

LAROUCHE AND THE PATRIARCHA CRIME FAMILY

Here is the 1984 sworn testimony of Mark Nykanen, an NBC “First Camera” correspondent at the time, about his interview with George Kattar (spelled “Cator” by the court reporter), in which the New Hampshire, um, businessman—an associate of the Patriarcha crime family—told about being hired by Lyndon LaRouche to help with LaRouche’s 1980 Democratic primary presidential campaign.

There is more than meets the eye here. LaRouche was also paying associates of the Meli crime family in Detroit to help with his campaign (they were probably the ones who suggested he go to Kattar). In addition, the campaign was getting help from Mitch WerBell III, the owner of a Powder Springs, GA counter-terrorist training school, who had been the reputed partner of Cleveland crime lord John Nardi in a drug smuggling operation (the defendants were acquitted in Miami federal court after the government’s key witness was killed in a fortuitous small-plane crash).

LaRouche insanely tried to stiff all three sets of advisers. Then there was a sudden panic in the org—LaRouche targeted for assassination! Huge sums of money needed fast! One way the org attempted to get the cash was by looting Computron Technologies Corp., a LaRouche-affiliated software business. One shouldn’t feel sorry for Computron’s owners—they’d just finished running what appears to have been a successful shakedown operation on Atlantic City casino operator Resorts International. It was Computron’s creditors (the firm filed for bankruptcy protection shortly after the end of LaRouche’s campaign) who may have ended up paying the bill to save *Der Abscheulicher*’s arm from the piranha tank.

Note: If anyone really threatened LaRouche’s physical well-being it was probably Kattar. The guys from Detroit had bigger fish to fry, like taking over LaRouche’s financial printing business in Detroit. As to WerBell, he was running a complicated scam on the LaRouchians that would have enabled him to easily recoup, albeit indirectly, the helicopter bill for LaRouche’s monomaniacal hail-to-the-chief flight from the Atlanta airport to WerBell’s farm during a 1980 campaign tour. WerBell’s confidence game (taken over by Ku Klux Klan grand dragon Roy Frankhouser after WerBell’s death) involved inventing assassination threats against LaRouche and then providing protection. (The CIA may also have been involved to the extent of paying WerBell, but not Frankhouser, to act as its arm’s length “handler” of the useful but toxic LaRouche cult.)

You can read more about Lyndon’s adventures in Mob Land (and then in Cocaine Dictator Land) in Part Nine (chapters 34-38) of my book *Lyndon LaRouche and the New American Fascism* (full text at <http://lyndonlarouchewatch.org/newamericanfascism.htm>). The story of his 1980 presidential campaign is in chapter 11. Further details on LaRouche’s bizarre dealings with mobsters and labor hoodlums can be found at <http://lyndonlarouchewatch.org/teamsterhoods.htm>.

The trial transcript pages that follow are from *LaRouche vs. National Broadcasting Company, Inc. et al.* (Civil Action No. 84-0136-A), U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, fall 1984.

1 IT?

2 A I'M NOT SAYING THAT. NO WAY.

3 Q WITHDRAWN.

4 AND NOBODY AT N.B.C. TALKED WITH MR. COOPER ABOUT
5 THE SUBSTANCE OF HIS REMARKS, CORRECT, OTHER THAN YOU?

6 THE COURT: SHE'S ALREADY ANSWERED YOU ON THAT,
7 MR. DENNIS.

8 MR. DENNIS: AND THE SAME IS TRUE FOR GORDON NOVEL.
9 THANK YOU.

10 YOU MAY EXAMINE.

11 THE COURT: ANYTHING FURTHER?

12 RECROSS-EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. KAVALER:

14 Q MS. LYNCH, ARE YOU MAKING ALL THIS UP?

15 A NO.

16 MR. KAVALER: NO FURTHER QUESTIONS, YOUR HONOR.

17 THE COURT: YOU MAY STEP DOWN, MS. LYNCH.

18 (WITNESS STOOD DOWN.)

19 THE COURT: CALL YOUR NEXT WITNESS, PLEASE.

20 MR. DENNIS: YES, SIR. CALL MARK NYKANEN.

21 M A R K N Y K A N E N, CALLED AS A WITNESS BY THE

22 PLAINTIFF, BEING FIRST DULY SWORN, TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

23 DIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. DENNIS:

25 Q GOOD MORNING.

1 Q MOVING TO THE FIRST CAMERA BROADCAST, WERE YOU
2 INVOLVED IN THE RESEARCH FOR THAT BROADCAST?

3 A NOT REALLY. USUALLY WHEN I WORK ON A BROADCAST,
4 I'M INVOLVED -- FIRST OF ALL, I USUALLY WORK WITH ANOTHER
5 PRODUCER NAMED CHUCK COLLINS, AND WE START TOGETHER AND
6 WE DO ALL THE RESEARCH TOGETHER, AND SO FORTH. AND THAT'S
7 HOW I NORMALLY WORK MOST OF THE TIME. IN THIS CASE, THAT
8 WAS NOT THE CASE. I WAS WORKING ON FIRST CAMERA, AND WHAT
9 HAPPENED WAS I WENT OUT, I WAS WORKING ON OTHER STORIES,
10 PRODUCER SY PEARLMAN WANTED ME WORKING WITH MORE THAN ONE
11 PRODUCER THAN CHUCK COLLINS, HE'S THE BOSS AND THAT'S WHAT
12 I DID. AND I WAS WORKING WITH OTHER PRODUCERS. I WAS WORKING
13 WITH ANOTHER GUY NAMED MARK SCHWARTZ ON THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL
14 STORY I MENTIONED EARLIER. I WAS WORKING WITH CHUCK COLLINS
15 ON THE STORY ABOUT THE SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN. THEN I
16 WAS WORKING ON THE STORY WITH PAT LYNCH.

