

## Benjamin Franklin facing indictment

Warren J. Hamerman, the chairman of the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC), released the following news statement, on Oct. 3, under the title, "Department of Justice About to Indict Benjamin Franklin Ex Post Facto for Criminal RICO."

A Federal Grand Jury is believed to be on the verge of indicting political extremist Benjamin Franklin retroactively under the criminal RICO statutes.

The U.S. government alleges that Franklin was the head of a vast criminal enterprise, composed of an intricate web of "shell companies"—newspapers, journals, publishing companies, scientific societies, cultural endeavors, political action groups, and so forth—which were all controlled through a parent syndicate known as the American Philosophical Society, of which Franklin was president from 1769 until his death. Franklin also directed a non-profit scientific foundation known as the Junto.

Franklin is also accused of running a criminal conspiracy to obtain unsecured loans from France, Spain, and Holland, which he never intended to repay. Additionally, Franklin is accused of running a network of paramilitary militias and intelligence gathering "secret committees" in violation of the nation's espionage laws.

According to William Weld, the head of the Criminal Division of the Justice Department:

There is nothing unusual or unprecedented about the use of the Criminal RICO statute to prosecute this political extremist. His activities are a textbook example of Criminal RICO. Admittedly, the use of the statute retroactively is a precedent, but well within the bounds of current judicial practice. The Attorney General decided to authorize the prosecution because several thousand individuals, with sworn allegiance to walk in Franklin's footsteps, are reviving the syndicate's activities today.

Government accusations against Franklin include the following:

- 1) He engaged in a systematic criminal conspiracy of tax and stamp fraud.
- 2) Through secret committees of correspondence he

engaged in systematic mail fraud. He personally directed a nationwide scheme of mail fraud as Deputy Postmaster General of America.

3) In a novel use of the conspiracy to commit wire fraud statutes, Franklin's electricity experiments will be demonstrated to be the technological basis of all fraudulent electronic communications later conducted by any of his followers.

4) Franklin is accused of siphoning off funds from hundreds of business and publishing "front" organizations in the United States and Europe for his idiosyncratic pet projects such as promoting music, science, and poetry.

5) Franklin is accused of conspiracy to engage in setting up an entire system of paper currency as a basis for criminal activity.

6) Franklin is accused of directing the writing of the U.S. Constitution as a "ploy" to skim profits off of world trade and commerce to expand the use of his own inventions such as the lightning rod, bifocal eyeglasses, the odometer, the copying machine, the modern stove, and various pieces of nautical equipment.

Related to the criminal RICO indictments, numerous Franklin business companies have been forced *ex post facto* into involuntary bankruptcy in civil proceedings. Government actions are based on the theory that Franklin and his associates conduct "fraudulent conveyances" from company to company in their empire. All assets of the following companies and organizations have been seized: the University of Pennsylvania (Franklin had been president of the board of trustees of the Academy which became the University of Pennsylvania), several hundred Franklin-related newspapers and journals, the Philadelphia Hospital, the Philadelphia Fire Insurance Company, the Philadelphia Fire Department, his publishing companies, which had the printing contracts for the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey.

According to investigators, the real crime of Franklin and his followers was their arrogance in thinking that they had a personal mission to transform the world. They believed in the cultish notion of morality in private and public affairs.

Defectors from the syndicate report that philosophic associates engaged in bizarre activities such as investigating the relationship between science and musical tuning, inventing things, developing hypotheses, spreading ideas, drinking good wine, and having fun under the most adverse personal circumstances.