

Farrakhan calls for class action suit to force release of FBI, DOJ files

by Dennis Speed

A surprising turn of events has occurred in the sensational case of the alleged "assassination attempt" by a daughter of Malcolm X against the present-day leader of the Nation of Islam, Minister Louis Farrakhan. The Muslim leader proposed a class action suit in which those persecuted by the government—including "the LaRouche people"—would seek to gain access to the files of the Department of Justice (DOJ) and other government agencies, on the historical and current operations to defame, and perhaps silence, those deemed "controversial" and "dangerous."

Lyndon LaRouche was convicted in a federal trial on trumped-up "conspiracy" charges, and was jailed in 1989 with a 15-year sentence. Six associates were convicted with him and given sentences ranging from three to five years. He was freed on parole after serving five years. Five other of his associates are now in prison in Virginia, having been given draconian sentences ranging from 25 to 77 years for "securities violations."

International and national calls for the exoneration of LaRouche and his associates have emphasized the need to release files that would have proven LaRouche's innocence, and proven that the government at all times *knew of the fact* of LaRouche's innocence. Minister Louis Farrakhan's proposal that "the files be opened" would extend to these documents, as well as to documents revealing the harassment of African-American and other elected officials, and other travesties of justice that have become commonplace in contemporary America.

Speaking to over 4,000 supporters and members of the national press on Jan. 17, Farrakhan declared that Qubilah Shabazz, Malcolm X's daughter, was "manipulated" by "unscrupulous forces"—government informants in the employ of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The specific informant and alleged accomplice, Michael Fitzpatrick, had been an asset of the FBI for virtually the entirety of his adult life (see box).

Minister Farrakhan's speech was reminiscent of the press conference he gave on Feb. 3, 1994 in Washington, D.C., in which he blasted the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith as a leading "slander squad" against African-American lead-

ers. Fitzpatrick has been intimately tied to the Jewish Defense League (JDL), the "sewer rat" networks-squad deployed by the ADL, which serves as the cover for the more sophisticated, and efficient, hit teams of professional intelligence agencies.

Materials now being released indicate that Qubilah Shabazz attempted to *discourage* Fitzpatrick from taking action to assassinate Farrakhan.

Farrakhan's approach to the entire matter lifted the focus from the cheap, "O.J. Simpson"-style coverage of the newspapers, radio, and television—"did she or didn't she?"—to another, more important question: Why would the FBI, notorious for its support of racist harassment against African-American elected officials (for example, its "Frühmenschen"—which means "ape-men"—entrapment campaign, in which black politicians were declared to have a "genetic" propensity to steal), warn the Nation of Islam of the so-called assassination plot, just prior to its public announcement of it? Why would the FBI, notorious for having directly threatened Malcolm X in an interview at his home (which Malcolm tape-recorded) with the phrase, "it is a fact that we can eliminate people," as well as for its collaboration with the ADL in the unethical, if not outright illegal, surveillance of Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as scores of other individuals and organizations, over decades, seriously seek to protect Louis Farrakhan from harm?

As an official press release from the Nation of Islam, issued on Jan. 13, stated: "The question that must be raised by the Black community today is whether or not . . . we can reasonably believe that the U.S. Department of Justice desires to protect Minister Louis Farrakhan's life. . . . The actions of the government must be called into question; the government must be forced to release to the public all that it knows regarding this recent development."

Investigators, and the public, should also consider that the fact that this particular operation may have been "blown" in no way indicates that there is not a continuing plot of a far more serious nature—which may be as much directed against, for example, President Clinton, as against Minister Farrakhan.

Documentation

Minister Farrakhan: 'Open up all the files!'

What follows is an excerpted text of remarks made by Minister Louis Farrakhan at Mosque Maryaam in Chicago on Jan. 17. Subheads have been added.

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the One God, to Whom praise is forever due. We thank Him for Moses and the Torah. We thank Him for Jesus and the Gospel. We thank Him for Mohammad and Quoran. Peace be upon these worthy Servants.