17 Q WAS THERE ANY PORTION OF THE BROADCAST THAT YOU
18 DID THE RESEARCH ON?

19 A YES. I DID THE RESEARCH ON THE SECTION PERTAINING
20 TO A MAN NAMED GEORGE CATOR IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

21 Q DO YOU RECALL FOR THE JURY WHAT THAT SECTION
22 OF THE BROADCAST SAID?

23 A THAT WAS A SECTION IN WHICH DEFECTORS HAD TOLD
24 PRODUCER PAT LYNCH THAT LYNDON LAROCHE HIMSELF, AS WELL
25 AS HIS FOLLOWERS, HAD APPROACHED ORGANIZED CRIME FIGURES

1 IN NEW ENGLAND PRIOR TO, BEFORE THE 1980 NEW HAMPSHIRE
2 DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY AND TRIED TO ENLIST THE HELP OF THESE
3 ORGANIZED CRIME FIGURES TO GET VOTES. THE GOAL, ACCORDING
4 TO THE DEFECTORS, WAS ABOUT 15 PERCENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC
5 PRIMARY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE, BECAUSE MR. LAROCHE, ACCORDING
6 TO THESE SOURCES, FELT THAT THAT WOULD BE AN EMBARRASSMENT.
7 SO MY UNDERSTANDING WAS --

8 Q WHY DON'T YOU DESCRIBE WHAT RESEARCH YOU DID.

9 A YES. I WENT UP -- FIRST OF ALL, THE DEFECTORS
10 MENTIONED THE NAME GEORGE CATOR. SO I NEEDED TO FIND MR.
11 CATOR. AND REALLY, IT WASN'T THAT DIFFICULT BECAUSE HE
12 DOES HAVE A BUSINESS IN, I BELIEVE IT'S SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE,
13 WHICH IS JUST A LITTLE BIT SOUTH OF MANCHESTER. AND SO
14 I WENT UP THERE. ORDINARILY WHEN CONTACTING PEOPLE, I WOULD
15 CALL THEM FIRST ON THE PHONE AND GO UP AND TRY TO ARRANGE
16 AN APPOINTMENT. WHEN DEALING WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN
17 LABELED AS ORGANIZED CRIME FIGURES AND BROUGHT UP BEFORE
18 CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY, ONE THING OR ANOTHER, YOU WORK
19 IT A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY. I JUST DROVE UP THERE DIRECTLY,
20 WITHOUT A CAMERA CREW, JUST BY MYSELF, BECAUSE I WANTED
21 TO TALK TO THE PERSON AND I FELT IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT
22 TO GET THE INFORMATION. SO RATHER THAN HAVING HIM PICK
23 UP THE PHONE AND SAY, WHAT, ANOTHER REPORTER? GO TO HADES,
24 I FIGURED I'D GO UP THERE, KNOCK ON THE DOOR, AND TRY TO
25 CHARM MY WAY IN THE DOOR AND AT LEAST TALK WITH HIM.

1 SO I GOT UP THERE AND WENT IN, AND IDENTIFIED
2 MYSELF, AND A VERY YOUNG MAN SAID, WELL, I'M GEORGE CATOR,
3 WHAT DO YOU WANT? SO I STARTED DESCRIBING WHAT IT WAS
4 THAT I WANTED, AND FINALLY AN OLDER MAN STANDING IN THE
5 ROOM SAID, I'M GEORGE CATOR, SR., I THINK I'M THE PERSON
6 YOU WANT TO TALK TO. IN FACT, IT WAS GEORGE CATOR. I WENT
7 INTO A PRIVATE OFFICE AND I TALKED WITH HIM AT THAT POINT.

8 Q WHAT DID HE TELL YOU ABOUT HIS CONTACT WITH MR.
9 LAROUCHE?

10 A WHEN I BROUGHT UP THE NAME LYNDON LAROUCHE, AFTER
11 GETTING PAST HIS ANTAGONISM TOWARD REPORTERS IN GENERAL,
12 I BROUGHT UP LYNDON LAROUCHE AND HE SAID TO ME, WELL, I
13 HATE LYNDON LAROUCHE MORE THAN I HATE REPORTERS. I SAID,
14 WELL, WHY? WHY DO YOU HAVE THESE STRONG FEELINGS? HE SAID,
15 BECAUSE BACK IN 1980, AND HE PROCEEDED TO CORROBORATE, SUPPORT
16 EXACTLY WHAT THE DEFECTORS HAD TOLD PAT LYNCH.

17 MR. DENNIS: OBJECTION, YOUR HONOR. LET'S JUST
18 HEAR WHAT HE SAID.

19 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. GO AHEAD AND SAY WHAT
20 HE SAID.

21 THE WITNESS: HE SAID THAT HE WAS APPROACHED BY
22 LYNDON LAROUCHE AND ABOUT A DOZEN OR SO OF HIS, AND THESE
23 ARE HIS WORDS NOW, GUN-TOTING FOLLOWERS. SAID THEY HAD
24 ALL KINDS OF GUNS ON THEM. THEY CAME IN AND THEY SAID, YOU
25 KNOW, WE'RE RUNNING IN THIS ELECTION, WE NEED YOUR HELP.

