

## File civil rights claim against FBI raiders

Attorneys for the corporations ransacked in Leesburg, Virginia, Oct. 6 are preparing a civil-rights suit for injunctive relief against the illegal search and seizure of documents in the raid. The corporations will demand that the FBI raiders be enjoined from either publicizing or using the documents illegally seized. The corporations will also seek multimillion-dollar damages.

In specific, the search can be shown to have violated the First Amendment rights of the individuals whose property was seized. On the whole, the search can be described as "a general warrant," in the sense that everything in sight was seized, to be examined later.

The violation of First Amendment rights was particularly evident through the seizure of lists of names which were used strictly for political organizing or business functioning, not for "fundraising." The FBI can now be expected to call and harass these individuals, as it has done

with other names provided.

Privacy of individuals was also violated by the theft of such things as payroll checks, which are of absolutely no use to the raiders.

Other categories of illegalities in the search include the following:

1) Seizure of documents which fall under the rubric of attorney-client privilege;

2) Xeroxing of documents which were not taken, and were undoubtedly not covered by the search warrant in any way, shape, or form;

3) Denial of the right for a legal observer;

4) Seizure of documents belonging to organizations which are not even mentioned in the search warrant, such as the National Democratic Policy Committee.

Certain of the seizures can also be considered "punitive," like the seizure of corporate checkbooks, which are of no use to the raiders, but whose loss causes difficulties for the corporations.

The self-serving role of the state of Virginia will also come under scrutiny, due to the lack of probable cause for a search, as reflected in the state's search warrant.

explicit series of policy statements in the days before the raid.

This final phase of the Soviet Union's semi-official demand for LaRouche's head on a platter can be seen in the following chronology of high-level policy statements:

- The Aug. 7, 1986 issue of the Soviet weekly *Sovetskaya Kultura* published a major article entitled "About A Fraud" devoted to a denunciation of Lyndon LaRouche for running a large "illegal" financial network engaged in "all sorts of tricks with credit cards." *Sovetskaya Kultura's* editor-in-chief, Albert Belayev, is a known KGB-connected protégé of the late KGB boss and Kremlin leader, Yuri Andropov. Belayev, before coming to *Sovetskaya Kultura* earlier this year, had been, first, deputy head, and then head of the Soviet Central Committee's Cultural Department since November 1972.

- On Sept. 15, 1986, the Soviet weekly *Novoye Vremya*, which appears in 11 languages (including *New Times* in English) carried a 5-page slander spread against Lyndon LaRouche and his collaborators and organizations in the United States, the Federal Republic, France, Sweden, etc. The *New Times* diatribe appeared under the banner headline: "Nazis Without the Swastika" and contained the evaluation that the LaRouche "groups are extremely dangerous and must be closely watched by the world public so that their aims and ambitions do not become reality."

- The Sept. 30, 1986 edition of *Sovetskaya Kultura* contained a major policy article denouncing LaRouche as a dan-

gerous and "growing" political force in the United States. Less than one week before the Leesburg raid, this Soviet article asked:

"How is it possible that the LaRouchites can act so openly and fearlessly? . . . Why isn't the Internal Revenue Service interested in the affairs of a man who received millions of dollars from publications and in the form of contributions, but has not paid any taxes, claiming he doesn't know who pays for his estate in Virginia? . . . Rouche and his followers are zealous supporters of the notorious 'star wars' program of the Reagan administration."

- On Oct. 3, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachov himself, in his speech at the unveiling of a memorial to Ernst Thaelmann in Moscow utilized the formulation of the Sept. 15 *New Times* five-page attack to target the La Rouche movement as a strategic hostile force to the Soviets.

The para-military raid on Leesburg occurred three days later. The force deployed was excessive and redundant. The raid itself was carefully staged as an international media event. There is no substance to any of the charges but the implementation on a crude scale of Soviet demands to "make an example" of Lyndon LaRouche for his role in design and defense of the SDI. To this day, there has not been a single indictment, let alone a conviction, of Lyndon LaRouche. He is innocent, according to every constitutional and judicial standard in American law. According to Soviet justice, however, he is guilty and condemned to death.