If I live to be a thousand, I could never thank Him enough, for His intervention in our affairs in raising up in our midst the man who taught me what I know and gave me the example of the human being I hope to become. And that is our Divine leader and teacher, the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad. . . .

I will begin with a few chapters of the Holy Quoran which are the closing chapters of the Quoran and they are called the "Chapters of Refuge." In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful, "Say, I seek refuge in the Lord of the Dawn, from the evil of that which he has created. From the evil of intense darkness when it comes. And from the evil of those who cast evil suggestions in firm resolutions and from the evil of the envier when he envies." . . .

Allah God created this universe from out of darkness, yet today we live in a universe of light. This teaches us that even in our darkest hours, light, hope, and life are always present. If we do not despair in a time of darkness, if we have the right attitude, we can find the light of opportunity.

Although this is a dark hour for Mrs. Betty Shabazz and her family, for me, for the Nation of Islam, and for our people, there is a marvelous opportunity present in this darkness to cleanse a wound, and to begin healing wounds inflicted 30 years ago on the Nation of Islam and the Black community. Some of those wounds were self-inflicted, but the deepest wounds are from an outside force. . . .

There is more here than meets the eye

Things are not always as they appear. This is why God today comes to judge, because the unjust judges of this world do not judge according to Truth. They are not made to do justice. They make mischief by means of the law. The law is a tool that can be stretched for those whom the society favors, and drawn up and made narrow and tight for those whom the society dislikes. I personally am saddened over the indictment and the arrest of Qubilah Shabazz on charges that she, in a murder-for-hire scheme, made a partial payment of money to a man, a government informant who was to assassinate me.

There is so much more to this than meets the eye. My sympathy, the sympathy of my family and the Nation is with Mrs. Shabazz and her family, because in my judgment, the federal indictment handed down to Qubilah Shabazz, does not only add insult to injury, it adds one more injury to an already injured family and people.

The government of the United States has not, and does not deny its hatred for Malcolm X and his teacher the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. The government of the United States does not deny that the counterintelligence programs of the Justice Department of the United States, carried out by J. Edgar Hoover's Federal Bureau of Investigation, worked night and day to destroy the unity between Malcolm X and his teacher the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. . . .

The government of the United States does not deny the thousands of tricks used by the CIA in their attempts to destabilize and destroy the credibility of governments and leaders, to destabilize and overthrow governments, to murder world leaders. Every one of these tactics were brought to bear against Black leaders and Black organizations during the 1960s. The government of the United States does not deny that it used reporters, employed by so-called respected journals to place articles in those respected journals, designed to discredit, defame, malign, and limit the influence by falsely accusing certain Black leaders.

The government of the United States does not deny the fact that through her agent provocateurs planted in every Black organization, the government caused the spilling of blood in the Black community and even the murder of some leaders of Black organizations. The government of the United States does not deny the fact that it went so far as to plant men in some organizations to sleep with the wives of the leaders of some of these organizations to create discord within Black organizations. The government of the United States does not deny planting stories that put a "snitch jacket" on sincere persons within certain organizations to cause zealots within those organizations to kill those persons.

The government of United States does not deny that it bugged the hotels, the home, and the office of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and sought to persuade the Nobel Prize Committee to deny him the Nobel Peace Prize. The government of the United States does not deny that it encouraged the Pope not to meet with Dr. King, and even sent letters to Dr. King urging him to kill himself, before they made known to the public certain so-called indiscretions of Dr. King. The same government of the United States that did all of these things created division within the Nation of Islam, and exploited that division and made the Nation of Islam and its leadership the Number #1 organization targeted for destruction.

The same forces denied Malcolm X protection after his house had been fire-bombed as a result of a hostile environment created by the government-media. They have now exposed Malcolm's daughter Qubilah, to a similarly hostile environment, which has likewise been created by the wicked

Michael Fitzpatrick, an FBI-ADL hit man

Michael Fitzpatrick, the government's key "witness" in the assassination conspiracy case against Qubilah Shabazz, is a sick person—but not nearly as sick as the FBI and Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) officials who have controlled and steered his every move for at least the past 17 years.