1 AND HE SAID, I REALLY WASN'T QUITE SURE WHAT THEY MEANT
2 BY HELP, BUT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT SPENDING MONEY AND
3 I WASN'T ABOUT TO LOOK A GIFT HORSE IN THE FACE. SO I WENT
4 AHEAD AND SAID, WELL, WE'LL SEE WHAT WE CAN DO FOR YOU.

5 SO HE SAID, I ASSIGNED TWO OF MY EMPLOYEES TO
6 WORK WITH THE LAROCHE CAMP. AND HE SAID THERE WAS AN
7 AGREED-UPON AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO GET.
8 HE DIDN'T TELL ME WHAT. AND HE SAID THEY WORKED WITH HIM
9 FOR TWO WEEKS. AND HE SAID THEY DIDN'T GET PAID EXACTLY
10 WHAT THEY WERE GOT PAID. AND HE SAID THEY WORKED FOR ANOTHER
11 TWO WEEKS AND DIDN'T GET PAID AT ALL. HE SAID, HEY, THAT'S
12 IT, FORGET IT, YOU KNOW. AND HE SAID, WE WOULDN'T HAVE
13 ANY MORE DEALINGS WITH THEM BECAUSE THEY WEREN'T PAYING
14 PROPERLY.

15 HE SAID THERE WAS ONE OTHER TIME THAT HE MET WITH
16 MR. LAROCHE. I BELIEVE HE SAID IT WAS IN MANCHESTER. AND
17 HE SAID HE WENT UP AND HE SAID HE FELT VERY SORRY FOR SOME
18 OF THE SUPPORTERS OF LYNDON LAROCHE, THE FOLLOWERS, BECAUSE
19 HE SAID, WE SAT DOWN AT THIS LAVISH FEAST, SMOKE SALMON
20 AND ALL THESE EXPENSIVE DISHES, AND SO FORTH, AND HE SAID,
21 YOU KNOW, THESE PEOPLE WERE STANDING AROUND, THEY DIDN'T
22 LOOK LIKE THEY WERE DRESSED PROPERLY, DIDN'T LOOK LIKE THEY
23 WERE NOURISHED PROPERLY. AND HE SAID, YOU KNOW, THIS GUY
24 IS SITTING THERE WITH ALL THESE BODYGUARDS AND I WAS TREATED
25 TO THIS FEAST. AND THAT WAS THE ONLY OTHER RECOLLECTION

1 HE HAD OF HIM.

2 BUT HE DID NOT LIKE LYNDON LAROCHE. HE WAS
3 UNEQUIVOCAL. BUT HE DID CONFIRM HIS ASSOCIATION WITH HIM.

4 Q LET ME ASK YOU, DID THAT CONFIRM INFORMATION YOU
5 HAD PREVIOUSLY BEFORE YOU TALKED TO MR. CATOR?

6 A YES. IT ABSOLUTELY CONFIRMED WHAT THE DEFECTORS
7 HAD TOLD PAT LYNCH. AND EVEN THOUGH, AS I SAY, HE DIDN'T
8 LIKE MR. LAROCHE, HE SAT DOWN AND HE RAN THIS WHOLE THING
9 DOWN TO THE EXTENT THAT I TOLD YOU. THERE MAY BE OTHER
10 DETAILS. I DON'T RECALL AT THIS MOMENT.

11 Q HAD YOU LEARNED BEFORE THE BROADCAST ABOUT MR.
12 CATOR'S ORGANIZED CRIME CONNECTIONS?

13 A YES. BEFORE THE BROADCAST I CONTACTED THE
14 CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE, WE CAN JUST REFER TO MY ONE CONFIDENTIAL
15 SOURCE BECAUSE THAT'S ALL I HAD ON THIS REPORT WITH MY LIMITED
16 RESEARCH, AND I OBTAINED A COPY OF AN INTELLIGENCE FILE
17 FROM THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT WHICH LISTED MR. CATOR
18 AS AN ASSOCIATE OF ORGANIZED CRIME.

19 Q LET ME STOP YOU THERE FOR A SECOND. IF THE MARSHAL
20 COULD GIVE YOU DEFENDANT N.B.C.'S EXHIBIT 113 FOR IDENTIFICATION.
21 IS THAT THE FILE TO WHICH YOU JUST REFERRED?

22 A YES. THIS IS THE REPORT TO WHICH I JUST REFERRED.
23 AND IT CAME OUT OF THE INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT OF THE BOSTON
24 POLICE DEPARTMENT AND IT LISTS --

25 MR. DENNIS: YOUR HONOR, UNTIL THAT IS MOVED INTO

1 EVIDENCE --

2 MS. CHATILON: I MOVE ITS ADMISSION, YOUR HONOR.

3 MR. DENNIS: OBJECTION.

4 THE COURT: I'M GOING TO ADMIT IT BECAUSE IT GOES
5 TO STATE OF MIND --

6 MR. DENNIS: I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS, WHETHER
7 IT'S AUTHENTIC, IS IT CERTIFIED, WHAT IS IT?

