LaRouche's insignificance is growing in Venezuela

by Gretchen Small

Some one, or some group, must be exceedingly worried over the influence which they believe former U.S. presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche enjoys in Venezuela. No other conclusion could be drawn, when, on Sunday, Feb. 12, Venezuela's two leading newspapers, *El Universal* and *El Nacional*, each carried full-page, paid, *anonymous* advertisements attacking LaRouche.

Under the bold headline, "Jail is the New Home of Lyndon LaRouche," the ads called LaRouche everything from a "disinformation mercenary" to a "prophet of catastrophe," while noting that LaRouche "admits" to having Venezuelan friends, including some among them leaders of the Venezuelan Labor Party (PLV). After six columns, of some 92 lines each, of slander, the ads concluded by commenting: Rest assured, the 15-year sentence imposed by Judge Albert Bryan against LaRouche on Jan. 27 "closes a chapter" on LaRouche's activities, and has delivered "a rude blow to his theories and ambitions."

The next day, the Caracas English-language newspaper, the *Daily Journal,* carried a similar full-page ad. Although it had the same headline, the text varied from its Spanish version. Most notable here was the inclusion of a lengthy list of institutions and individuals which, the ad complains, LaRouche has attacked—top among them being the International Monetary Fund and nine banks and financial investment houses.

Nonetheless, this ad concluded even more hopefully: "In spite of outrageous claims, of the noise made by LaRouche, his cult has not spread extensively, and now that he is in jail, perhaps they will quiet a little bit. . . . LaRouche will keep barking, but now that he is behind bars his words have even less credibility."

By itself, the fact that the three full-page ads were anonymous caused political shockwaves in Venezuela. Venezuelan law requires that all advertisements carry the name, and identification or registration number of some person or institution who are responsible for its contents. Only a very powerful group, or person, indeed, could have forced the newspapers to publish the three ads without revealing their identity.

Fine. But then, on Feb. 16, *El Nacional* told Venezuelans that "[General] Camejo and Monseñor Nelson Arellano Are Agents of the PLV and LaRouche"—the incredible headline the paper gave to yet another full-page news spread on LaRouche, the PLV, and the war of a Gnostic cult against the Venezuelan Armed Forces.

To charge that Camejo and Arellano are "agents" of LaRouche, shows real desperation: Gen. Humberto Camejo Arias heads the special anti-drug and anti-terrorist force deployed on the Venezuelan-Colombian border, known as the CEJAP; Monsignor Arellano is military chaplain to the Venezuelan Army's II Infantry Brigade, and serves with the rank of Colonel!

This time, the individual seeing LaRouche agents everywhere, was Congressman Walter Márquez, a "bishop" of the Universal Christian Gnostic Church who is desperately trying to get the Venezuelan government or military to silence the PLV. Márquez began to be hysterical against the PLV in 1988, when PLV Secretary General Alejandro Peña, the party's presidential candidate in the 1988 elections, took out a series of advertisements exposing Márquez and his gnostic cult as protectors of terrorists and drug-runners.

The PLV's exposure of Márquez' international narcoterrorist ties blew apart an operation which Márquez had been spearheading, to force the government to dismantle the CEJAP special anti-terror force which has been mopping up narcoterrorist activites along the border. On Feb. 14, Peña took out a new advertisement, reiterating that he stands behind his charges against Márquez (see **Documentation**).

By Feb. 16, Márquez was left to bitterly complain to *El Nacional*, that while he had expected the CEJAP to be dismantled once Carlos Andrés Pérez was sworn in as President on Feb. 4, the activities of the PLV and LaRouche have now limited "the possible actions which President Pérez could undertake."

El Nacional also reported that the U.S. Embassy in Caracas has also been busy attempting to counter LaRouche's influence in Venezuela. Embassy officials are handing out a Feb. 6 *Time* magazine article on LaRouche's sentencing, and telling reporters that LaRouche's charge that Washington and Moscow have conspired to assassinate him does not merit an answer, the paper reported.

Operation Furies in action

LaRouche's jailing in the United States on Jan. 27 provoked angry reactions from many in Ibero-America. *El Comercio,* one of Peru's leading newspapers, reflected the view of many, when it wrote on Feb. 5 that "a genuine scandal was

caused by the trial and imprisonment of Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. We are certain that the accusation against Mr. LaRouche, that he didn't pay taxes, is an absurd pretext to reduce him to silence."

Likewise, journalists and radio announcers in Argentina, Panama, Peru, Colombia, Guatemala, and Mexico have been eager to interview Mr. LaRouche and Dennis Small (*EIR*'s Ibero-American editor, convicted with LaRouche in the Alexandria frame-up) from their Alexandria prison.

