Get LaRouche Task Force Unraveling

As of July 29, Lyndon LaRouche had been unjustly imprisoned for four and one-half years. On July 14 his appeal of Federal Judge Albert V. Bryan's rejection of his motion for a new trial was "screened" from the oral argument calendar by the Fourth Circuit Federal Appeals Court, which means that the final ruling will be based only on the written papers submitted.

Over the last several months, demands for LaRouche's release have increased internationally as more and more evidence has surfaced exposing his conviction and imprisonment as a political vendetta carried out by the Bush administration with the aid of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) on demand of the leadership of the then Soviet Union.

On July 1, the Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations placed a half-page advertisement in the Washington Post signed by 270 parliamentarians from twenty-four

nations calling upon President Clinton to Free LaRouche.

• At the same time, Loudoun County, Virginia Deputy Sheriff Don Moore, who played a key role in the prosecution of LaRouche, was indicted along with Galen Kelly of the Cult Awareness Network for conspiracy to kidnap LaRouche associate Lewis du Pont Smith and his wife. Although both were acquitted, Galen Kelly has since been convicted in another kidnapping case involving Moore.

In the course of the Federal investigation of Moore and Kelly, significant new evidence has come to light which has been used to supplement LaRouche's appeal.

• Meanwhile, the ADL has come under investigation and is expected to be indicted in San Francisco for illegal spying on hundreds of organizations and thousands of individuals, including LaRouche and his associates.

Anti-Pike Campaign Gains Support

The campaign to remove the statue of Albert Pike—leader of the Scottish Rite Freemasons and founder of the Ku Klux Klan—from Judiciary Square in Washington, D.C., has escalated since the April 19 conviction of Civil Rights leader the Rev. James Bevel and historian Anton Chaitkin on the outrageous charge of "statue climbing" for standing on the base of the statue during a rally. Both leaders of the anti-Pike effort were sentenced to seven days in jail. They were released pending an appeal after serving three days of their sentence.

Immediately after their imprisonment, resolutions were passed by the National Conference of Black Mayors in New York City and by the Alabama New South Coalition urging the statue's removal. In addition, sixty prominent citizens from Washington, D.C. submitted a call for a public forum on the issue to the D.C. City Council on April 23.

On May 4, testimony by the Rev. Bevel was presented to the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia of the House Appropriations Committee on the issue.

Since then, the city councils of a number of major U.S. cities have passed resolutions urging the statue's removal, including Pittsburgh, Oakland, Baltimore, Richmond and East Palo Alto, Cal., and New Bedford, Mass. Resolutions had already been passed by city councils in Austin, Newark, Buffalo, New Orleans, Birmingham and Tuskegee, Ala., Carolina, P.R., and Gomez Farias, Mexico.

Federal Court to FEC: Restore LaRouche Matching Funds

On July 2, the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ruled that the Federal Election Commission (FEC) had no authority to deny matching funds to Lyndon LaRouche's 1992 presidential primary campaign. As Lyndon LaRouche commented, "this decision is a peek at the possibility of justice under the pressures of a great crisis."

The majority opinion of the Appeals Court stated that the object of the Federal Election Campaign Act "is to enhance the ability of candidates to present their positions and themselves to voters in presidential primaries. . . . It would seem to contradict the purpose of enhancing voters' ability to assess candidates to shift any part of that process away from voters and to the Federal Election Commission.

"Moreover, it was Congress's explicit intention that the funds be issued on a non-discriminatory basis. ... As we said in [the 1979] Committee to Elect Lyndon LaRouche v. Federal Election Commission, 'We regard it as particularly important to ensure that the Commission is applying the eligibility criteria for primary matching funds in an evenhanded manner.' Any inquiry into the bona fides of candidates' promises would take the Commission into highly subjective territory that would imperil the assurance of evenhanded treatment."

Campaign spokesmen report that primary campaign funds owed by the FEC total in excess of a half-million dollars. LaRouche's candidacy was also injured in states using matching-funds qualification as a criterion for ballot placement, since in some cases this denied voters the opportunity to vote for LaRouche.