

observing the LaRouches for a long time. "Political paranoia"—that is their unanimous diagnosis cum verdict. But history has already known a case, when a maniac with analogous symptoms succeeded. . . . Let us allow the improbable. Let us allow, that Lyndon LaRouche (65) does get into the White House on his fourth attempt, and that Helga Zepp-LaRouche (39) does become chancellor of the F.R.G. The marriage alliance, concluded in 1977, was of profit for both of them: The wealthy young German entered "big politics" on the run, and the American leftist, having turned 180 degrees to the right, so exquisitely smoothed out his manners and speech, that NBC in a program devoted to him called him a "a small-time Hitler." This, of course, is an insult, but to a certain degree also an honor. But is it really so small-time, if literally from the beak of the nuclear lobby, knocked together by the "European Workers Parties" of the Old World and the ultra-right "Democrats" of the U.S.A., the American administration that is in power today, snatched the idea of the "Strategic Defense Initiative"? "This is the biggest threat to the Russians, and at present it is my biggest victory over them. . ." repeats LaRouche in all his interviews. So then, if fate really did raise the LaRouche couple to the pinnacle of power on both sides of the Atlantic, would they really, having generously and recklessly given their nuclear offspring to others, stay there with their hands empty? [. . .]

The family portrait would be incomplete without the third, the "moral foreshortening": The Teutons and Yankees especially like to hold forth about it. Echoing to a certain extent various concepts from social criticism, they taxi out the crudest demagoguery. The West is experiencing decadence. Art and public morality are in decline. Narcotics, jazz, rock music are the proof, that the prayers of St. Augustine have been forgotten. "Sex pollutes the environment more than nuclear waste!" Don't treat people sick with AIDS, but lock them away in quarantine camps, and divert the money for fighting this pandemic, which is spreading throughout the world, to the development of nuclear energy. The "Jew-Masons" and the "Aristotelian oligarchy of usurers" are to blame for the mortal sins, which have struck mankind today. And LaRouche promises the Americans a "moral presidency," a return to "the spirit of 1776," to the precepts of the founding fathers of the nation, to "neo-platonic humanism." The theme of a "strong America"—strong, of course, by arms first and foremost—is cleverly tied in with populist themes, which the average man has such a weakness for: curing morals, overcoming corruption, cultivation of idealistic notions, which, as the "new Platos" have it, can be inculcated on command, without getting into an analysis of the social causes of spiritual sores. Not to mention rooting out those causes!

Is it coincidental, that ideas analogous to LaRouche's are heard in France from the lips of the ultra-right leader Jean-Marie Le Pen? They are also similar in their popularity with the average man: both here and there, it's already around ten percent. [. . .]

Interview: Nasrallah Sfeir

Patriarch defends Lebanon's integrity

Patriarch Nasrallah Pierre Sfeir is 67 years old and succeeded Cardinal Khoraihe as Patriarch of the Maronites in 1986. He has undertaken a tour of various capitals with the aim of safeguarding the sovereignty and integrity of Lebanon. On Oct. 20-27 of last year, he was in Moscow, the first Maronite Patriarch to travel there. As he declared to the Italian Catholic monthly *Trenta Giorni*, the visit aimed at exploring the actual openness of the Kremlin's political authorities to work for peace.

He then declared: "I traveled to Moscow and then returned to Rome. Those who received me knew perfectly well that the Maronite Church has always been in communion with Rome, and that it is the only Eastern Church which does not have an Orthodox branch. Our identity as Maronite Catholics is thus very clear to them. . . . I know that in Lebanon there is not a civil war among Lebanese, but a war between foreign powers on Lebanese soil. Since the Soviet Union has allies in the region, I told myself that it was necessary to establish contact with its leadership, to ask them to use their influence to reestablish peace in our country. After 13 years of war, we are at the limit. We can no longer resist."

The following interview was conducted in Rome, on Feb. 6, 1988.

EIR: What are the reasons for your visit to Rome?

Patriarch Sfeir: I have come to Rome to participate in the work of the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops, of which I am a member, through the benevolent nomination made by His Holiness John Paul II, and also to co-celebrate Holy Mass, presided over by the Pope, in the Maronite rite on Feb. 2, on the occasion of the festival of the Entrance of Jesus into the Temple. I took advantage of this opportunity to have contact with representatives of the Holy See and of the Italian government who deal with Lebanese affairs.