8 MS. CHATILON: MR. DENNIS, I BELIEVE YOU HAVE
9 A COPY OF THAT EXHIBIT.

10 MR. DENNIS: I KNOW, BUT IT'S NOT AN OFFICIAL
11 DOCUMENT.

12 THE COURT: DID YOU OBJECT TO IT PRIOR TO TRIAL?

13 MR. DENNIS: YES.

14 THE COURT: THEN YOU HAVE TO LAY A FOUNDATION
15 IF HE OBJECTED TO IT PRIOR TO TRIAL.

16 MS. CHATILON: IT'S SIMPLY BECAUSE MR. NYKANEN
17 LOOKED AT IT BEFORE THE BROADCAST AND HE HAS JUST TESTIFIED
18 IT WAS GIVEN TO HIM BY A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE WHO TOLD HIM,
19 AND HE BELIEVED IT TO BE, OR HE CAN TESTIFY TO THIS.

20 MR. DENNIS: I RENEW MY OBJECTION, YOUR HONOR.

21 THE COURT: I'M GOING TO ADMIT IT ONLY FOR THE
22 LIMITED PURPOSE AS SOMETHING HE SAW PRIOR TO THE BROADCAST.
23 IT'S NOT NECESSARILY TRUE OR NOT, BUT SOMETHING THAT WAS
24 BROUGHT TO HIS ATTENTION.

25 BY MS. CHATILON:

1 Q WHAT DID YOU BELIEVE THAT DOCUMENT TO BE?

2 A I BELIEVE THAT BOTH OF THESE PAGES CAME FROM THE
3 INTELLIGENCE UNIT OF THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT WHICH,
4 AMONG ITS OTHER DUTIES, KEEPS TRACK OF ORGANIZED CRIME FIGURES
5 THROUGHOUT THE NEW ENGLAND AREA.

6 Q DOES IT LIST MR. CATOR?

7 A IT CERTAINLY DOES. IT LISTS MR. CATOR AS AN
8 ASSOCIATE OF ORGANIZED CRIME.

9 Q THE CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE WHO GAVE YOU THIS DOCUMENT,
10 DID YOU CONSIDER THAT TO BE A RELIABLE CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE?

11 A THAT SOURCE IS AN EXTREMELY RELIABLE SOURCE AND
12 ONE I'VE KNOWN FOR YEARS.

13 Q HAS INFORMATION THAT THAT SOURCE HAS GIVEN YOU
14 BEFORE CHECKED OUT?

15 A TIME AND TIME AGAIN THAT INFORMATION HAS NEVER
16 FAILED TO CHECK OUT. SOURCES FREQUENTLY, JUST LIKE ANYBODY
17 ELSE, WILL QUALIFY INFORMATION. THEY'LL SAY, THIS I KNOW
18 FOR A FACT; THIS MAY BE TRUE. ANYTIME THAT SOURCE HAS EVER
19 SAID TO ME, THIS IS A FACT, IT'S A FACT.

20 Q DID YOU TRY AND GET MR. CATOR ON VIDEOTAPE?

21 A YES. AS A MATTER OF FACT, WHEN I MET WITH MR.
22 CATOR, I HAD THIS DISCUSSION WITH HIM. AND IT WAS KIND
23 OF INTERESTING SITTING DOWN WITH THIS PERSON LABELED AS
24 AN ORGANIZED CRIME FIGURE, AND SO ON AND SO FORTH. AND
25 HE'S TELLING ME ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCES WITH MR. LAROUCHE.

1 AND WHEN HE'S ALL DONE, I SAID TO HIM, SIR, I NEED TO GET
2 A PICTURE OF YOU. HE SAID, I DON'T WANT MY PICTURE TAKEN.
3 I SAID, I UNDERSTAND THAT. BUT I'VE GOT TO GET A PICTURE
4 OF YOU. HE SAID, WELL, FORGET IT. I SAID, HOW ABOUT AN
5 INTERVIEW? I'D LIKE TO DO AN INTERVIEW, BRING A CAMERA
6 UP, SIT DOWN, AND WE CAN TALK. HE SAID, NO, I'M NOT GOING
7 TO GIVE YOU AN INTERVIEW ON CAMERA. I SAID, WELL, I HAVE
8 TO GET A PICTURE OF YOU. HE SAID, I DON'T WANT THAT EITHER.
9 I SAID, WELL, NOW, WE CAN DO THIS, THIS IS MY APPROACH,
10 WE CAN DO THIS IN A CIVILIZED FASHION OR AN UNCIVILIZED
11 FASHION. I CAN GET A PICTURE OF YOU DOING WHAT YOU NORMALLY
12 DO, COMING TO WORK, GETTING OUT OF YOUR CAR, WALKING IN,
13 YOU KNOW, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TALK TO ME. WE'LL JUST DO THAT.
14 OR I CAN START STAKING YOU OUT WITH CAMERA CREWS, AND I
15 SAID, IT'S A REAL DRAG FOR ME BECAUSE I DON'T LIKE TO SIT
16 IN A VAN ON A WINTER DAY FOR 12 HOURS WAITING FOR YOU TO WALK
17 OUT OF YOUR HOUSE. AND IT'S NOT FUN FOR YOU.

18 SO HE WAS VERY REASONABLE. HE SAID, WELL, LET'S
19 DO IT IN A CIVILIZED WAY. YOU DON'T ASK ME ANY QUESTIONS
20 AND I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE YOU AN INTERVIEW. I'LL JUST DRIVE
21 UP TO WORK AND GET OUT OF MY CAR AND WALK INSIDE, AND THAT
22 WILL BE IT. I SAID, FINE, THAT'S FINE WITH ME.