According to news accounts and sources personally familiar with the 34-year-old FBI undercover "snitch," Fitzpatrick is part of a stable of agent provocateurs deployed by a combine of ADL "fact finders" and FBI special agents to target groups and individuals on the FBI-ADL "enemies list." Among the other members of this "stable" are Jewish Defense Organization leader Mordechai Levy, ADL "fact finder" James Rosenberg, and Jewish underground bomber Victor Vancier.

Fitzpatrick, who also goes by the name "Michael Summers," was recruited to the FBI's Federal Witness Protection Program (FWPP) before he was old enough to drive. By 1977, Fitzpatrick was a member of the Jewish Defense League's (ADL) terrorist cell structure. The JDL was a joint effort of the ADL, the FBI, and factions of the Israeli Mossad linked to Israel's Likud party. According to Robert Friedman, the biographer of JDL founder Rabbi

Meir Kahane, targets for JDL terrorism were selected by a secret committee made up of Mossad official (and later Israeli prime minister) Yitzhak Shamir, Knesset (parliament) member Geula Cohen, and Bernard Deutch, the head of the Brooklyn, New York chapter of the ADL.

Fitzpatrick was a member of one of the cells that carried out bombings of Arab and Soviet diplomatic facilities in 1977-78. Another member of the cell was Victor Vancier. When the activities of the unit began to get out of control, Fitzpatrick was "turned" as an FBI informant to testify against his fellow bombers. Vancier and one other JDL member went to jail for two years, and Fitzpatrick went into the FWPP.

Although news accounts have Fitzpatrick's ties to the FBI beginning in 1978, sources close to his case have told *EIR* that he was already working for the FBI and the ADL before he joined the JDL.

After he sent his fellow JDL members to prison, Fitzpatrick was relocated—courtesy of the FBI and the taxpayers' money—to the Midwest, where he continued for the next 17 years as an undercover spy and provocateur for the FBI. On Nov. 23, 1994, still in the FWPP, Fitzpatrick was arrested by Minneapolis police, along with his employer, Hershel Rosenberg, for running a retail crack cocaine distribution ring. Now that he is slated to be the crucial government witness against Shabazz, the drug-peddling case against him has been indefinitely postponed.—*Jeffrey Steinberg*

machinations of the same government.

The circumstances surrounding Qubilah's release are such that we fear for her safety. Therefore, we demand, that the same government responsible for planting a paid informant to entrap her, place 24-hour protection around her.

Qubillah is a child that I knew and held in my arms as a baby. I do not believe that Qubilah is an evil woman. And in the numerous reports that I have read, most people who know her do not believe that either. Qubilah is a child who loves her father; a child who grieves over the loss of her father's life—a life cut short, not by Louis Farrakhan, but by the same evil forces that throw stones and hide their hands and who, like Pontius Pilate, wash their hands of the matter, and allow just men to go to an undeserved destruction. . . .

Dr. Betty Shabazz and her six daughters . . . loved their husband and father like my wife loves her husband, and my children love their father. We share similar experiences. My older children know that I taught them from babies how to roll out of their beds if bullets came crashing through our windows at night. My older children know that in the night when I was Minister in Boston, Massachusetts, my home was fire-bombed. And I had to challenge the flames and carry

all of my children to safety, and my wife in her nightgown, counting the babies as I brought them out, said, "One is missing." And it was my daughter Maria. I had to go back up in the fire to get my daughter. We know what it is to love and to be hurt because you stand for a principle for your people.

This is the power of love. Love is the most powerful force in human nature. . . . It is love that makes a mother challenge a blazing inferno to save her child. And when one is aggrieved over the loss of a loved one, and the injury is not properly redressed, the longing for justice and the pain and hurt of the loss can be maneuvered and manipulated by unscrupulous forces. And the one who is aggrieved can be led to step over the limits of what is legally correct. I believe that that is what happened with Qubilah Shabazz. She is no different than these, my children. These are not criminals. And neither is Qubilah Shabazz. . . .