EIR: In the course of the last months, you have traveled a

great deal, it seems, both as Maronite Patriarch and as spiritual representative of those who want to defend the integrity of Lebanon, as the last bulwark of sovereignty of your nation. Do you know that powerful forces in the United States and the Soviet Union foresee the partition of Lebanon and its dissolution as a nation?

Patriarch Sfeir: I have not heard of any decision to partition Lebanon, anywhere I have been. On the contrary, it seemed to me from my discussions that there was the assertion that Lebanon must remain sovereign, free, and independent within its internationally recognized borders.

EIR: You declared in Rome that "if pacification does not arrive immediately, there will be disintegration, not only in Lebanon, but the whole region." Could you clarify this warning of yours a bit more?

Patriarch Sfeir: If Lebanon is partitioned, all the countries of the Middle East will be affected by the partition, and this will be the source of interminable wars. If the partition occurs on a confessional basis, in the sense of there being a mini-state for each confessional community, many other such religious mini-states will emerge, and their peaceful survival will be impossible, as they will be characterized by conflicting yearnings. This will cause continual wars and permanent conflict. And this will not serve the interests of peace in the world.

EIR: From Oct. 20 to 27, 1987, you traveled to the Soviet Union, in a trip you defined as "rather political . . . to promote the pacification of Lebanon."

How do you view the results of that mission now, three months later?

Patriarch Sfeir: What I heard in the U.S.S.R. indicates that the Soviets place value on the independence of Lebanon and its territorial integrity. It is well known that the U.S.S.R., as a great power, has its interests in the Middle East, as in other parts of the world. There is nothing to be surprised at.

EIR: The coming presidential elections will be very important for the future of Lebanon. There are plans to keep the Maronites away from the office of the presidency. How do you see this situation?

Patriarch Sfeir: I do not believe that there are serious plans to keep the Maronites away from the presidency of the Republic, a presidency which was given them as a guarantee of the equality of all Lebanese citizens: There are no second-class Lebanese citizens. When a democratic mentality and spirit evolves in Lebanon, people will not view each other from the standpoint of religious confession, and all will be citizens, equal before the law, and there will be rights and privileges for all, regardless of religious confession. At that point confessionalism will fall away, and there will be no need in the future to reserve certain functions for this or that religious community.

EIR: Lyndon LaRouche, the American politician and candidate for the U.S. presidency, has maintained for years that the only basis for a durable peace in the Middle East is the "progress of peoples" in the region, that is, a vast economic agro-industrial development program for all the nations of the area. Recently, French Agriculture Minister François Guillaume proposed a similar program, a "Marshall Plan" for the developing sector countries. How do you judge such proposals?

Patriarch Sfeir: Any program tending toward progress in the developing sector countries in any region, we greet with gratitude and recognition. The application of the principles of social justice, which the Church appeals to and which it discusses in documents, past and present, in particular in the encyclical *Populorum Progressio*, without a doubt alleviates the differences between developed countries and those in the developing sector. We greet with open arms any project which helps the developing sector countries emerge from their poverty and their need.

EIR: The current Middle East policy of the U.S. State Department is to accord a privileged role to Syria, viewed as the "strong state" in the region, to the detriment of Lebanon, which was once an ally of the United States. How do you view this policy?

Sfeir: Bordering states always have their interests and it is in their interest to cooperate in what is mutually advantageous to them. The situation in Lebanon vis-à-vis Syria is similar to the situation of the United States, for example, with respect to its neighbors, and it is in the interest of bordering countries to be in full agreement, to conserve their sovereignty on their own territory, their independence, the regime which the citizens have adopted for themselves, and their friendly relations, without there being any damage done to their neighbors.

SILVER

SHORT SQUEEZE

● WHO? ● WHAT? ● WHY? ●

Not what you think! Daily limits soon. Exchange cannot stop this one because it is different. **Send \$5 to SIBBET for information. He is the one advisor who predicted the other two squeezes.**

SIBBET PUBLICATIONS

1091 E. WOODBURY RD., PASADENA, CA 91104

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____