23 SO I MIGHT HAVE BEEN A LITTLE GULLIBLE, HE SAID,
24 YOU COME BACK TOMORROW, EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY. WELL,
25 TOMORROW HE WAS IN MIAMI BEACH AND HE NEVER CAME BACK.

1 Q SO YOU NEVER GOT MR. CATOR ON VIDEOTAPE?

2 A NO, I NEVER DID.

3 Q DID YOU HAVE ANY CONVERSATIONS WITH MR. ROSS
4 PRIOR TO THE MARCH 4 BROADCAST ABOUT MR. LAROUCHE?

5 A NO, I HAD NO CONVERSATIONS WITH MR. ROSS PRIOR
6 TO THAT BROADCAST OF THAT NATURE.

7 Q HAVE YOU EVER HAD ANY CONVERSATIONS WITH MR. ROSS
8 ABOUT MR. LAROUCHE?

9 A ABOUT MR. LAROUCHE?

10 Q LET'S NOT INCLUDE THIS WEEK.

11 A NONE WHATSOEVER.

12 Q DID YOU BELIEVE THE BROADCAST TO BE ACCURATE AT
13 THE TIME IT WAS AIRED?

14 A ABSOLUTELY.

15 Q DO YOU BELIEVE IT'S ACCURATE NOW?

16 A YES. I MUST TELL YOU THAT BECAUSE OF THE TRIAL
17 AND SOME OF THE THINGS THAT HAVE COME OUT, I'M EVEN MORE --
18 I MEAN, I WAS PERFECTLY CONVINCED IT WAS ACCURATE THEN.
19 I'M EVEN MORE IMPRESSED NOW SEEING SOME OF THE THINGS THAT
20 MS. LYNCH HAS.

21 Q DID YOU BELIEVE MS. LYNCH WHEN SHE GAVE YOU THE
22 INFORMATION THAT SHE GAVE YOU DURING THE PROCESS OF THE --

23 A ABSOLUTELY. I HAVE THE HIGHEST REGARD FOR MS.
24 LYNCH. I MEAN, I'VE WORKED WITH A LOT OF PRODUCERS AND
25 A LOT OF PEOPLE IN THIS BUSINESS. AND SHE IS ONE OF THE

1 MOST THOROUGH I HAVE EVER HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF WORKING WITH.

2 MS. CHATILON: NO FURTHER QUESTIONS.

3 THE COURT: ANY REDIRECT?

4 MR. DENNIS: VERY SHORT.

5 THE COURT: DO YOU WANT TO ASK ANY QUESTIONS, MR.
6 PAGE?

7 MR. PAGE: NO QUESTIONS, YOUR HONOR.

8 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. DENNIS:

10 Q HAVE YOU BEEN PUBLICLY CRITICIZED FOR MISREPRESENTING
11 YOURSELF AS SOMETHING OTHER THAN A CORRESPONDENT?

12 A YES. I BELIEVE THAT A COLUMNIST FOR THE WASHINGTON
13 POST CRITICIZED ME FOR POSING AS A PORNOGRAPHER IN THAT
14 DOCUMENTARY, SO, YES, I WAS CRITICIZED FOR THAT, SIR, YES.

15 Q WERE YOU CRITICIZED FOR POSING AS SOMETHING OTHER
16 THAN YOU WERE IN OTHER STORIES?

17 A NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE.

18 Q ALL RIGHT. THIS MR. CATOR, WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE
19 OF PUTTING HIM ON THE PROGRAM? TO SHOW THAT MR. LAROCHE
20 WAS LINKED TO ORGANIZED CRIME?

21 A WELL, CLEARLY HE WAS. THE POINT WAS THAT WHEN
22 THESE CONFIDENTIAL SOURCES TOLD PRODUCER LYNCH THAT LAROCHE
23 AND HIS FOLLOWERS HAD APPROACHED MR. CATOR, AND THEN MR.
24 CATOR CONFIRMED THAT IN FACT HE HAD THESE MEETINGS, AND
25 THAT THERE WAS IN FACT MONEY, APPARENTLY NOT AS MUCH AS

1 MR. CATOR WOULD HAVE LIKED, THAT PASSED HANDS, AND THAT
2 HE IN FACT WORKED FOR THE PRIMARY, THAT'S A LINK, A VERY
3 STRONG ONE.

4 Q I SEE. WHAT DID MR. CATOR DO FOR A LIVING WHEN
5 YOU WERE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE?

6 A I THINK I'M NOT THE ONLY PERSON WHO WOULD LIKE
7 TO KNOW WHAT MR. CATOR DOES FOR A LIVING. I MEAN, HE HAS
8 AN OFFICE THAT SAYS --

9 Q WHAT KIND OF OFFICE?

10 A WELL, IT'S LIKE --

11 Q REAL ESTATE?

12 A I DON'T KNOW CONSTRUCTION VERY WELL, BUT IT'S
13 LIKE MAYBE 30-BY-30 FEET, KIND OF A SQUARE WITH A PEAK ROOF,
14 KIND OF LIKE REAL ESTATE, BUT IT ALSO LISTS GOLD AND SILVER
15 COINS PURCHASE AND SELL. IT LISTS A LOT OF THINGS.

