

Editorial

Russian Nazi-communists in France

Two very unusual trials are being litigated at this time in Paris, France, both involving the Soviet government's past and present Nazi sympathies. One is the trial of Klaus Barbie, a Nazi occupation police official who had served in Lyon during the war years, who is accused of crimes against humanity. The second is a defamation trial in which Lyndon LaRouche is the plaintiff and various Soviet figures are the defendants.

Plaintiff LaRouche is seeking court relief against the publication, in Soviet government media, of libelous characterizations of himself and his associates as "neo-Nazi." The Soviets have hired a well-paid battery of lawyers led by one of the great "progressive" legal authorities of France, Maître Joe Nordmann of the French Communist Party, who will try to "prove" in court that the government of the Soviet Union is justified in calling LaRouche "neo-Nazi," essentially on grounds supplied by a junior FBI stringer and drug advocate, one Dennis King of New York.

Maître Nordmann, at the same time, is representing the legal interests of the French Communist Party in the trial of Klaus Barbie, the alleged "Butcher of Lyon." One might ask, "What are the interests of the French Communist Party in the Barbie trial?"

Very simply, the French Communist Party was alone among all the political parties of France of that time, a *collaborateur* of the Nazi occupiers of France. The French Communist Party, Maître Nordmann's client, and its newspaper *L'Humanité*, as library collections show, welcomed the Nazi occupiers with open arms at a time when the rest of the world wept for France's fall.

If the right kinds of witnesses were to be asked the right kinds of questions at the Barbie trial, the whole sordid story of Nazi-communist collaboration during World War II would start coming out. Will such witnesses as Mme. Marie-Madeleine Fourcade, and other prominent leaders of the Resistance Movement of General de Gaulle's Free French, eventually be permitted to testify in the Barbie trial, or will Maître Nordmann's

objections prevail?

The Soviet government and the Communist Party have a great interest in steering the Barbie trial away from issues touching on the Nazi-communist alliance which lasted, sometimes formally, sometimes informally, from 1917 to 1941.

The Soviet Union's and international Communism's collaboration with Nazism and Hitler reached its high water mark with the infamous Hitler-Stalin Pact of August 1939, the non-aggression pact signed by Joachim Ribbentrop and Vyacheslav Molotov, the foreign ministers of Hitler and Stalin respectively.

Readers will be surprised to learn that the Soviet Union refuses, to this day, to repudiate formally the Hitler-Stalin Pact. From all inquiries undertaken by the *EIR* on this matter, Soviet diplomats appear to be under instructions *not to repudiate* the Hitler-Stalin Pact. When the subject is brought up, a Soviet official may argue that the pact was "necessary" at that time, or that "it has now lapsed," or that "it was annulled" by the Nazi invasion of Russia in 1941—but you will not hear a Soviet diplomat repudiate the Hitler-Stalin Pact.

The reason is the secret protocols of the Pact: In them, Adolf Hitler bequeathed to the Soviet Union a "sphere of influence" in Europe which was later recodified in the Potsdam and Yalta Agreements.

Russian law, such as it is, and Russian foreign policy, view the Hitler-Stalin Pact as the legal foundation of their occupation of Eastern European lands today, lands which otherwise should have belonged to Poland, Romania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and the now defunct states of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania.

Ironically, Russia's only legalistic claim to have jurisdiction over the deported Karl Linnas, a naturalized American of Estonian origin, is the 1939 Hitler-Stalin Pact, which is the only legal-status document which recognizes a "Soviet sphere of influence" over Estonia. Moscow is the real Nazi collaborator and the real neo-Nazi, as the Paris trials will eventually show.