 'Defender' Against LaRouche

Kenneth R. Timmerman, the author of the *Insight* on-line magazine attack on LaRouche, is a long-time loyal lapdog for the leaders of the neo-conservative, Jabotinskyite faction in Washington.

Operationally, his specialties are: China bashing; rabid attacks on Middle East countries, especially on "WMD" programs in Iraq, Iran, Syria, and Libya, as exposed in his books, *The Death Lobby: How the West Armed Iraq* (1991), and *Weapons of Mass Destruction: The Cases of Iran, Syria, and Libya*, (1992), published by the Simon Wiesenthal Institute; close collaboration with the Wiesenthal Institute, and the National Unity Coalition for Israel (NUCI), in backing up Sharon's policies and in defending Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard; and Islam-bashing, with Daniel Pipes, Steve Emerson, Michael Ledeen, and others.

Timmerman's Affiliations: JINSA; National Unity Coalition for Israel; Foundation for Democracy in Iran; Research Associate of the Simon Wiesenthal Institute (1992-3); Editorial page writer for the *Wall St. Journal* for ten years; senior writer for *Insight*, the Moonie magazine. From 1987-1993, Timmerman was based in Paris, France, where he ran *Middle East Defense News*.

Business: President of Middle East Data Project, Inc., based in Maryland, which publishes *The Iran Brief*.

It is through JINSA and the Foundation for Democracy in Iran that Timmerman is most closely connected to the Vice President Cheney's circle. Along with Timmerman on the Advisory Board of JINSA are Richard Perle, Ledeen, James Woolsey, and Stephen Bryen; Dick Cheney was a longtime member of JINSA's board until 2001. The Foundation for Democracy in Iraq (FDI) was founded in 1996, by Timmerman along with Peter Rodman, now Undersecretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, and with AEI's Joshua Muravchik (who attacked LaRouche in a recent issue of *Commentary*, the original neo-con magazine). The FDI works closely with Michael Ledeen's Coalition for Democracy in Iran, to overthrow the current government.

Timmerman's real specialty is planting propaganda that can be used to pass legislation like the Iraq Liberation Act, and its later copies against Syria, Iran, and now Saudi Arabia. In 1993, Timmerman was briefly on the staff of the House Foreign Relations Committee, where he organized hearings and presented testimony on Iraq's "WMD." He wrote a report for the Committee called "Iraq Rebuilds Its Military Industries."

During the Clinton Administration, Timmerman heavily targetted China—especially former Defense Secretary William Perry—in Congressional testimony, in the *American Spectator*, and in testimony to the Rumsfeld Commission, which studied the proliferation of ballistic missiles.

Timmerman is such a shameless propagandist that he wrote several articles in March 2002 accusing Iraq of the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, in order to make the case for hitting Iraq in the "war against terrorism."

Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, co-signed by Rockefeller and intelligence panel chairman, Sen. Pat Roberts (R-Kan.), gave the Pentagon 24 hours to produce the material and supply witnesses.

In fact, on Oct. 27, Feith did submit a memo to the SSCI, with a top-secret annex, detailing "proof" that Saddam Hussein had been behind the Sept. 11, 2001 al-Qaeda terror attacks on New York and Washington. The Feith annex was also leaked to the neo-con Weekly Standard, which published lengthy excerpts from the classified document on Nov. 14, proclaiming "Case Closed"—i.e., that Dick Cheney's lying assertions that Saddam Hussein was behind 9/11 were now "proven."

Actual intelligence experts made mincemeat out of the *Weekly Standard's* effort to defend Cheney by regurgitating the Saddam-ran-Osama bin Laden fairytale. Former Defense Intelligence Agency Mideast head, Col. Pat Lang, debated *Weekly Standard* author Stephen Hayes on CNN on Nov. 20, and exposed the Feith memo as a cherry-picked collection

of raw and uncorroborated intelligence reports. Former CIA officer Larry Johnson told *The Hill* on Nov. 19, "If anybody doubted that there was such a thing as intelligence with a [predetermined] purpose, this is a case study. Just because someone says something and it gets 'classified' stamped on it, doesn't necessarily mean it's true."

'Beast-Man' Cheney

The leaking of the Feith annex to the neo-con media occurred simultaneously with the theft of Democratic Party staff memos from the Senate intelligence panel and the Senate Judiciary Committee. Sources say that both the thefts and the leaking of the pilfered staff memos to the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Times*, and right-wing radio gadfly Sean Hannity, were all aimed at bullying Democrats into a defensive posture—allowing Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) to shut down the work of the Senate Intelligence Committee altogether, on the grounds that the Democrats were playing "partisan politics" with the national security of the