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THE NEW REPUBLIC



THE LABROUCHE CONNECTION



How the leaders of a lunatic fringe won access
to Administration officials, and with it, respectability.

THE LAROUCHE CONNECTION

BY DENNIS KING AND RONALD RADOSH

OVER THE PAST YEAR, innumerable television viewers have tuned into Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr.'s paid political speeches on national TV and have watched the 62-year-old multimillionaire waging his Presidential campaign, the main themes of which are support for the Reagan Administration's "star wars" policy and attacks on Walter Mondale and Henry Kissinger as "Soviet agents of influence." Many bemused viewers may also recall brief encounters, through the years, with LaRouche's followers at major airports across the nation, where they attract customers for their pamphlets and magazines by displaying posters such as "Feed Jane Fonda to the Whales."

The fanatical worldview underlying LaRouche's public activities is well known in Washington, and he has been roundly denounced by organizations and media outlets as diverse as the A.F.L.-C.I.O., the Heritage Foundation, *The New York Times*, and the *National Review*. The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has accused him of "the injection of anti-Semitic poison into the American political bloodstream." Yet over the past four years, this same LaRouche and his followers have gained repeated access to a wide range of Administration officials—including high-level aides at the National Security Council and the Central Intelligence Agency—who have found LaRouche as useful in supplying information and promoting their policies as LaRouche has found them in legitimizing his cause.

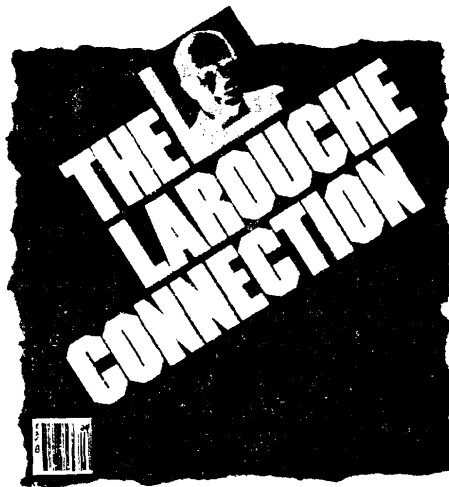
The basis of LaRouche's effort is his cadre organization, the National Caucus of Labor Committees (N.C.L.C.), which controls assorted front groups and enjoys close ties

Dennis King, a New York freelance writer, has written extensively on the LaRouchians during the past six years. He is the author of a League for Industrial Democracy report, *Nazis Without Swastikas*, and of many magazine and newspaper articles on political cults. Ronald Radosh, a frequent contributor to TNR, is co-author with Joyce Milton of *The Rosenberg File* (Holt, Rinehart and Winston).

to the Ku Klux Klan. The most visible arms are the Fusion Energy Foundation (F.E.F.), which promotes nuclear power and beam weapons, and the National Democratic Policy Committee (N.D.P.C.), an electoral machine on the fringes of the Democratic Party. The N.D.P.C. backed LaRouche for President in the recent primaries and is now supporting his campaign as an independent. In addition, LaRouche and his followers operate an international "press service" which publishes the weekly *Executive Intelligence Review* (EIR) (subscription price, \$399 per year) and has provided freelance intelligence reports for many foreign governments, including the Republic of South Africa.

As soon as Ronald Reagan took office, LaRouche's well-educated, articulate followers fanned out to various executive departments and to the offices of leading Republican Congressional figures. The LaRouchians, as they are commonly called, presented themselves as ardent supporters of Administration policies and testified at confirmation hearings in favor of key Reagan appointees. In Reagan's first year, they obtained direct access to many high-level persons, and the EIR printed edited transcripts of what were described as interviews—or, in some cases, "exclusive" interviews—with Agriculture Secretary John Block, Defense Undersecretary Richard DeLauer, Commerce Undersecretary Lionel Olmer, then Treasury Undersecretary Norman Ture, Assistant (now Associate) Attorney General Lowell Jensen, and Senator John Tower, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. In addition, LaRouche himself managed to get on the invitation list for a March 26, 1981, breakfast meeting with Interior Secretary James Watt; and two of his aides breakfasted with Watt the following week.

According to former LaRouchians, one of the people the N.C.L.C. attempted to cultivate was Labor Secretary Raymond Donovan. In 1982, when allegations about illegal activities involving Donovan's Schiavone Construction Company and organized crime were under probe by fed-



eral special prosecutor Leon Silverman, LaRouche's security chief, Jeffrey Steinberg, launched his own counter-investigation to assist Schiavone. In a June 18, 1982, memo to Morris Levin, house counsel and secretary of Schiavone, Steinberg—writing on the stationery of *Investigative Leads*, a LaRouche publication—outlined the progress of his work and mentioned plans for a meeting with Robert Shortley, a private investigator working on behalf of Ronald Schiavone, Donovan's business partner. A copy of the memo was obtained from a Schiavone-linked source by Frank Smist Jr., a University of Oklahoma graduate student.

The Silverman report, released on June 28, 1982, concluded that there was insufficient evidence to indict Donovan. However, an investigation was subsequently launched by the Bronx County district attorney's office, which resulted in the indictment last month of Donovan and seven Schiavone officials, including Levin and Schiavone, on 137 counts of larceny and fraud in relation to construction contracts on a New York City subway tunnel.

In a telephone interview, Levin acknowledged the Steinberg connection. "I've talked with Jeff from time to time," he said. He also said that he and Schiavone had once met together with Steinberg and had maintained phone contact with him since then for mutual exchanges of information.

For the most part, the 1981-82 LaRouchian efforts to build ties with cabinet members were not very successful. James Watt, for instance, recalls that LaRouche "used all the right words, but you instinctively felt something was off." Nevertheless, the LaRouchians made full use of the publicity value of these contacts in order to legitimize their standing in Washington, while moving to form ties with important national security and intelligence officials as well as weapons scientists on top-secret projects.

THE STORY of the LaRouche group's national security contacts was first raised last March on NBC's now defunct "First Camera" by Emmy award-winner Pat Lynch. In preparing her report, Lynch obtained from LaRouchian defectors the names of many of the Administration officials who had met privately with LaRouche or his aides. One of those Lynch interviewed was Dr. Norman Bailey, who had resigned in December 1983 from his posts as a special assistant to the President and as the N.S.C.'s senior director of international economic affairs. Bailey not only confirmed the defectors' allegations about extensive LaRouchian ties with the Administration; he justified them by claiming that LaRouche has "one of the best private intelligence services in the world."