16 Q YOU FIND THAT TO BE AN OBVIOUS LINK TO ORGANIZED
17 CRIME?

18 A NO, NO, NOT AT ALL, SIR. IT'S JUST THAT, YOU
19 KNOW, LIKE SOMEBODY SAYS MR. DENNIS IS A LAWYER, THAT'S
20 WHAT HE DOES FOR A LIVING, OR MR. NYKANEN IS A CORRESPONDENT,
21 THAT'S WHAT HE DOES FOR A LIVING. WHEN YOU GO UP TO A BUILDING
22 AND THE BUILDING THE MAN OWNS LISTS SEVEN DIFFERENT THINGS,
23 DEVELOPING COMPANIES, GOLD AND SILVER COINS, REAL ESTATE,
24 THAT'S A POTPOURRI OF OCCUPATIONS. I THINK MOST OF US WOULD
25 AGREE IT'S A LITTLE UNUSUAL.

1 Q AND SMACKS OF SOMETHING UNLAWFUL; IS THAT SO?

2 A NO, IT DOESN'T SMACK OF SOMETHING UNLAWFUL. IT'S
3 JUST VERY DIFFICULT TO SAY SPECIFICALLY THIS IS WHAT HE
4 DOES FOR A LIVING. YOUR QUESTION WAS WHAT DOES HE DO FOR
5 A LIVING. I DON'T KNOW PRECISELY WHAT HE DOES FOR A LIVING
6 BECAUSE APPARENTLY HE DOES MORE THAN ONE THING.

7 Q SO HE DOES A NUMBER OF THINGS FOR A LIVING.

8 A THAT IS TRUE.

9 Q ALL OF WHICH ARE LISTED ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE
10 BUILDING; ISN'T THAT SO?

11 A I DON'T KNOW IF ALL OF THEM ARE LISTED.

12 Q AT LEAST THOSE WHICH HE HAS LISTED OUTSIDE OF
13 THE BUILDING.

14 A THAT ASSUMES THAT THE MAN HONESTLY PUT OUT THE
15 SIGN AND THAT HE DOES ALL THE THINGS HE SAYS AND DOESN'T
16 DO ANYTHING ELSE.

17 Q DID YOU TALK TO THE LOCAL POLICE ABOUT MR. CATOR?

18 MS. CHATILON: YOUR HONOR, I DON'T BELIEVE MR.

19 CATOR IS SUING N.B.C. FOR LIBEL --

20 THE COURT: HE'S JUST CHECKING ON VERACITY. GO
21 AHEAD.

22 THE WITNESS: I CHECKED WITH CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY
23 BUT NOT THE LOCAL POLICE. THE LOCAL POLICE GENERALLY DON'T
24 LOOK INTO ORGANIZED CRIME. THAT'S USUALLY DONE AT A FEDERAL
25 AND STATE LEVEL.

1 BY MR. DENNIS:

2 Q DID YOU FIND OUT WHETHER MR. CATOR HAD EVER BEEN
3 CONVICTED OF A CRIME?

4 A HE WAS INDICTED AND I BELIEVE CONVICTED IN 1973
5 ON TAX EVASION.

6 Q TAX EVASION.

7 A A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

8 Q AND THAT, IN YOUR VIEW, IS AN OBVIOUS LINK TO
9 ORGANIZED CRIME, ISN'T IT?

10 A NO, SIR, NOT IN MY VIEW, IN THE VIEW OF VINNIE
11 TERESA WHO TESTIFIED BEFORE CONGRESS THAT MR. CATOR WAS
12 A BAG MAN FOR A PATRIARCH WHO WAS HEAD OF THE NEW ENGLAND
13 ORGANIZED CRIME FAMILY.

14 Q AND WHAT -- WITHDRAWN.

15 WHO WERE THE PEOPLE THAT WORKED FOR MR. CATOR
16 WHOM HE SENT TO WORK ALLEGEDLY FOR MR. LAROUCHE? DO YOU
17 KNOW?

18 A NO, I DO NOT KNOW, SIR.

19 Q DO YOU KNOW WHAT SERVICES THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO
20 RENDER FOR MR. LAROUCHE? DO YOU KNOW THAT?

21 A I DO NOT KNOW, SIR.

22 Q DID YOU ASK?

23 A SIR, I TRIED TO BE SOMEWHAT CIRCUMSPECT IN TALKING
24 WITH MR. CATOR BECAUSE MY ULTIMATE GOAL WAS TO GET AN ON-
25 CAMERA INTERVIEW. I DIDN'T EXACTLY WANT TO START HITTING

1 HIM WITH A LOT OF HARD QUESTIONS RIGHT AT THAT TIME. I
2 WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO HAVE MY CAMERA CREW WITH ME, YOU
3 KNOW, THOSE BIG BURLY GUYS WHO CARRY THE GEAR, HAVE THEM
4 WITH ME AND ASK THE QUESTIONS THAT WAY.

5 Q NOT HAVING THAT, YOU DIDN'T ASK THE QUESTIONS?

6 A I DIDN'T ASK THOSE QUESTIONS. HE TOLD ME TWO
7 OF HIS EMPLOYEES WENT TO WORK FOR MR. LAROCHE. THAT
8 COINCIDED WITH THE INFORMATION OF THE LAROCHE EMPLOYEES.
9 SO IT MADE SENSE TO ME.

10 Q WERE THESE GUN-TOTING PEOPLE WHO WENT TO WORK
11 FOR MR. LAROCHE?

12 A NO, THE GUN-TOTING PEOPLE WERE THE PEOPLE WHO
13 WERE WITH MR. LAROCHE WHO CAME TO MR. CATOR.

14 Q I'VE HEARD YOU SAY THAT. NOW, DID YOU SEEK OUT
15 THE IDENTITY OF THESE PEOPLE TO TALK TO THEM AND FIND OUT
16 WHAT THEY WERE HIRED TO DO FOR MR. LAROCHE?