The reaction in Venezuela, however, beats all others. Since Jan. 27, complete pages in several newspapers have been dedicated to debating the relative importance and influence of Lyndon LaRouche on four different days, not counting the "anonymous" slander ads. LaRouche himself has given five radio interviews in Venezuela from his jail cell, while Dennis Small has given another two.

What set this off? Perhaps an answer can be found in a Feb. 8 interview which LaRouche gave to *El Nacional* from his Alexandria jail.

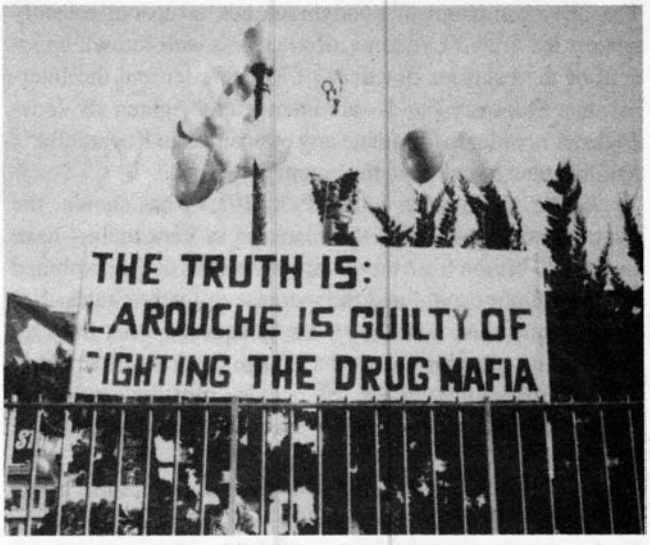
"If I were free right now, and not in jail, I would be talking with the President of Venezuela [Carlos Andrés Pérez] or his government, with whom I have had some disagreements in the past but with whom we currently have convergences. For example, regarding the foreign debt, we have different perspectives, but agreement that it must be politically resolved between the creditors and debtors," LaRouche told the paper.

El Nacional described LaRouche as "a polemical philosopher," and "a controversial economist who has dedicated his life and goods to a crusade against U.S. and Soviet imperialism, which, he says, threatens to destroy humanity through drugs." But the paper couldn't resist asking LaRouche about his famous "fight" with the powerful Cisneros family in Venezuela back in 1985.

In February 1985, LaRouche made front-page news in Venezuela for weeks on end, and was "denounced" as the man who had commissioned the book *Dope, Inc.*, an exposé of the drug trade which attacks (among other people) money-laundering bankers. Less than one week after publication of the Spanish-language edition of the book, the Cisneros family (one of Venezuela's richest nouveaux riches), went to the courts to demand *Dope, Inc.* be banned in Venezuela, because the book "offended the honor" of the family by mentioning them.

Three years later, *El Nacional* wanted to know what LaRouche had to say about that "fight." LaRouche downplayed the role of the Cisneros, charging that the fuss over *Dope, Inc.* had been instigated by the U.S. embassy, on behalf of drug-money laundering Boston bankers and Soviet interests.

El Nacional featured this exchange as the center of their coverage, running a large picture of LaRouche (captioned, "I Accuse"), accompanied by a picture of Gustavo Cisneros walking with his business partner, David Rockefeller, and



A rally on Martin Luther King's birthday, Jan. 16, 1989, in San Francisco.

one of the U.S. ambassadors to Venezuela in 1985, George Landau—who left that post to serve as president of Rockefeller's Americas Society.

El Nacional's choice of coverage was timely. On Feb. 15, David Rockefeller and George Landau arrived in Caracas, along with many foreign luminaries, for a big publicity meeting of the Americas Society. The visitors were greeted by a well-placed, half-page advertisement placed by the PLV in *El Nacional*, warning that Rockefeller and his hired employee Henry Kissinger were heading up a plot by bankers and bolsheviks to destroy Venezuela's sovereignity and steal its resources (see *Documentation*).

El Nacional's feature on the "LaRouche agents" and the U.S. embassy's "dismissal" of LaRouche hit the next day—illustrated with a huge picture of a July 1984 issue of the PLV's newspaper, *Solidaridad Internacional,* which carried the bold headline: "Bankers to the Zoo! LaRouche, in Argentina, Recommends Solutions to President Alfonsín." Could Rockefeller and his friends fear that Carlos Andrés just might follow the example of his political ally, Argentine President Raúl Alfonsín, and consult with LaRouche—in jail or out—on a solution to the world debt crisis?

Documentation

Venezuelan Labor Party Secretary General Alejandro Peña published the following half-page ad in El Nacional *on Feb. 15, under the headline: "President Carlos Andres Perez: Rockefeller Wants to Trick Venezuela."*

The dirty campaign of anonymous ads taken out recently against my friend Lyndon LaRouche—a well-known opponent of the usurious practices of Rockefeller and the International Monetary Fund—are intended to frighten all Venezuelans, in order to eliminate any opposition to Rockefeller's fiendish plan to colonize the country.