The NBC program also touched on LaRouche's neo-Nazi teachings, his organization's threats against reporters, and an alleged discussion in 1977—by LaRouche and several of his aides—of a scheme to assassinate Jimmy Carter by remote-controlled radio bomb. (The latter charge is one of the issues in a libel suit LaRouche filed against NBC and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, charging they had "conspired" to defame

him; the trial is currently underway at the Federal District courthouse in Alexandria, Virginia.) The day following the "First Camera" show, Democratic National Committee Chairman Charles Manatt called on President Reagan to "end the shocking White House involvement" with LaRouche. But White House spokesman Larry Speakes, responding to a question about LaRouche at a briefing later that week, said that the Administration's policy is to talk to "any American citizen" who might have "helpful" information.

THE HEART of the relationship between LaRouche and Administration officials is not any deep affinity for LaRouche's ideology. Even those who have dealt with LaRouche closely are careful to disassociate themselves from his conspiracy theories. Interviews with a number of these individuals revealed that, in every case, the basis of the relationship is a philosophy of "use." N.S.C. officials such as Bailey have found the LaRouchians' intelligence-gathering to be useful in the formulation of policy. Government scientists, in some instances, have found the support of LaRouche front groups for fusion energy and star wars weaponry to be helpful in making these arcane subjects known to a wide public.

John Cusack, chief of staff of the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control and formerly a high-level Drug Enforcement Administration official, recalls how in 1981 the LaRouchians "established some measure of credentials" by aggressively championing issues such as drug enforcement in which the Administration was interested. According to Cusack, they moved into a "vacuum. . . . They were ringing doorbells when no one else would. They were saying the right things for the Reagan Administration."

LaRouche's attitude toward the relationship appears to be every bit as opportunistic as that of the Administration. Dr. Steven Bardwell, a plasma physicist and LaRouche science adviser, resigned from the N.C.L.C. last winter because he believed its ideology was being compromised by LaRouche's frantic attempts to piggyback off the Administration. "We are being led around by the nose," Dr. Bardwell wrote in a memo before he quit, "by our perception of what the Reagan Administration wants us to do and say. At the point, nine months ago, that Reagan adopted an approximation of our [beam weapons] policy, our N.S.C./C.I.A./D.I.A. 'connections' acquired a powerful hold over us. We now began to bend our polemics, public statements, intelligence tasks, and terms of reference to suit our newly acquired clients."

But if the relationship is opportunistic rather than ideological, it is not any less repugnant. One friend of the Administration who sees this clearly is Henry Kissinger, who described to us the anti-Semitic harassment he has experienced from the LaRouchians. We outlined for him LaRouche's meetings with high Administration officials, including C.I.A. officials. "If this is true," Kissinger said, "it would be outrageous, stupid, and nearly unforgivable."

LAROUCHE AND THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

IN SPITE of LaRouche's scurrilous attacks on Kissinger and other distinguished public figures, some members of the Administration have been willing to listen to him. For instance, between early 1981 and early 1984, the LaRouchians held a range of meetings not just with Norman Bailey but also with other N.S.C. aides, including Richard Morris, a special assistant to President Reagan's then National Security Adviser, William Clark; and Dr. Ray Pollock, who was the N.S.C.'s director of defense programs.

Bailey, now a partner with former C.I.A. director William Colby in a Washington consulting firm and an adviser to the Reagan-Bush '84 campaign, told us he had met with the LaRouchians between eight and twelve times, including three meetings with LaRouche himself. Bailey said the first meeting, in the spring of 1982, was arranged by a "top assistant" to Clark. Despite Bailey's initial reservations (he had sued the LaRouchians in 1975 after they called him a "fascist"), he was struck by their support for Administration policy on such issues as beam weapons, nuclear power, and industrial revitalization. He says he gained use-

ful information "from time to time" which he would "jot down and pass on."

Citing a June 1984 meeting between LaRouche and President Raúl Alfonsín of Argentina, Bailey said, "These people are like ferrets. They get to see very high [foreign] officials, who sometimes open up to them." (In fact, LaRouche has gained at least two meetings with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, and he met in 1982 with Mexican President López-Portillo.) Bailey said that his own chats with the LaRouchians fit into his task of monitoring the attitudes of Third World leaders toward the debt crisis. He suggested that LaRouche may have shown "a certain amount of prescience" in calling attention to the debt crisis at a time when only a minority of economists were concerned about it.

Bailey confirmed that he had gone to LaRouche's mansion in Leesburg, Virginia, for dinner last spring. "I was

curious," said Bailey. He praised the gourmet dinner and described the estate as guarded by "very heavy security," with dogs and a chain-linked fence.

Bailey told us that LaRouche is "not at all an anti-Semite." Shown an editorial from LaRouche's newspaper, *New Solidarity*, entitled, "Register the Zionist Lobby As Foreign Agents," Bailey said: "A lot of people are anti-Zionist without being anti-Semitic."

Former national security aide Richard Morris, who is now Clark's counselor at the Department of Interior, also had extensive contacts with LaRouche's followers. He told us he had met with LaRouche on two occasions and had talked to him on the phone "from time to time." Morris said that he disagrees "in large respects" with the ideology

of the LaRouchians, but that he finds their information and impressions useful. "They get to meet officials of South American governments," he said, also citing their trips to China. In Morris's view, some of LaRouche's followers are "very sound." He described them as "trained academics" who come up with "good factual information."

Morris said that the LaRouchians sent "voluminous material" to the N.S.C. during Clark's tenure, but that none of it got to President Reagan. He said he didn't know if any of the material reached Clark. (Last June, La-



LYNDON LAROUCHE BY VINT LAWRENCE FOR THE NEW REPUBLIC

Rouche stated under oath, in a deposition in *LaRouche v. NBC*, that he once received a message from Clark in response to a memo. "There was a need for him to know and a need for me to know he received the information," said LaRouche, who described the information as classified.)

Morris admitted that "there's politically a lot of downside" to the LaRouche connection, but he believes it "may be wrong" to make a "flat prohibition" against Administration dealings with the LaRouche organization. "There's a First Amendment even for those you don't agree with," he said, apparently confusing LaRouche's right to free speech with a right to meet personally with high government officials.

Perhaps the most significant of LaRouche's N.S.C. contacts was Dr. Ray Pollock—one of the chief architects of Reagan's star wars policy. Pollock, who resigned from the Administration early this year, told us of two meetings he

THE WORLD ACCORDING TO LAROUCHE

Before his conversion to far-right ideas in the mid-1970s, Lyndon LaRouche had been immersed in far-left groups and ideologies for three decades. An army medic during World War II, he broke with the pacifism of his Quaker parents and drifted from sect to left-wing sect, ending up in 1948 a member of the Trotskyist Socialist Workers Party and taking the name "Lyn Marcus," after Lenin and Marx. In the mid-'60s he formed his own group, the New York Labor Committee, which became a faction of Students for a Democratic Society and played a significant role in the 1968 student strike at Columbia University.

