International Panel

Rights group to hear 'the LaRouche case'

The Fact-Finding Committee of the international Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations in the United States has announced that it will hold hearings on "the La-Rouche case" Sept. 9-11, in the Washington, D.C. area.

The committee of attorneys and distinguished public figures is investigating the unprecedented pattern of jailings, raids, indictments, electronic surveillance, harassment of supporters, and defamatory publicity which has targeted U.S. presidential contender Lyndon H. LaRouche and his associates. According to the press release announcing the hearings, their purpose is "to determine whether these incidents constitute fundamental violations of the U.S. Constitution and the human rights it guarantees to citizens."

Former Austrian justice minister joins

The group further announced that Prof. Dr. Hans Klecatsky, former justice minister of the Federal Republic of Austria, professor of law at the University of Innsbruck, and director of that university's Institute for Public Law and Political Sciences, is joining the Commission. Professor Klecatsky declared that he has officially cosigned the statement of Prof. F.A. Freiherr von der Heydte, issued April 28, which condemns the illegality and unconstitutionality of steps taken by U.S. authorities against various companies and organizations associated with LaRouche.

Professor Klecatsky's statement further details the violations of basic rights which have been committed by the U.S. Justice Department, by putting Kurt Waldheim, President of Austria, on the "Watch List," and banning his entry to the United States. Waldheim was accused of being a Nazi war criminal, on the basis of unsubstantiated charges and "evidence" presented by East bloc intelligence services, which was never verified by any U.S. court.

In a personal meeting with representatives of the Commission, Professor Klecatsky expressed the view that this kind of lawlessness has been made possible only by the establishment of a secret "parallel government" in the United States. The influence of these circles upon U.S. foreign policy has had disastrous consequences. The U.S. government, for example, not only fell into the trap of disastrous support

for the Contras, but sold out the rights of other sovereign states, as shown by the U.S.-Soviet deal to extradite Karl Linnas and others. Linnas, charged with "war crimes," was tried and convicted *in absentia* in the U.S.S.R.; he was deported without benefit of an American trial, and died in a Soviet prison hospital earlier this year.

LaRouche vs. the 'secret government'

These policy issues will be the central focus of the Fact-Finding Committee's hearings. A first round of hearings was conducted on May 26-27 in Washington, D.C. At that time, the Committee heard testimony on the role of the "secret government" in directing actions against LaRouche. The new, second round of hearings will examine recent revelations, that under Executive Orders 12333 and 12334, signed by President Reagan in 1981, the extraordinary actions targeting LaRouche were given legal cover.

The Committee will hear evidence on the role of the Soviet intelligence services, working in tandem with the U.S. "secret government," to destroy LaRouche and the policies associated with him, notably the Strategic Defense Initiative and the "Operation Juárez" plan for solving the Third World debt crisis. Featured in this testimony will be a report to the Committee on the trial of LaRouche v. New Times, LaRouche's libel suit against the Soviet magazine, which will be decided in a Paris court on Sept. 30. The Soviet government has officially responded as defendant in this unprecedented legal action.

To understand why LaRouche has been thus targeted, the Committee has also invited witnesses to testify about policy contributions LaRouche and his associates have made worldwide. Witnesses from Ibero-America, Asia, Europe, and the United States will document the support for LaRouche's policy proposals among nations and leaders of the world who are seeking solutions to the pressing problems of the economic collapse, narco-terrorism, the spread of disease, and the development of a cultured and educated republican citizenry. Also presenting testimony will be supporters and associates of LaRouche, who have personally been the victims of harassment because of their political beliefs and associations.

The Commission is headquartered in Paris, France. At the end of September, it will hold an international conference there, to release the conclusions of the Fact-Finding Committee, and to organize international support for the Commission's efforts.

The members of the Fact-Finding Committee, all attorneys, are: Don Victor Girauta y Armada (Spain, chairman); Dr. Edwin Vieira (United States, secretary); Subhash C. Birla (advocate at Supreme Court, India); Lennart Hane (Sweden); Larry Lopez-Alexander (former judge, United States); Nathalie Milsztein (France); Dr. Frederick Wills (former minister of foreign affairs, Guyana). Committee counsel is Kenneth Richardson (Queen's counsel, former chief prosecutor, Old Bailey, England); assistant counsel is Jill Gort (England).

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