17 A AT THE TIME, NO. I HAD HOPED TO HAVE FURTHER
18 CONVERSATIONS WITH MR. CATOR, BUT HE JUST WAS GONE.

19 Q MR. CATOR DENIED TO YOU ABSOLUTELY AND FLATLY
20 THAT HE RECEIVED ANY MONEY FROM MR. LAROCHE, DIDN'T HE?

21 A HE SAID HE, AS I REPORTED IN THE BROADCAST, HE
22 SAID THAT HE PERSONALLY DID NOT RECEIVE ANY MONEY FROM MR.
23 LAROCHE. HE DID NOT DENY THAT MONEY FROM THE LAROCHE
24 ORGANIZATION WENT TO TWO OF HIS EMPLOYEES, WHICH I ALSO
25 REPORTED IN THE BROADCAST.

1 Q WHOM YOU DON'T KNOW, NEVER SAW, HAVE NO IDEA WHAT
2 THEY WERE HIRED TO DO; IS THAT CORRECT?

3 A AS I SAID IN THE BROADCAST, THIS IS WHAT MR.
4 CATOR SAID. THIS IS WHAT THE DEFECTORS SAID. THIS IS WHAT
5 MR. CATOR SAID.

6 Q COULD THEY HAVE POSSIBLY BEEN LABORERS?

7 A ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE, SIR.

8 Q DID YOU INQUIRE?

9 A YOU'RE ASKING THAT QUESTION AGAIN, SIR. I TOLD
10 YOU EARLIER I DID NOT INQUIRE AT THAT TIME. I PLANNED TO
11 HAVE FURTHER CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM. UNFORTUNATELY I DIDN'T.

12 Q SO IT WASN'T MR. CATOR THAT WENT TO WOK FOR MR.
13 LAROCHE. HE SENT TWO OF HIS EMPLOYEES TO WORK --

14 THE COURT: HE'S ALREADY ANSWERED YOU ON THAT.
15 BY MR. DENNIS:

16 Q DID THAT CONSTITUTE IN YOUR MIND A LINK BETWEEN
17 MR. LAROCHE AND ORGANIZED CRIME?

18 A CAN I USE THE PRESENT TENSE AS WELL? IT NOT ONLY
19 CONSTITUTED BUT STILL TO THIS MOMENT CONSTITUTES A LINK
20 BETWEEN MR. LAROCHE AND AN ELEMENT OF ORGANIZED CRIME IN
21 NEW ENGLAND, CLEARLY.

22 Q NOW, YOU EARLIER TESTIFIED, I BELIEVE, AS DID
23 MS. LYNCH, THAT YOU TRY -- WITHDRAWN.

24 THAT IN USING CERTAIN WORDS, PHRASEOLOGY, YOU
25 TRY TO HAVE THOSE WORDS TAKEN OUT OF A VIDEOTAPED OR A TAPED

1 INTERVIEW.

2 A I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND, SIR.

3 THE COURT: I THINK HE'S ASKING -- ARE YOU ASKING
4 HIM ABOUT A SOUND BITE?

5 MR. DENNIS: YES, LIKE A SOUND BITE.

6 BY MR. DENNIS:

7 Q IN OTHER WORDS, IF MR. CATOR HAD APPEARED ON
8 TELEVISION, YOU WOULD HAVE USED HIS STATEMENTS, IF HE MADE
9 ANY?

10 A POSSIBLY. I MEAN, NOT NECESSARILY. THERE WERE
11 A LOT OF INTERVIEWS --

12 THE COURT: HE CAN'T TELL THAT, MR. DENNIS. HE
13 DIDN'T GET AN INTERVIEW.

14 BY MR. DENNIS:

15 Q BUT IF AN INDIVIDUAL DOESN'T ALLOW YOU TO TAPE,
16 YOU TRY NOT TO USE HIS STATEMENT; ISN'T THAT SO?

17 A I SAID NO SUCH THING.

18 Q YOU USE HIM WHETHER OR NOT HE IS TAPED?

19 A NO, NO. IT'S A FACTOR, BUT IT'S NOT THE PRIMARY
20 FACTOR IN WHETHER ONE USES THAT INFORMATION. IN THIS CASE
21 WE GOT INFORMATION FROM MR. CATOR, WE HAD A NEWSPAPER PICTURE,
22 IT WASN'T THE BEST. I MEAN, I DON'T THINK ANYBODY IN THIS
23 ROOM COULD IDENTIFY MR. CATOR ON THE BASIS OF A NEWSPAPER
24 PHOTOGRAPH. BUT THAT'S WHAT WE HAD, AND BECAUSE THE
25 INFORMATION WAS SUCH THAT IT CORROBORATED SOMETHING THAT