When S.D.S. expelled LaRouche's followers, he promptly renamed his group the "National Caucus of Labor Committees" and began to teach that capitalism would be overthrown within a decade via the N.C.L.C.'s "ruthless" leadership. In 1973, still claiming to be on the left but in reality shifting slowly to the right, LaRouche began "Operation Mop-Up," a series of some forty muggings of members of left-wing groups (including the Communist Party and the S.W.P.). His followers—armed with numchukas and clubs—traveled in packs from city to city, often attacking lone individuals. Many required hospital treatment, and several LaRouche followers were arrested for assault.

In December 1973 LaRouche announced that he was the target of a C.I.A.-based assassination conspiracy. The agency, according to LaRouche, was kidnapping his followers, brainwashing them via homosexual rape, and transforming them into Manchurian-candidate-style assassins who would be triggered by code words. Those who believed this fantasy proved their readiness for LaRouche's next step: the open move to the extreme right.

In a 1977 issue of *Campaigner*, the N.C.L.C. theoretical magazine, LaRouche explained that his alliance

with the left had been only tactical. The theories of Marx were now deemed inadequate—though still superior to those of Mill (a "thug"), Hume (a "conscious thug"), Ricardo (a "lying thug"), Malthus (a "paid thug"), and Adam Smith (a "hired thug"). In order to defeat "neo-Fabian assaults," the LaRouchians would henceforth promote "capitalist development," in the process becoming a "tough bunch."

LaRouche showed what he meant when he deployed his followers to Georgia in 1978-79 to undergo training in "counterforce" at the estate of Mitchell WerBell III, a manufacturer of silent machine guns. By this time, LaRouche had formed a close alliance with Ku Klux Klan elements and with Willis Carto's Liberty Lobby, and he had adopted openly anti-Semitic rhetoric. LaRouche's newspaper, *New Solidarity*, announced that Zionism is an evil cult, that a cabal of Jews controls organized crime, that the Holocaust was "mythical," and that B'nai B'rith "resurrects the tradition of the Jews who demanded the crucifixion of Jesus Christ."

LaRouche's anti-Semitism is the basis of an elaborate theory which sees all history as a conflict between an unutterably evil "oligarchy" of "usurers" with an "Aristotelian" philosophy and the equally determined (but less well-organized) forces of "neo-Platonic humanism," whose leaders have included Alexander the Great, Charlemagne, and, more recently, Lyndon LaRouche. Down through the centuries, LaRouche argues, the evil oligarchy has committed monstrous crimes against humanity. It undermined ancient Greek civilization via Asiatic sex cults, poisoned medieval popes, ran the slave trade, and (after moving its headquarters to Britain in the seventeenth century) assassinated Abraham Lincoln, killed John F. Kennedy, and invented heroin.

LaRouche regards his "neo-Platonic humanist" troops as the nucleus of a super-race of "golden souls," and, in describing the enemy, he has developed the concept of a separate biological species, the "Zionist-British organism," which "must be destroyed so that human-

ity might live." Indeed, the LaRouchian program contains many elements of neo-Nazism: "dictatorship-in-fact" of industrial capitalism; "immediate elimination" of Jewish influence in business, government, and labor; a demand for a "permanent Special Prosecutor's office" to try Jews for treason; a call for a Germanophiliac remodeling of American culture; and a call for "total mobilization" in preparation for "total war."

Those who criticize LaRouche are invariably seen as part of the enemy plot. When TNR published a short piece on LaRouche nine months ago ("Paranoid Politics," by Peter Spiro, February 6), *New Solidarity* responded with a broadside describing TNR as a tool of a vast network including the K.G.B., the A.D.L., the F.B.I., the I.L.G.W.U., Murder, Inc., the British Secret Service, and *National Review*. This conspiracy, *New Solidarity* charged, had plotted "a major assassination attempt against Lyndon LaRouche" in 1978.

This fall, during a half-hour paid political broadcast on the CBS television network between 8:30 and 9 P.M. on October 23, LaRouche announced, "Walter F. Mondale is an agent of influence of the Soviet secret intelligence services." This, he said, "is a matter of plain, straightforward, documented fact." Furthermore, Mondale's role as a "conscious agent of Soviet influence" is part of a huge "treasonous operation" which includes the West German Green Party, Willy Brandt, "the Swiss-controlled grain cartel," Henry A. Kissinger, and—as an apparent afterthought—"NEW REPUBLIC circles." In his current race for President, LaRouche soft-pedaled his anti-Semitism—Zionists are now referred to as "Kissinger and his friends"—but the real meaning is not lost on LaRouche's Ku Klux Klan allies. In a recent article, Michigan Klan leader Robert Miles saluted LaRouche for "exposing the neo-atheist materialism of Kissinger to the dismay of the Talmudists." The Klan, unlike many respectable figures in government, seems to understand what his movement really represents.

D.K. & R.R.

had in his N.S.C. office with LaRouche, and he also described his long history of contacts with aides of LaRouche: first as a scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory, then as a Department of Energy adviser, and finally at the N.S.C.

POLLOCK STATED that "LaRouche is a frightening kind of fellow." But he too was intrigued by LaRouche's talented followers. Pollock's initial contact was Chuck Stevens, an engineer who works for the Fusion Energy Foundation and who began calling Pollock when Pollock was at Los Alamos. Pollock said that Stevens and other F.E.F. members "had interesting rumors about the fusion community," which he said "speaks well for their intelligence network."

While at the D.O.E., Pollock would sometimes have lunch with Stevens. After moving to the N.S.C., he continued to talk with Stevens on the phone, and he met on several occasions with other LaRouche science aides who were vigorously promoting a new Manhattan Project for beam weapons. He was especially impressed by the arguments of Dr. Uwe Henke von Parpart, LaRouche's top science adviser. However, Pollock declined offers from the LaRouchians to pay his way to LaRouche-sponsored beam weapons conferences in Paris and Thailand.

Pollock said he first met with LaRouche in early 1983 at the request of Morris. Morris sat in on the meeting, as did LaRouche's wife, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, and they discussed West German politics. At the second meeting, in the fall of 1983, during which LaRouche outlined an alleged conspiracy of European oligarchical families, Pollock says that LaRouche sought to use him to "get to the judge," meaning National Security Adviser Clark. Pollock somewhat reluctantly put LaRouche's comments into a one-page memo and "sent it across the street to Clark."

