

Was FBI setting up LaRouche supporters?

by Our Special Correspondent

Recently released documents indicate that the Federal Bureau of Investigation may have been planning bloody assaults on homes or offices of associates of Lyndon LaRouche even after LaRouche and six associates were jailed in the beginning of 1989. As late as 1990, the FBI characterized LaRouche's associates as "armed and dangerous" — a charge it knew to be false — according to FBI files disclosed to *EIR* investigative reporter Scott M. Thompson.

The documents at issue refer to an FBI investigation into the alleged disappearance of some of British establishment and MI-6 member Kenneth de Courcy's documents which were on file at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University in California. The documents dealt with KGB penetration of British Intelligence during World War II, and also included documents De Courcy claimed would exonerate him of a conviction and prison sentence.

At the time that the San Francisco FBI field office opened this spurious investigation of Thompson, it was heavily influenced by Roy Bullock and Tom Gerard, two of the principal members of the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) deep-cover spy network. Gerard is a former San Francisco Police Intelligence officer who is now under indictment for illegal spying.

After Hoover Institution officials complained about the missing documents to the FBI, the FBI opened an investigation, ostensibly choosing Thompson as a suspect, because his visit to the Hoover Institution and examination of the De Courcy papers was claimed to be the last public visit before the papers disappeared.

According to one of the FBI documents sent to the FBI director and numerous field offices, the FBI claimed: "It has been determined that Thompson may have been tasked to gather 'defense' information for the LaRouche trial in Alexandria [Virginia]. Part of LaRouche's defense was to prove an elaborate conspiracy between the Soviet KGB and England's MI-5 which has led to LaRouche's prosecution on 'trumped up' charges."

The same document reported: "Additional investigation at WMFO [Washington Metropolitan Field Office] reveals that Thompson has done research of the type he did at the Hoover Institute [sic] at the U.S. National Archives and the Library of Congress. . . . Checks are continuing at those institutions."

A Sept. 25, 1989 report from the Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the FBI office in San Francisco to the FBI director continued to point toward the theory that research on De

Courcy's documents was linked to LaRouche's defense: "Thompson visited the Hoover Institution in 10/88 and reviewed historic documents regarding the KGB's alleged penetration of MI-5 during and after WWII. These are precisely the documents that were stolen. San Francisco and WMFO are attempting to compile enough probable cause for a search warrant for Thompson's residence."

'Armed and dangerous'

As early as August 1989, the FBI began to try to depict Thompson as a terrorist. A document dated Sept. 25, 1989 carries the following: "On 8/24/89 [redacted] Boston Div. advised that he does know [redacted] advised that any member of the Lyndon LaRouche organization should not be taken lightly in that they may have been responsible for two bombings and are known to have had automatic weapons and therefore should be considered armed and dangerous."

This formula of "armed and dangerous" undoubtedly came from Richard Egan, the FBI's lunatic LaRouche case agent in Boston — Egan is known to have pressed for an assault on LaRouche's living quarters during an Oct. 6-7, 1986 raid on companies run by LaRouche associates in Leesburg, Virginia. Egan's formula was repeated in every subsequent document. For example, another Sept. 25, 1989 report from the San Francisco SAC to the WMFO SAC states, under a bold headline "Armed and Dangerous," that "Scott M. Thompson should be considered armed and dangerous in view of the fact that he is a member of the Lindon [sic] LaRouche organization which may have been responsible for two bombings in the Washington D.D. [sic] area and are known to have automatic weapons."

This characterization was located amidst discussion of whether the FBI should try to obtain a search warrant on Thompson's residence. If the FBI had attempted this, FBI agents who had been fed the falsehood that Thompson was "armed and dangerous" might well have attempted to provoke violence along the line of the pattern displayed by the FBI recently in Waco, Texas and elsewhere.

Even after being unable to obtain evidence for a search warrant, a report from an FBI agent dated May 30, 1990 showed that the agent was conducting physical surveillance on Thompson's home and an office with which Thompson was associated. Interestingly, when two FBI agents finally interviewed Thompson on Aug. 8, 1990 in the presence of two witnesses, their report shows they overlooked what Thompson said was the most important document in the De Courcy collection before and after the theft, namely a memo De Courcy wrote in prison about how he helped KGB "double agent" George Blake escape from Wormwood Scrubs Prison. They also overlooked Thompson's repeated statements that, if the theft was not an inside job, it would likely have been carried out by a foreign intelligence service.

The spurious case against Thompson was closed in the fall of 1990 without further incident.