USLP Charges:

Carter And FEC Run Protection Racket For Democratic Party Debt

The following is the text of an official complaint filed by the U.S. Labor Party with the Federal Elections Commission and Senate Rules and House Administration Committees, June 23:

Developments in the matter of the Federal Election Commission's partisan, lawless treatment of the Democratic Party and the Carter Campaign Committee's debt obligations and general finances demand your immediate attention and remedial action.

We cite the particulars below and hereby officially request an investigation, and orders to the FEC to halt its illegal activity.

The FEC, under the new, unconstitutional powers arrogated by the agency in April 1977, has launched operations to cover up questions of illegal Carter campaign and Democratic Party funding. At the same time it is using these powers to attempt to financially bankrupt the Labor Party, and to harass other opposition groups including the American Medical Association, Liberty Lobby, etc.

Under the April 1977 powers, which violate First Amendment rights of association, the FEC claims the power to penalize creditors of political organizations with fines and jail sentences on the sole criterion of the FEC's arbitrary judgement as to whether pay-back is underway.

The Case of the Democratic Party and \$3.2 Million

In the case of the Democratic Party, whose debts total a reported \$3.2 million and go back before 1976, the FEC has given the go-ahead to extend the debt repayment period through 1981. The FEC has approved a new Democratic Party committee, the National Finance Council, as demonstration of intention to pay debts. The FEC has avoided any investigation of the obvious indications of funding and debt irregularities.

* For example, the FEC has not investigated the evidence that the Coca-Cola Corp. conduited large sums to the Carter campaign through the Greg Allman drugrock concert benefits.

* A debt of over \$500,000 remains outstanding from the Citizens and Southern Bank of Atlanta, to the Carter Campaign

* Large sums are outstanding on individual accounts, for example media advisor, Jerry Rafshoon, owed \$44,00. None of these have been queried by the FEC.

* The FEC has refused to investigate the hundreds of thousands of dollars of Carter campaign funds spent "To Get Out The Vote" November 2, where massive fraud occurred, as through the South Bronx SERA drug program.

The Case of the Labor Party and \$100,000

In May this year the FEC wrote to creditors of the Labor Party's LaRouche for President Campaign and

demanded private corporate records. In one instance, involving a debt of \$25,000, they claimed, "These debts may be viewed as contributions in kind until repaid." Their justification: "Our review of these reports (standard filings) has ascertained a heavy accumulation of debt of your corporation by the Committee to Elect Lyndon LaRouche and the United States Labor Party over a substantial period of time without any significant repayment."

In fact, unlike most presidential contenders, La-Rouche would have no debts outstanding if the FEC had not illegally withheld the \$111,000 in primary matching funds due the campaign.

In line with this financial harassment of the Labor Party, the FEC is complicit in a general dirty tricks operation.

- * Under the pretext of a "Compliance Spot Check," never done on other campaigns, LaRouche contributors in five states have been subject to surprise home and workplace visits, and subject to coercive interrogation techniques.
- * Evidence obtained from the FEC last week shows the direct connection of the FEC to "dirty tricks" run against the Labor Party through the FBI. David Fiske, in his role as Public Relations Director for the FEC, told a reporter that the Labor Party is "violence prone," a characterization lifted from a contested report being circulated by the FBI and now under court challenge by the Labor Party.
- * Fiske, in his role as a public government official, referred the reporter "for more information" to private individuals connected to the Institute for Policy Studies, a private, terrorist-linked organization.

Fiske referred the reporter to Donna Warnock, at the Center for Science in the Public Interest, who provided false, slanderous details of alleged violence attributed to the Labor Party. She referred the reporter to one Harvey Kahn, the author of the Institute for Policy Studies-connected brief, "Brownshirts of the Seventies," which called for radical disruption of the Labor Party.

Thus, Mr. Fiske is using his office to conduit slanders circulated by the Institute for Policy Studies and contained in the contested FBI report.

The facts herein detailed justify legal action on grounds of abuse of public office against Fiske and other FEC employees. However, the most appropriate action at this time would be an overall review and reversal of the FEC's policies by Congress.

The Labor Party has two Federal Court actions now pending against the FEC. Friday, June 24, we expect to file for a temporary restraining order to stop the illegal FEC harassment.

The evidence presented above clearly demands swift Congressional action, and initiative on the part of whoever on the Commission may have any integrity of office.