A common theme emphasized by Bailey, Morris, and Pollock was their belief that LaRouche's aides, in contrast to LaRouche himself, are rational individuals and that these aides, not LaRouche, are the chief source of valuable information. However, the research and propaganda efforts of LaRouchian aides who have met with N.S.C. officials do not reveal much rationality. One of those aides is Jeffrey Steinberg, LaRouche's security chief, who stated, in a June 1984 deposition in *LaRouche v. NBC*, that he had visited the Executive Office Building (which houses the N.S.C.) eight to ten times in the previous year. Steinberg is a co-author of *Dope, Inc.*, a book commissioned by LaRouche which blames the international drug traffic on the Queen of England and prominent American Jews. There is also the case of Dr. von Parpart and of LaRouche economics adviser David Goldman (who was Norman Bailey's chief N.C.L.C. contact); in 1978 von Parpart and Goldman jointly signed a *New Solidarity* article in which they accused Jewish "traitors" of stealing America's H-bomb secrets for Israel and then suggested: "Both superpower governments should make terrifyingly clear—and if the Ameri-

can government does not, the Soviets should do so unilaterally—that if Israel explodes a nuclear weapon of any sort . . . it will immediately be annihilated by nuclear counter-attack of the superpowers."

Apparently the N.S.C. is not the only arm of the Administration that perceives method in the LaRouchian madness. In January 1983, at a point when the LaRouchian meetings with N.S.C. officials were well in progress, the State Department transmitted a priority cable to the Bonn embassy, titled, "State Policy Re Anti-LaRouche Disorganizing Activity." Sent under George Shultz's name, the cable quoted a complaint from a LaRouchian journalist that "certain U.S. embassy officials abroad" were trying to dissuade individuals in foreign countries from associating with LaRouche. The cable then quoted the official response, which stated that negative characterizations of U.S. political figures "are not authorized" and that officials should "refrain from offering personal opinions while acting in their official capacities." The clear implication was that LaRouche should be allowed to continue representing himself in Germany, without refutation, as a major American figure and friend of the Administration.

LAROUCHE AND THE DEFENSE SCIENTISTS

LAROUCHE HAS been just as determined to gain standing in the community of defense scientists as he has to win the confidence of Administration policymakers. His chief tactic has been to associate his work with that of Dr. Edward Teller, the father of the H-bomb, who is a member of the White House Science Council and who played a key role in the development of the Strategic Defense Initiative (S.D.I.), the official star wars program. LaRouche's followers constantly print Teller's picture in their publications with glowing accounts of his work, claiming that he and LaRouche are working toward the same goal. In early 1983, LaRouche even began to term his own beam weapons scheme the "LaRouche-Teller proposal."

Teller denies cooperating with the LaRouchians. He says that in the early 1970s they accused him of "genocide," but that in 1976 they suddenly began to "assail" him with overtures of friendship. He adds that he's been "more disturbed by their friendship than by their attacks." Although he has chatted with F.E.F. representatives on the phone, he has declined all invitations to meet with LaRouche, whom he describes as a "poorly informed man with fantastic conceptions."

Yet Teller, throughout the early 1980s, remained silent while the LaRouchians used his name to open doors in Washington and in half-a-dozen European cities. Teller now believes he should have denounced LaRouche earlier, but says he was reluctant to "criticize someone for agreeing with my ideas."

After interviewing Teller, we obtained a *New Solidarity* article reporting on a LaRouche-sponsored beam weapons

conference in Paris last March. According to the article, LaRouche addressed the conference, as did Dr. Robert Budwine—a major star wars scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and a close personal friend of Teller—who reportedly included in his speech “a message to the Europeans present from Dr. Edward Teller.”

Budwine confirmed that he had addressed the Paris conference and that the LaRouchians had paid his way. He described the LaRouchian story of the message from Teller as a “total fabrication.” Teller, however, said in a follow-up telephone conversation, “I may have told Dr. Budwine to give LaRouche my regards, out of politeness.” Teller emphasized that no support for the conference had been “intended or implied.” Teller said that he had advised Budwine not to attend the conference, “but perhaps not strongly enough,” and that he had subsequently advised Budwine—who had also spoken at a LaRouche conference in Bangkok—not to attend any more such events. However, Teller admitted having met with Colonel Marc Geneste, a French neutron bomb expert who is close to LaRouche and who recently went on a LaRouche-sponsored speaking tour of the United States. Teller described his meeting with Geneste, which focused on the S.D.I., as “totally friendly.”

Teller and Budwine agreed that Budwine had initially contacted the LaRouchians last year as a favor to Teller, whom the LaRouchians had been pressuring for a show of support. Budwine said that he hadn’t known LaRouche “from Adam,” and that his motive had been simply to take the pressure off Teller. But something happened which Teller hadn’t intended. Budwine, by his own account, became intrigued with the LaRouche organization and was drawn for several months into the periphery of its activities. He began to attend LaRouchian events, such as the annual conference of the N.C.L.C. last January at LaRouche’s mansion in Virginia. He became friendly with a number of LaRouche’s top aides, including Dr. von Parpart. He also spent several hours in “one-on-one” conversations with LaRouche, discussing Platonism, Indo-European root languages, and other favorite LaRouchian themes.

BUDWINE RECOGNIZED LaRouche’s ideas as “unmitigated pseudoscience,” and said so to LaRouche’s aides. But he also felt drawn to the group on another level. In describing the January conference, he said: “Their warmth and concern for each other was remarkable. They had baroque harpsichord music in the background, like they were attempting to re-create an eighteenth-century salon.”

It was Budwine’s scientific training that prevented him from being swayed by the intensive LaRouchian recruiting effort. “They kept talking about this great method they have, but I kept asking: ‘What kind of method is it that consistently gives you the wrong answers?’” Budwine began to read up on the subject of political and religious cults. Today, he believes that “LaRouche is not a serious man, he’s even less than that . . . LaRouche is crazy.”

Another important figure in star wars research is Dr. John Nuckolls, associate director for physics at Lawrence Livermore and the man to whom the miracle-shield weapons research team—the “O Group”—reports. Nuckolls says that he has had extensive contact with the LaRouchians and that he was once an F.E.F. member. He says their attempts to “break the classification barrier” sometimes makes “interaction difficult.” He confessed to being “puzzled” over whether or not their promotional activities on behalf of government weapons programs are “positive or negative,” but said, “It may be useful to have someone at the grass-roots—assuming they are at the grass-roots.” He said he didn’t want to either attack or defend them. “We have a common interest,” he added, citing both fusion research and the S.D.I.

SOME DEFENSE EXPERTS have expressed concern that the extremist N.C.L.C. has succeeded in getting so close to the defense science community. One such expert is Major General George Keegan Jr., retired, former Chief of Air Force Intelligence and one of the first prominent Americans to advocate, in the mid-1970s, a star wars defense system. Keegan charges that the LaRouchians have been “successful in penetrating every private and government organization in the United States” involved in fusion research (a key area of research underlying laser and particle beam weapons development) and in the monitoring of Soviet fusion developments. “I have observed with a sense of mounting shock,” he says, “their success in eliciting what I thought was sensitive information.”