1 THE DEFECTORS HAD TOLD PAT LYNCH, WE USED IT.

2 Q YOU USED MR. CATOR'S PHRASE "GUN-TOTING FOLLOWERS"?

3 A THAT WAS HIS PHRASE, YES, SIR.

4 Q DID YOU TAPE IT ON ORDINARY TAPE?

5 A NO. AS I MENTIONED EARLIER, I WENT UP SORT OF
6 LIKE, HERE I AM, I HAVE NO EQUIPMENT. LITERALLY, WHEN I
7 WENT IN THE DOOR, I WENT, NO TAPE RECORDERS, OKAY. BECAUSE
8 THESE PEOPLE ARE VERY SUSPICIOUS OF THE PRESS. I MEAN,
9 THEY EITHER THINK YOU'RE A GOVERNMENT AGENT, YOU KNOW,
10 OR THE PRESS, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT. I WAS TAKING NO CHANCES.
11 I WANTED HIM TO UNDERSTAND I WANTED TO BE AS DISARMING AS
12 POSSIBLE. IT WAS JUST LIKE, HEY, LET'S YOU AND I HAVE A
13 CONVERSATION, OKAY, GUY? BECAUSE THERE ARE SOME THINGS
14 I'D LIKE TO FIND OUT THAT YOU KNOW. AND THAT'S HOW I DEALT
15 WITH HIM, NO TAPE RECORDINGS AT ALL.

16 Q DID YOU TELL HIM YOU WOULDN'T USE ANYTHING HE
17 TOLD YOU?

18 A NO, ABSOLUTELY NOT. I MEAN, I TOOK NOTES.

19 Q OKAY. NOW, YOU USED HIS PHRASE, YOU SAY?

20 A THAT'S CORRECT.

21 Q "GUN-TOTING FOLLOWERS"?

22 A THAT IS CORRECT, SIR.

23 Q AND YOU ALSO HAVE TESTIFIED THAT YOU WANTED TO
24 CHECK OUT THE REPORT THAT MR. LAROCHE'S PEOPLE HAD GUNS
25 WITH THEM IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

1 THE COURT: I THINK WE'VE BEEN INTO THIS, MR.
2 DENNIS. I THINK WE'VE COVERED THIS EARLIER.

3 BY MR. DENNIS:

4 Q WAS THERE ANY REASON YOU OMITTED ON THE PROGRAM,
5 AFTER INCLUDING THE PHRASE FROM MR. CATOR AS YOU ALLEGED,
6 "GUN-TOTING FOLLOWERS," THAT YOU DIDN'T HAVE A FIVE-SECOND
7 STATEMENT THAT, WE HAVE INVESTIGATED AND WE HAVE FOUND NO
8 SUPPORT FOR THE ALLEGATION, AT LEAST IN THAT MCDONALD'S
9 AREA WHICH IS RECORDED THAT THEY TOTED GUNS?

10 A THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN UNTRUE BECAUSE THERE WAS
11 SOME SUPPORT FOR THAT STATEMENT. THE FACT IS THERE WASN'T
12 ENOUGH SUPPORT TO GO ON THE AIR AND SAY THAT THEY DID DO
13 IT. TO GO ON THE AIR AND SAY WE FOUND NO SUPPORT FOR THE
14 STATEMENT AND ALLEGATION THAT WE HEARD FROM SOMEONE THAT
15 THERE WERE GUNS USED, SHOWN, OR EXHIBITED AT A HOWARD
16 JOHNSON'S, NOT MCDONALD'S, WOULD HAVE BEEN UNTRUE. IN OTHER
17 WORDS, THERE WASN'T ENOUGH TO SUPPORT IT; THERE WASN'T ENOUGH
18 TO REJECT IT. SO WE JUST LEFT IT ALONE.

19 Q DO YOU KNOW WHO, IF ANYONE, AMONG MR. LAROCHE'S
20 ASSOCIATES, ALLEGEDLY TOTED GUNS?

21 A NO, I DO NOT.

22 Q DO YOU KNOW IN YOUR INVESTIGATION, DID YOU FIND
23 OUT, WHETHER MR. LAROCHE AND -- WITHDRAWN.

24 I HAVE TO APPROACH THE BENCH, YOUR HONOR.

25 THE COURT: YES, SIR.

1 THE COURT: MS. CHATILON, DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER
2 QUESTIONS?

3 MS. CHATILON: NO, YOUR HONOR.

4 MR. PAGE: NO QUESTIONS, YOUR HONOR.

5 THE COURT: YOU MAY STEP DOWN, MR. NYKANEN.

6 (WITNESS STOOD DOWN.)

7 THE COURT: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY,
8 THIS SEEMS TO BE A LOGICAL SPOT TO BREAK FOR LUNCH. WHY
9 DON'T WE JUST BREAK TILL TWO O'CLOCK. AGAIN, I ASK YOU
10 TO BEAR IN MIND THE COURT'S ADMONITION ABOUT DISCUSSING
11 THE CASE OR DRAWING ANY CONCLUSION ABOUT IT, ALLOWING ANYONE
12 TO DISCUSS IT IN YOUR PRESENCE. COME BACK AT TWO O'CLOCK.
13 I'LL ASK EVERYONE TO REMAIN SEATED UNTIL THE JURY FILES
14 OUT FOR LUNCH.

15 (THE JURY LEFT THE COURTROOM.)

16 THE COURT: WE'LL RECESS TILL TWO O'CLOCK.

17 (A LUNCH RECESS WAS TAKEN.)

18 AFTERNOON SESSION

19 2:00 P.M.

20 (JURY PRESENT.)

21 THE COURT: CALL YOUR NEXT WITNESS, PLEASE.

22 MR. DENNIS: THE PLAINTIFF CALLS MR. BRIAN ROSS.

23 B R I A N R O S S, CALLED AS A WITNESS BY THE PLAINTIFF,

24 BEING FIRST DULY SWORN, TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

25 DIRECT EXAMINATION