

## Australia Dossier by Allen Douglas

### Strange assortment targets LaRouche

*Death threats fly amid increasing hysteria over LaRouche's influence, following well-publicized tours by supporters.*

On Feb. 25 the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's widely listened-to "Country Hour" featured as its lead item following the national news, an attack against U.S. statesman and political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche. Janine Powell, head of the Australian Democrats and one of the country's most prominent politicians, railed against a demonstration that day in Canberra, claiming it was being organized by LaRouche supporters. As proof that LaRouche, whom she described as heading up "an international anti-Semitic group known for its radical conspiracy theories," was behind the demonstration, Powell claimed that one of the protest's sponsors had been "handing out brochures for the LaRouchite Pat Ruckert," during Ruckert's mid-1991 tour of Australia.

Following Powell, ABC spokeswoman Lisa Parlou interviewed businessman Joe Bryant, a leader of an early January demonstration in Canberra to protest President Bush's visit to Australia. Parlou abruptly demanded of Bryant, "Do you know Lyndon LaRouche?" Bryant replied that he knew the name, but that no, he did not know him. The nonplussed interviewer cut short her line of questioning.

LaRouche supporters did not, in fact, organize the Feb. 25 rally, but Powell's presumption that they had, reflects the Australian establishment's growing tendency to see LaRouche behind every bush. A few days earlier, the national television program Hard Copy, associated with the syndicated program of the same name in the United States, opened its attack against the reelection victory of Can-

berra state parliamentarian Dennis Stevenson, by claiming that Stevenson was "believed linked to the jailed right-wing U.S. fraudster Lyndon LaRouche," and to the Citizens Electoral Councils (CEC), whose founders John Koehler and Craig Isherwood, have endorsed LaRouche for President. Stevenson is well-known for his courageous exposure of the "citizens above suspicion" behind the Australia's pornography industry.

The Australian establishment's fear of the spread of LaRouche's ideas is not without foundation, as evidenced by a highly successful tour of Western Australia in the first three weeks of February by CEC founder Koehler, and Max Johnson, a leader of the Western Australia-based Rural Action Movement, who has also endorsed LaRouche for President.

Koehler is an activist for the international Food for Peace organization, a movement set into motion by the Schiller Institute at LaRouche's urging in 1988. Last year, Koehler was one of many farmers who traveled to the U.S. Midwest on Schiller Institute-sponsored tours. In Australia, Koehler and Johnson spoke to over 2,000 people in 13 public meetings. The two located the roots of the crisis now devastating Australia's rural industries in the Anglo-Americans' genocidal international food cartels. Over 240 copies of "Sovereign Australia: An Economic Development Programme to Save Our Nation," developed jointly by the CEC and EIR upon the principles of physical economy outlined by LaRouche, were sold.

By the end of the tour, key figures

associated with it, in particular Koehler, were receiving death threats. At a meeting in Perth, officials from the Wharfside Workers' and Seamen's Unions—self-proclaimed communists—called Koehler "the most dangerous man in Australia," who "has to be gotten rid of very soon." Shortly thereafter, Western Australia CEC leader Alan Rout was threatened by an associate of the union leaders, one Ken McCaffrey, that Rout had better stop his organizing or he would be "fixed up good."

The threats expose some dirty secrets of Australia's Security Intelligence Organization (ASIO): the use of Nazi-communist gangs to silence political opposition. McCaffrey, a former mercenary in Rhodesia, is today a good friend of communists, but he was for years an associate of Jack van Tongeren, leader of the violent neo-Nazi Australian National Movement until van Tongeren's recent imprisonment. McCaffrey still visits his apparent mentor in jail.

Van Tongeren has boasted that many of the beatings, firebombings, and other mayhem he committed under his "neo-Nazi" flag, to which ASIO and various police agencies turned a blind eye for years, and which led to politically restrictive "hate crimes" laws being passed, had in fact been paid for by leaders in Australia's political parties, and prominent members of Perth's Jewish community.

The charges are highly credible. The ANM itself was a split-off from the neo-Nazi National Action party founded in the early 1980s by a reputed homosexual ASIO operative named David Greason. Upon quitting National Action, Greason suddenly surfaced as a radical "left-winger," but during both his "neo-Nazi," as well as his "left-wing" incarnations, he maintained the closest of ties to leading Australian Zionists.