Keegan’s view is not shared by General James Abrahamson, director of the S.D.I. (and a subject of adulation in LaRouche’s publications), who says he is not aware of any “special access” of the LaRouchians to classified information. He adds, however, that “his [LaRouche’s] people do understand the technology” of the S.D.I. (This is a curious qualifier if, as Dr. Nuckolls told us, it is impossible to understand the technology without having access to classified information.)

In part, Keegan’s concern is that the LaRouche organization’s information could find its way into the hands of the Soviets. This worry is shared by the Heritage Foundation, which, in a report on LaRouche released last July, noted secret meetings in the mid-1970s between the LaRouchians and Soviet U.N. official Gennady N. Serebryakov (a connection first described in the *National Review* in 1979). The report also accused a LaRouche follower of attempting, more recently, “to obtain from a member of the House Armed Services Committee staff the range of the U.S. cruise missile—one of America’s most sensitive military secrets.” (According to John Bosma, editor of *Military Space*, the incident occurred in 1981, and the LaRouchian was attempting to find out the missile’s odometer range.)

That conservatives are not just paranoid about the compulsive curiosity of the LaRouchians is suggested by a January 19, 1981, confidential memorandum from one of

LaRouche's top security aides to the leadership of the N.C.L.C. The memo, although ostensibly depicting N.C.L.C. members as victims of Soviet K.G.B. tricks, refers to Serebryakov as a "certain U.N. contact" and mentions trips by F.E.F. scientists to Moscow "for Scientific collaboration." It says that one of these trips resulted in an "incident" in which an unnamed LaRouchian wrote up a ninety-page report "on the U.S. scientific community" and that "the Soviets found the information given to them quite useful." The 1981 memo suggests that if a "national security problem" should surface in relation to the incident, "our open policy commitment [sic] to public cooperation with the Soviets on scientific and related questions makes our defense nearly airtight." The memo then goes on to complain about anti-N.C.L.C. influences on the Soviets, allegedly emanating from the Communist Party U.S.A., which the memo says are "a continual nuisance in our having clear channels into the Soviets."

According to *Fusion* magazine, two F.E.F. staff members did travel to Moscow in December 1978 to attend a conference on "laser interaction." In addition, N.C.L.C. defectors recall a slide show given by a LaRouche science aide after returning from a tour of a Soviet science complex near Novosibirsk in central Siberia.

LAROUCHE AND STAR WARS

APART FROM the question of security leaks, have the LaRouchians gained any significant influence over S.D.I. policymakers? The responses of Administration officials and defense scientists to this question were contradictory and often ambiguous. Norman Bailey, in an untelevised portion of his interview with Pat Lynch, noted that the LaRouchians "are very strongly in favor of certain [Administration] programs" such as "the defensive technologies that the President mentioned in his [star wars] speech." Bailey also said that President Reagan's and Mr. LaRouche's "policy views" on these defensive technologies "coincide." Ray Pollock—who was one of several Administration aides who actually developed the policy underlying President Reagan's star wars speech—denies that LaRouchian enthusiasm for the S.D.I. ever resulted in any real influence on Administration thinking. Yet Pollock frankly acknowledges that he engaged in several discussions of the S.D.I. with LaRouche's emissaries, and that he had found potential "merit" in their ideas on the economic "spin-offs" from the S.D.I.

Among weapons scientists, Dr. Nuckolls was quick to say the LaRouchians had not influenced the S.D.I. But Dr. Lowell Wood—chief of the "O Group" and perhaps the nation's leading star wars scientist—would not give any such blanket assurance. According to Wood, the LaRouchians told him they had met with top N.S.C. and Pentagon officials, including personal aides to President Reagan. Although Wood, who himself enjoys access to high Administration aides, has not attempted to confirm

these boasts, he did say that "many government figures—members of the present [Administration]"—had remarked to him about the "quality, speed, and accuracy" of the LaRouche intelligence operation.

IN FACT, the LaRouche organization began pushing for a version of the S.D.I. long before most government officials and defense scientists even began thinking about it. In 1977 the N.C.L.C.'s Dr. Bardwell met twice with General Keegan, and the LaRouchians published a pamphlet that year in which they argued that the development of particle beam weapons is "crucial to this nation's survival." Although Keegan soon terminated all contact with the LaRouchians because of his uneasiness over their politics, they continued their work without him through articles in *Fusion*, careful monitoring of relevant Soviet literature in plasma physics, and polemics against scientists skeptical of particle beam technologies.

But the heart of their work in this area during the Carter Administration was the cultivation of scientists in fusion research—the springboard of the star wars technology. Important in this effort was a pragmatic relationship formed with several scientists in the Carter Administration's Department of Energy, who found the F.E.F. useful in promoting the cause of fusion research and were willing to speak at its conferences and otherwise lend their prestige to its organizing efforts.

For instance, Dr. John Clarke, then the deputy director of the Office of Fusion Energy, and today its director, praised the F.E.F. in a 1978 speech for its "courage" in championing high technology and acknowledged the fusion community's "debt of gratitude." (The F.E.F. promptly used the statement in a drive to sign up new members; and Dr. Clarke reaffirmed the statement in answer to queries, according to Freedom of Information documents released by the Department of Energy.)

Dr. Stephen Dean, director of Magnetic Confinement Systems in the Office of Fusion Energy, also spoke at F.E.F. events, including a conference staged to promote the Palestinian and Arab cause, with Dr. Clovis Maksoud of the Arab League as the keynote speaker. Dean continued to cooperate with the F.E.F. after he left the government, and even accompanied a LaRouche science aide on an F.E.F.-arranged trip to India, where the two had an audience with fusion enthusiast Indira Gandhi. In a recent phone interview, Dean indicated that he and other leading fusion scientists continue to have sympathy for the F.E.F.'s work. "I don't think they've done the country any harm," he said. "It makes life exciting to have them around."

None of the past or present Department of Energy scientists who helped the F.E.F. ever had much sympathy for the group's conspiracy theories. However, the LaRouchians did manage to develop a more ideological relationship with two maverick university-based fusion scientists, Dr. Winston Bostick and Dr. Friedwardt Winterberg. Bostick, who became involved in beam weapons-related

research at the Kirtland Air Force Base weapons laboratory from 1979 to 1983, confirmed in a recent telephone interview that he supports many of LaRouche's political positions, including LaRouche's attempts to promote "German military, scientific, cultural, and economic traditions" among Americans. Winterberg, who volunteered ideas on beam weapons to the Air Force in the late 1970s and continues to speculate on the subject, has collaborated with the LaRouchians in a variety of ways, including foreign speaking tours for the F.E.F. In 1981 he provided them with diagrams of such esoterica as a "Nuclear X-Ray Laser Weapon Using Thermonuclear Explosives," which they promptly published in *Fusion*. He then wrote them a manual on how to make an H-bomb.

