

LaRouche program is under scrutiny in Russia

The Russian weekly New Times at the end of September (issue no. 39) carried the following unsigned article on U.S. independent presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, entitled "He Is Not Yet President." The magazine circulates worldwide.

For the fourth year now, *New Times'* old acquaintance, the American political activist Lyndon LaRouche, is serving a sentence in federal prison in Rochester, Minnesota. Regular readers of our journal will recall, that in the summer of 1987, Lyndon LaRouche and the French European Workers Party [sic] sued *NT* in a Paris superior court. The pretext for the suit was an article which had called the LaRouche groups in Europe and America "Nazis Without the Swastika." In September 1987, the Paris court declared the suit by LaRouche and his supporters groundless and rejected the accusations on all points. The decline and inglorious demise of the EWP commenced from that time on.

A year and a half later, Lyndon LaRouche himself landed in the dock. At first he was accused of machinations with credit cards, and then of conspiracy to confuse

the Internal Revenue Service. In January 1989, he was sentenced to 15 years in prison.

LaRouche's supporters consider him a victim of official caprice, and insist that he is a political prisoner. They maintain that LaRouche is dangerous for the American Establishment, because of his views and his widespread (quite scandalous) international fame. Also, he has participated in five presidential campaigns. The main theses of LaRouche's program have been struggle against the International Monetary Fund and private banks, and for a ban on narcotics and resuscitation of America's sick society. For more than one decade, he has been propagandizing his Napoleonic *idé fixe*, the Productive Triangle program: an economic upsurge of united Europe, during an economic depression in the U.S.A.

In order to upset life for "the worldwide usury of the banks" a little bit, LaRouche advises Third World countries to freeze payment on their debts and is surprised that these revolutionary views are not to the liking of the American authorities.

In the Rochester prison, where in September Lyndon LaRouche marked his 70th birthday, he is not wasting any time: He is again taking part in the electoral campaign for the presidency, he has written five books on economics, philosophy, and science, he is fighting for a reconsideration of his case, and he is already giving thought to how he might help Russia.

15 years; Shelley Ascher—10 years; Shubeilat—death sentence?" (a reference to imprisoned Jordanian leader Laith Shubeilat—see *EIR*, Oct. 2, p. 47.) Another poster said: "If the U.S. wants to preach human rights, it should clean up its mess at home."

In Frankfurt, Germany on Sept. 28, a large international delegation gathered around the banner "Stop Death Penalty in the U.S.A." and posters of LaRouche and Mike Billington. The revival of the death penalty in the United States is particularly repugnant to Europeans, whose countries have all banned it a long time ago as a relic of a bygone and more barbarous age.

That evening, a banner "Freedom for the Political Prisoners," was spread out on the ground at a crowded site in the city of Hanover, and about 50 candles were placed around it plus smaller signs with the names of the political prisoners and the years of their sentences. Some people reacted, "This is worse than McCarthy," especially when they heard of the 77-year sentence.

In Cologne, in the heart of the Rhineland, at a busy area in the city center, a similar banner bore the slogan "Stop the Death Penalty in the U.S.A." and was flanked by a makeshift electric chair with life-size manikin strapped into it. The

picket sign, "77 Years and Innocent," referring to Billington's prison term, drew a particularly shocked response from those who passed, among them not only Germans, but also many Americans and other foreigners.

Bush lies about communism

Billington appeared at a rally in Richmond, before surrendering at the state prison in Powhatan, Virginia. The press statement released there noted that he has already served a three-year federal sentence for political fundraising, and added:

"There is a particular irony in this regard. Billington has dedicated his recent years—including those in prison—to work on China, to the purpose of contributing to the defeat of the communist tyranny in that once-great nation. He often expressed his outrage at the lie spread by both Bush and the Democratic Party leadership that communism had vanished from the Earth with the fall of the Soviet Union. Not only does the United States continue to support Beijing, but the United States has effectively supported the Maoist fanatics who are threatening to spread this hideous form of communist tyranny throughout the world, while condemning the leaders of the fight against drugs and terrorism in the United States to longer-than-life prison sentences."