As the Venezuelan Labor Party (PLV) has shown, the international banks—and their lackeys in Venezuela—have looted $67 billion from the country by means of the combined effect of flight capital and the increase in interest rates. Not content with this, now they want to squeeze what little remains to us, pushing forward a savage program of austerity that will mean hunger for the people, ruin for productive businesses, and a bonanza for speculators and drug-dollar launderers.

As if this weren't enough, at the same time the banks are pushing to exchange debt for our national patrimony: gold, aluminum, petroleum, PDVSA (the national oil company), territory, etc. Finally, they want to make us produce drugs to pay the foreign debt, as they have already succeeded in doing with other brother countries. It is no accident that the Inter-American Dialogue, a creation of the Trilateral Commission that Rockefeller presides over, has proposed drug legalization in its 1986 and 1988 reports. Nor is it an accident that they have also proposed the weakening of the Armed Forces of Ibero-America, to clear the way for their dastardly plan.

As is known, LaRouche has opposed these colonization policies, just as he has opposed a new Yalta-style partition of the world between the bankers and Moscow; unlike Kissinger—a well-known Rockefeller employee—who has just proposed that Europe be made a part of Russia's zone of influence, as made clear in his statements to the Feb. 12 *Washington Post*.

Lastly, LaRouche is the author of *Operation Juárez*, a famous proposal for reorganizing the international financial system, based on a moratorium on the foreign debt and carrying out Great Projects in the Third World. His program fully agrees with the concepts outlined by His Holiness John Paul II in his latest encyclical, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*.

These are among the reasons the Bolsheviks and the bankers have sent LaRouche to jail, where they intend to kill him.

Why do Rockefeller's puppets carry out an exaggerated, slanderous, and anonymous campaign, against someone who is in jail and who has no influence in Venezuela? The answer is simple: They want to frighten anyone who might oppose the genocidal austerity that the IMF, Rockefeller, Kissinger, and company seek to impose.

Peña versus Gnostics

On Feb. 14, one day before, Peña placed the following advertisement in El Universal, *under the headline, "Peña Esclusa vs. the Satanic Gnostic Church: Mr. Walter Márquez, Stop Hiding."*

I reiterate that Deputy Walter Márquez leads a Satanic sect, linked to the Colombian narco-terrorist M-19 group. I am speaking of the **Universal Christian Gnostic Church,** a dangerous, explicitly anti-Catholic heresy which promotes perverse sexual rites and brainwashing.

I accuse Deputy Walter Márquez of hiding behind national institutions and involving third parties, to evade debate . . . about the satanic Gnostic Church.

I clarify: I did not lead any campaign whatsoever against the Division of Military Intelligence, Congress, journalists . . . nor President Carlos Andrés Pérez. . . .

I clarify: I do not undertake anonymous campaigns by means of advertisements or other forms, unlike my detractors who anonymously publish slanderous ads against me and my friends, such as Lyndon H. LaRouche. . . .

I admit: I am carrying out a campaign against the **Universal Christian Gnostic Church** and other forms of Satanism existing in our country. This campaign is based on the following:

Fact No. 1: The Gnostic Church was founded in Venezuela by **Walter Márquez,** together with **Julio César Medina Vizcaino** and **José Vicente Márquez,** Colombian citizens accused in their country of being "rapists, swindlers, terrorists, and narcotics traffickers."

Fact No. 2: The Gnostic Church protects the M-19 terrorist group; that is publicly admitted by the guerrilla chiefs themselves, such as M-19 founder (the late) Jaime Bateman and current M-19 chief Carlos Pizarro. In fact, Gnosticism serves as the M-19's internal ideology and recruitment mechanism.

Fact No. 3: Gnosticism is connected to arms-for-drugs trading through the **Bulgarian Connection** and **Kintex** company, as found in the investigations carried out after the attempted assassination of His Holiness John Paul II.

Fact No. 4: The Gnostic Church promotes perverse sexual rites and brainwashing. Reading any book by that sect's demented patriarch, the late Colombian **Samael Aún Weor,** is enough to prove that.

This is not religious persecution, since the **Universal Christian Gnostic Church** is neither Christian nor a church. This is an unmasking of those who hide behind a pseudo-religion to destabilize democracy and to conspire against our fundamental institutions, such as the National Armed Forces and the Catholic Church.

I say to Márquez: Don't keep running away from the debate. I suppose, Mr. Márquez, that I have been explicit enough for you not to go on telling the gullible who have supported you out of good faith, that this is an "anonymous campaign to discredit"; I am presenting my signature and my identity card, concrete facts, and a very clear invitation to debate publicly. Are you going to keep refusing? Do you have anything else to hide?