By the end of the Carter Administration, the F.E.F. was claiming thousands of members in the science and engineering community (on paper, at least) and over 80,000 *Fusion* subscribers. In 1980 one F.E.F. physicist wangled an invitation to give a lecture on the military applications of fusion power at West Point, and another spoke to a sizable audience of weapons scientists at Lawrence Livermore. With the enhanced credibility came many donations; and, in fiscal year 1980-81, the F.E.F. reported an income of close to \$2 million.

In April 1981 LaRouche's *New Solidarity* reported that President Reagan "is known to favor a space-based ABM system." This information was apparently one reason that the F.E.F. began in 1981 to shift its main focus from fusion research to particle and laser beam weapons. In May 1981 the F.E.F. held a Washington conference to publicize new studies of "anti-missile beam potentials." The following February, LaRouche himself proposed at an *EIR* forum in Washington that a public drive for "defensive" beam weapons be stimulated to counter the nuclear freeze movement. LaRouche then issued a report which advocated beam weapons in greater detail—to bring about a "modern" U.S. military policy. In May 1982 the F.E.F. circulated to scientists and the Pentagon a "white paper" on beam weapons written by Dr. Bardwell. In August the F.E.F. distributed a special report on the X-ray laser concept to members of Congress, and this was followed up by several "briefings" for Capitol Hill aides.

MEANWHILE the LaRouchians were following closely the lobbying for a space-based ABM system that was being conducted by Teller, Wood, and other scientists. LaRouche's publications reported, for instance, on a September 1982 meeting between Teller and President Reagan and a subsequent speech by Teller before the National Press Club. When President Reagan, on March 23, 1983, surprised the public and the media—and even many top scientists—with his historic star wars speech, he apparently did not surprise the LaRouchians. One month before Reagan's speech, LaRouche had issued a call to his followers to intensify their campaign of petitions and lobbying for beam weapons, with the aim, LaRouche said, "to make 'defensive beam weapons' a household word in America . . . during the month of March."

After Reagan's speech, the media turned to the F.E.F. as a legitimate source for explaining what the President had in mind. F.E.F. spokesmen were quoted in wire service reports, syndicated columns, *The Washington Post*, and many local newspapers across the country. In their own publications, the LaRouchians were quick to claim a major share of the credit for the star wars policy, even describing LaRouche as its "intellectual author." According to Ray Pollock, they "flooded Capitol Hill" with such claims. He recalls that some people in the Administration and on the Hill became "concerned," but that "no action was taken to straighten out the record."

The LaRouchians promoted the President's new policy on various fronts. Their spokesmen testified at Congressional hearings and lobbied for beam weapon resolutions in several state legislatures. Beam weapons became a major theme of their electoral campaigns and of speaking tours by F.E.F. scientists. In the summer of 1983 the *EIR* published two "forecast reviews" on classified beam technology studies being prepared by the National Security Council. In October 1983 the F.E.F. held a seminar on beam weapons in the Dirksen Office Building. Dr. Pollock, who attended this meeting, recalls that "the room was full" and that many "government people" were there.

In Europe, the LaRouche-controlled European Labor Party organized a series of seminars to build support for NATO participation in the S.D.I. Working in close cooperation with Colonel Geneste, the E.L.P. managed to attract a number of French, German, and Italian generals to these seminars. At a LaRouchian conference in Rome in November 1983, General Volney Warner, retired, former Commander in Chief of the U.S. Readiness Command, shared the platform with LaRouche himself. Warner believed at the time that the LaRouchians had done some positive work in support of the S.D.I., but he now says he'd "like to disappear over the horizon in respect to that meeting and organization."

THE LAROUCHIANS have not exactly been scorned by the Pentagon. According to John d'Amecourt, programs director for the Department of Defense public affairs office, his staff "has been able to assist them [the LaRouchians] in the past" by supplying speakers. He said that last May a rally held by LaRouche's Schiller Institute in Crystal City, Virginia, was attended by two guest speakers from the Pentagon: Brigadier General Anthony Smith, who is principal director for European and NATO policy in the Department of Defense's International Security Policy Division; and Franklin Miller, the civilian director of Strategic Forces Policy in the same division. Interestingly, when they arrived they found not the 2,000 people the LaRouchians had promised, but only a small gathering of veterans.

D'Amecourt said that, after this experience, when the LaRouchians requested a speaker for an event in West Germany in September, no one was willing to go. He speculated that the LaRouchian attacks on Henry Kissinger—which he described as something "I wouldn't

even do to the worst Democrat or liberal"—may also have triggered the reluctance. However, d'Amecourt said that the LaRouchians are still regarded by his office as a "conservative group" and as "very supportive of the Administration in general." Thus he still dutifully attempts to find them speakers, although he concedes he would not do so for, say, the Communist Party. "We don't want to be associated with something that would give the Department a bad name," he added.

A high-level Pentagon official with a similarly ambiguous attitude toward the LaRouchians is Dr. Richard DeLauer, Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and civilian head of the S.D.I. In 1981, DeLauer, a former executive vice president of TRW Inc., granted a lengthy interview to LaRouche's *EIR* in his Pentagon office. According to the text of the interview, DeLauer took the opportunity to fulminate on standard conservative themes. He blamed the weaknesses of American science on a decade of the "greening of America" and the influence of "gurus" who "took advantage of food stamps." During the interview, he was asked about his assessment of Soviet progress in the area of space-based ABM systems. DeLauer answered that his information on the subject came from reading *Aviation Week & Space Technology* and the *EIR*. He said, citing the opinion of one of his aides, "you guys are supposed to know more about it than anybody else."

Today, DeLauer says that the statement about *EIR*'s expertise was an expression of his "exasperation" with the interviewer. As for LaRouche, he said, "I have no use for that guy and his opinions." Yet DeLauer (who has recently been attacked in LaRouchian publications for his alleged "go slow" attitude on the S.D.I.) made an exception for the F.E.F., praising it for being "the only active group that opposes Jane Fonda" and for its championing of nuclear power. "In their support of nuclear power—in that sense—I support them," DeLauer said, and revealed that he had given them a financial donation. Asked about an obscene anti-Jane Fonda bumper sticker sold by the F.E.F., DeLauer said, chuckling, "I got another one [F.E.F. slogan] for you: 'More people have been killed in the back seat of Ted Kennedy's car than in a nuclear reactor!'" Nevertheless, DeLauer stuck to his main theme: the LaRouchians have "no standing whatsoever" with the Defense Department.

