bulk of it is a fantastical attack on President Franklin D. Roosevelt, whom Gore tried to indict for allegedly having conspired to cause the Japanese to attack Pearl Harbor, in pursuit of his policy, as the "Emperor Augustus of the American Empire," to forward American imperial ambitions.

Now in *Perpetual War*, Vidal contrasts what he purports to be the non-plot of Sept. 11, 2001, with the alleged plot of Dec. 7, 1941: "President Roosevelt provoked the Japanese to attack us at Pearl Harbor. I describe the various steps he took in a book, *The Golden Age*. We now know what was on his

mind: coming to England's aid against Japan's ally, Hitler, a virtuous plot that ended triumphantly for the human race. But what was—is—on bin Laden's mind?"

Thus to fill out his attack on LaRouche, Vidal invokes an "FDR plot" that may be widely believed by populists and others, but which never in fact occurred, while attributing to bin Laden, virtually superhuman powers of planning and implementation that he never possessed. The frauds Gore Vidal lends his reputation to, become more dangerous as does the situation of the world.

## French Book Slanders LaRouche and Cheminade

Two French "investigative journalists," Guillaume Dasquie of Intelligence Online and Jean Guisnel of Le Point, have rushed to print with what purports to be a refutation of a jumbled exposé of Sept. 11, L'Effroyable Imposture (The Terrible Deception), by Thierry Meyssan, of the French think-tank Réseau Voltaire. The "refutation," L'Effroyable Mensonge (The Terrible Lie), involves an attack on the only competent analysis of Sept. 11, that of Lyndon LaRouche, as well as his leading ally in France, former Presidential candidate Jacques Cheminade.

And, while Meyssan's book has received coverage in the U.S. and British press, like the purported refutation, the media take aim at LaRouche, by a terrible fallacy of composition: Since LaRouche was, within an hour of the attacks, able to debunk the "bin Laden dunnit" lie, and since Meyssan's book also departs from the "bin Laden dunnit" story, ergo, the analysis of the two are the same.

Here are excerpts of Cheminade's June 25 statement.

Guillaume Dasquie and Jean Guisnel have just published the book *L'Effroyable Mensonge*, as an attack on the earlier book, *L'Effroyable Imposture*, written by Thierry Meyssan. In the June 12 issue of *Libération*, Jean-Dominique Merchet says that the collaboration of these two authors "will remain a model investigation." In fact, it is a hastily thrown together amalgamation which would not deserve comment, if Lyndon LaRouche and myself were not seriously challenged in it. . . .

1. Mr. Dasquie and Mr. Guisnel state that Lyndon LaRouche "inspired" Thierry Meyssan's "conspiracy theory," an accusation repeated by Mr. Merchet. One subhead in Chapter 5 of *The Terrible Lie* goes so far as to read, "LaRouche/Cheminade/Meyssan, One and the Same Battle." Thus, with no intellectual scruples, the authors adopt exactly the "conspiracy theory" they are quick to denounce from anyone else.

The height of their ridiculousness is when they use mere initials (mine—J.C.) to support their point about my collaboration with Thierry Meyssan, although neither Mr. LaRouche nor I has ever met him. Moreover, for reasons unknown to me, Mr. Meyssan came out some years ago with hostile concoctions against me.

2. Of course, Mr. LaRouche and myself do not believe the fable which holds that the Sept. 11 attacks were exclusively organized by bin Laden and the al-Qaeda network, with no domestic American complicity. Thierry Meyssan, for his own reasons, does not believe it either. . . .

However, whereas Mr. Meyssan highlights certain spectacular "facts" in his book—such as his refusal to believe a plane crashed into the Pentagon—Mr. LaRouche and myself have formulated an overall evaluation. . . . We especially made the connection between what is now happening in the United States and the international monetary and financial crisis. As the system collapses, the "financial cancer" manifests its political, military, and ideological metastases. . . .

- 3. Mr. Dasquie and Mr. Guisnel write that Lyndon LaRouche is "known to everyone in the United States because of his anti-Semitic ravings" and that he is "often accused of neo-Nazism and anti-Semitism."... In fact, the U.S. circles that so accuse Lyndon LaRouche, are the same ones who claim that France has become an anti-Semitic, undesirable country....
- 5. A recurring theme in L'Effroyable Mensonge is the "weaknesses of our democracies." Would the authors like to see something else? . . . After all, doesn't the author of The Clash of Civilizations, Samuel Huntington, whom Mr. Dasquie and Mr. Guisnel have cleared of any involvement, even intellectual, in Sept. 11 and in what is now unfolding, think there "are also limits to be desired . . . in political democracy" (Trilateral Commission Report on the Governability of Democracies, 1975)?

(In any case, there is "terrible confusion" in leading French political layers and the media, and the fear of accepting the obvious conclusions . . . has them abundantly spewing out ink in all directions, like a cuttlefish when it feels threatened.)

EIR July 5, 2002 International 55