LAROUCHE AND 'TOTAL WAR'

ALTHOUGH LAROUCHE has referred publicly to beam weapons as a "defensive" system, his real agenda is a wild fantasy which has nothing to do with legitimate defense considerations. In 1978, in a series of articles on "total war" for *New Solidarity*, he described how a militarized United States under his leadership could achieve permanent worldwide "hegemony." "I propose to win wars," he said, arguing that such wars should aim at "progressive liquidation" of governments that refused

to surrender and "total victory" over the "last bastion" of the enemy. Correct military policy, he wrote, "has always centered on viewing warfare as the work of God. . . ." For the sake of "humanity," America "must crush [the] forces of evil" and bring them under "firm-handed (if loving) rule." In explaining this doctrine, LaRouche outlined a strategy for a combined A.B.C. (atomic, bacteriological, and chemical) attack on the enemy "to the purpose of exterminating every possible means of opposition within the frontal area."

LaRouche conceded, in his 1978 writings, that between 120 and 180 million Americans would die in the initial A.B.C. exchange. He later apparently decided this was excessive, and stepped up his agitation for "defensive" beam weapons, while refining the concept of "total mobilization" to include mobilizing the American economy for a vast super-Manhattan Project to build the ultimate antiballistic missile shield. The fact that his basic goal has not changed, however, was confirmed by Dr. Steven Bardwell in his January 1984 N.C.L.C. memorandum prior to his resignation. Bardwell, LaRouche's chief expert on beam weapons, charged that the N.C.L.C. has taken the defensive star wars strategy of Dr. Teller and distorted it into a "first strike" policy. He charged that this distortion, which includes advocacy of "a massive in-width military build-up in the U.S.," is really based upon a denial of "the right of the Soviet Union to exist [in its present form]." Bardwell also revealed that LaRouche has gone beyond schemes for A.B.C. warfare and is now speculating about "Doomsday weapons," including "cobalt bombs with fans."

LAROUCHE AND THE C.I.A.

IF LAROUCHE dreams of conquering the world, he also dreams of becoming its number-one spymaster. Indeed, ex-members have compared him to General Midwinter, the wealthy Texas super-patriot in Len Deighton's *The Billion Dollar Brain* who finances an intelligence apparatus run by a giant computer. During the early Carter Administration, LaRouche took note of the cutbacks in the clandestine services and announced that he would take up the slack. He already had a small intelligence operation, which he gradually upgraded. His followers established the magazine *Executive Intelligence Review*, and the job of "correspondent" became the light cover of his amateur spooks. Soon *EIR* "news bureaus" in a dozen foreign cities were transmitting a steady flow of tidbits over the telex wires to LaRouche's New York headquarters. Apart from LaRouche's own foreign travels, *EIR* correspondents began waltzing into countries such as Vietnam, where an enterprising LaRouchian gained a lengthy and candid interview with Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach in 1981.

The usefulness of such LaRouchian intelligence has been confirmed not only by N.S.C. aides but also by intelligence professionals such as Lieutenant General Daniel Graham, retired, former Chief of the Defense Intelligence Agency (and a strong opponent of LaRouche in conserva-

tive circles). Graham recalled in a telephone interview an instance in which the LaRouchians managed to gain information about Angola and Mozambique which had been unavailable from other sources.

Although the LaRouchians peddled their services to a number of foreign embassies in Washington, their chief focus was on gaining the attention and respect of the U.S. intelligence community, especially the C.I.A. According to C.I.A. documents released under the Freedom of Information Act, they deluged the C.I.A. with phone calls as early as 1976, including one to the home of then-director George Bush, pleading for an opportunity to "brief" Mr. Bush on terrorist groups. C.I.A. officials were skeptical, at the time, of LaRouche's intentions, noting his record as a Communist. In 1977, however, LaRouche hired the late Mitchell WerBell III, a far rightist with C.I.A. connections, as a security consultant and public relations man. WerBell hosted gatherings at his Georgia estate where the LaRouchians were introduced to a number of former C.I.A. agents. He also managed to entice a few active C.I.A. employees to a "safe house"—an apartment in the Crystal City Marriott near Washington—where the LaRouchians briefed them on the alleged global conspiracy behind the heroin traffic.

LaRouchian defectors say that the N.C.L.C. began in the late 1970s to utilize a former C.I.A. agent, Walter Mackem, as a consultant to supplement WerBell. Mackem had previously worked with WerBell on an ill-fated scheme to invade the island of Abaco in the Bahamas with a band of mercenaries. According to Lucien Conein, a celebrated former C.I.A. covert operations specialist now at the Drug Enforcement Administration, Mackem has been "doing something" for the LaRouchians "within the past year." Mackem, however, would only confirm "social" contacts with the LaRouchians.

THE LAROCHE organization's access to the official intelligence community took a quantum leap after Reagan came into office. According to ex-LaRouchians and former Administration officials, LaRouche's aides began to meet or maintain telephone contact with several officials at the C.I.A. and the Defense Intelligence Agency. And the C.I.A. has confirmed that LaRouche himself was able at last to penetrate into the inner sanctum of Langley.

According to Admiral Bobby Ray Inman, C.I.A. deputy director from February 1981 to June 1982, his office received a "flow of materials" from the LaRouchians, and he met once with Lyndon and Helga LaRouche at their request. The meeting at Admiral Inman's office mainly focused on Helga Zepp-LaRouche's views about the political situation in Germany. Recollecting the meeting, Inman explained that, in the late 1970s and also during the early part of the Reagan Administration, the C.I.A. needed the help of outside sources because cutbacks in C.I.A. personnel had produced an intelligence "vacuum" in some regions, especially Latin America.

Inman said that meetings with sources such as LaRouche were part of his job. This was disputed, however,

by a former top-level national security official fully familiar with C.I.A. procedure, who said the C.I.A. "has six levels of people" below the deputy director who could have met with the likes of LaRouche.

Although Inman claimed he gave the LaRouche couple "no invitation for further dialogue," he admitted that "no ongoing policy" was adopted to keep them away from the agency. Indeed, according to a C.I.A. public affairs spokesman, LaRouche was able to gain another meeting at Langley, this time with aides to Inman's successor, John McMahon. A former New York City police officer, Phil Perlona, who used to do bodyguard work for LaRouche, has described how LaRouche traveled to an April 1983 meeting at Langley (apparently the second meeting) in a security entourage which included Roy Frankhouser, the grand dragon of the Pennsylvania Ku Klux Klan, whom LaRouche had hired to watch for assassins along the way.

LAROUCHISM AT THE GRASS-ROOTS

THE REAGAN Administration's flirtation with the LaRouchians—and its failure to speak out when LaRouche boasted across the country about his influence over the President's star wars proposal—has reinforced the impression that LaRouche is a legitimate figure on the right.

LaRouche has used this appearance of legitimacy to build up his electoral front group, the National Democratic Policy Committee, which operates within the Democratic Party and purports to be the voice of conservative Democrats. The N.D.P.C., formed in 1980, has burgeoned over the last four years by emphasizing its support for key Reagan policies and by disguising LaRouchian anti-Semitism as "anti-Kissinger" rhetoric. Today, the N.D.P.C. is an impressive national electoral machine, embracing solid middle Americans—including many farmers recruited out of farm activist groups—as well as LaRouche's longtime cadre.

Although the N.D.P.C. did not achieve large votes for LaRouche himself in the 1984 Presidential primaries (he received at most 150,000 votes in about fifteen states), it has done amazingly well in grass-roots elections across the country. In 1983 it fielded over 600 candidates in twenty-five states for public office or Democratic Party posts. In 1984 the number jumped to over 2,000 candidates in at least thirty states, most of them qualifying for the ballot with no trouble. Although some of the new faces among these candidates are sincere converts to the LaRouchian ideology, others—perhaps a majority—are only in agreement with LaRouche on specific issues and either ignore or remain unaware of the core ideology. Nevertheless, N.D.P.C. candidates tend to describe themselves as "LaRouche Democrats," and the organization itself is dominated at the top by LaRouche's ideological stalwarts.

In the May 1984 Ohio primary, the N.D.P.C. ran candidates in a majority of the state's twenty-one Congressional districts and won its first Democratic nomination for Con-

gress in the Seventh. Its candidate, a farmer who is solidly rooted in his community as well as being committed to the LaRouche outlook, trounced the regular Democratic candidate with 23,000 votes to the latter's 15,000. Although the district is traditionally Republican—and the N.D.P.C. nominee is given no real chance of winning in November—the *Columbus Dispatch* nevertheless observed that this primary victory "could go down in history as the first major step in legitimizing Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr.'s Presidential campaign organization."

In Ohio's Fourth C. D., the N.D.P.C. picked up a second, but uncontested, Democratic nomination. And in Ohio's Eighth C. D., where the regular Democratic candidate dared to raise sharp questions about the N.D.P.C.'s extremist affiliations, the N.D.P.C. candidate put up a vigorous defense. The result was a near-victory for the N.D.P.C. candidate, who achieved 47 percent of the vote.

The Ohio races were not a fluke. All across the country this year, N.D.P.C. candidates made impressive showings in scores of primary races for the U.S. Senate and House and for state legislative seats. Although the majority of these races, like the Ohio ones, were in heavily Republican districts where the regular Democrats had traditionally put up little-known and undynamic candidates, the resulting record cannot be ignored: In North Carolina, the N.D.P.C. candidate for the U.S. Senate gained 127,000 votes in a three-way race, coming in second, with 15 percent, after Governor James Hunt. In Oregon, the N.D.P.C. candidate for the U.S. Senate gained 24 percent in a two-way race. In the Pennsylvania Congressional primaries, N.D.P.C. candidates contested twelve seats, receiving impressive percentages in five. The highest N.D.P.C. scorer in Pennsylvania, in the Seventeenth C. D., received 46 percent in a two-way race. In California, the N.D.P.C. candidate in the Forty-fifth C. D. received 49 percent in a two-way race. In Michigan, the N.D.P.C. candidate in the Fourth C. D. won 26 percent of the vote, coming in second in a three-way race. Also in Michigan, the N.D.P.C. candidate in the Ninth C. D. won 33 percent in a two-way race. In Georgia, in the August 14 primary, the N.D.P.C. candidate in the Sixth C. D., an airline pilot, won 24 percent in a four-way race, coming in second and thus gaining another chance at the front-runner. In the September runoff, this N.D.P.C. candidate received 17,000 votes—34 percent of the total.

BUT SUCH SHOWINGS (and there are more in other states) are not the full picture. Emphasizing a tactic of working from the bottom up, the N.D.P.C. claims to have captured this year over 200 Democratic county committee seats in California, Illinois, Florida, Massachusetts, and other states. In suburban counties around Chicago they collected 57 seats, and their candidate for Will County auditor won the Democratic nomination with more than a 3,000-vote margin over the regular Democratic candidate. Most of the county committee victories were gained by picking uncontested seats, but the fact remains:

the N.D.P.C. had candidates ready to run, no one else did.

The LaRouchians claim that the N.D.P.C. has 26,000 members in over forty-three states. Although veteran LaRouche watchers say this is an exaggeration, reports filed with the Federal Election Commission by the N.D.P.C. and by LaRouche's 1984 campaign committee list a wide range of Americans from influential walks of life who have been willing to contribute money. In the past year, LaRouche's primary and general election campaign committees (apart from the N.D.P.C.) have raised almost \$2 million in contributions and over \$3 million in loans, qualifying for \$488,396 in federal matching funds. With this money, as well as with funds from business fronts and other sources, LaRouche has been able to purchase at least fourteen half-hour spots on national television networks (and a vast number of local TV and radio spots) to promote Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative and denounce both Walter Mondale and the alleged Kissinger conspiracy. Through these television "fireside chats," LaRouche has become known, however fleetingly, to millions of Americans who had never heard of him before this year. Close observers believe that the total spending of his political and propaganda apparatus in 1984 may top \$15 million.

THE TRIAL of LaRouche's \$150 million libel suit against NBC and the Anti-Defamation League began in Federal District Court in Alexandria, Virginia, on October 22. From its inception last winter, the suit has been an embarrassment to LaRouche's followers and to their contacts in the Reagan Administration. In pretrial discovery, the LaRouchians had to reveal a number of facts about their dealings with the Administration—and also about their parallel dealings with elements of the Ku Klux Klan. As the trial approached, LaRouche's attorneys submitted a list of witnesses they might call, and included the names of Norman Bailey, Richard Morris, and a former C.I.A. deputy director, Ray Cline. On the second day of the trial, Morris—the right-hand man to William Clark—took the stand and, in his response to questions about LaRouche's dealings with the N.S.C., avoided giving any impression that the Administration's response to LaRouche had been negative. That same evening, LaRouche appeared on CBS TV to lambast Walter Mondale as an alleged Soviet agent in a half-hour paid political speech. This sequence of events was an interesting prelude to the testimony of Pat Lynch, who spent four days on the stand describing LaRouche's extremism and his links to a number of Administration and Republican figures.

As LaRouche himself takes the stand, every day brings fresh examples of the fanaticism he and his followers represent. It should be clear that they are a poisonous force in American politics. The time has come for the White House to end the cynical philosophy of "use" that has allowed LaRouche to flourish on the outskirts of this Administration. □