Why the focus on Farrakhan?

Why has the media coverage of this event been so extensive, so relentless? The announcement of the indictment of Qubilah has gathered more headlines than the assassination

attempts against Pope John Paul, former President Reagan, and the recent attacks on the White House. Why? Why? What is so special here? That a man can fly an airplane into the White House and he gets a blip and a blop, and two days later we forget about it. But for nearly a week this incident has dominated the headlines, not only in America, but, throughout the world. The Black community wants to know why is this happening and why now? Why is the focus on Farrakhan? . . .

The focus on Farrakhan is because I occupy the seat of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad as the leader of the Nation of Islam. And the ultimate aim of this government is to destroy Louis Farrakhan by planting the seeds of public contempt and hatred toward me through manipulation of the media. It is no coincidence, Brothers and Sisters, that after I spoke to nearly 15,000 Black men, early last year in New York City, that the New York Post launched a series of malicious attacks on me. . . . The Nation of Islam's attorneys brought a \$4,400,000 lawsuit against Rupert Murdoch's *New York Post* in March of 1994. Now, nearly one year has passed and the New York State Supreme Court has not issued a single ruling on any of the various motions that have been brought before it by our attorneys. . . .

The *New York Post* admitted in court documents that it possessed certain files containing certain communications between it and the FBI. Our attorneys demanded these documents through the discovery process, however, the *Post* refused to release these documents, claiming that "certain documents were gathered in anticipation of litigation and are, thus, privileged."

What litigation was anticipated? It was not the suit that we filed. We believe it was a criminal proceeding, in which false witnesses were gathered, in which I was to have been charged with complicity in the murder of Malcolm X. . . .

Here on this table are all of the speeches that I have made on Malcolm X. They are available for you to look into my mind and my heart and every word that I have uttered in public about the man. . . . I was never a rival of Malcolm X. Malcolm was my teacher and my mentor and I never considered myself his rival. This is what you have made.

We should close ranks

And so, in view of all of this, what should be done? What should we do? We should close ranks.

On these things we can unite. We believe that our leaders should force the government to open all files concerning the charges against Qubilah Shabazz and all of the files relating to Malcolm X and his assassination!

Open up all the files! In fact, since all of our leaders throughout our history in this country have been subjected to governmental harassment and interference, I propose that we, as a people, *file . . . a class-action suit, charging the U.S. government with the denial of our civil rights and our human rights!* Cause the opening of *all files* with respect to the Honorable Marcus Garvey, Noble Drew-Ali, Paul Robe-

son, Adam Clayton-Powell, the NAACP, CORE, SNCC, SCLC, the Panther Party, Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, Elijah Muhammad, Louis Farrakhan, the LaRouche people, Scientology, and their Number One target, the Nation of Islam!

Let's all unite in a class-action suit! Put our differences on the side burner, on the back-burner, or throw [them] off the stove completely!

Let's all unite in a class action suit. A government of and by the people, such as this one, should not have the ability to hold secret from the people files and documents, relating to the murder of President Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Malcolm X. Such secrecy protects only the guilty in and out of the government and frustrates the attainment of justice. So, open the files! Let the light shine on the dark secrets of the government of the people, which has been taken over by the forces of the wicked.

God is giving us a platform, to challenge this government for crimes perpetrated against us for 440 years. And this is why we are calling on 1 million Black men to march on Washington, D.C. this year! . . . It is time that we as Black men stand up for the hurt of our families, and the hurt of our ancestors. They died and they can't stand, but we are here today to stand up for them. I say *on to Washington*. . . .

This, this is why the government feels they must stop me now! They can envision a million Black men. What nation on this earth has a million men standing behind any leader? They can envision politically what that will mean for America and what it will mean for us.

So in my closing, whether Betty Shabazz and I ever become friends again; whether Coretta Scott-King and I ever embrace in sincere love; whether the first children of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad and I ever embrace in a bond of love and brotherhood; whether Rev. Jesse Jackson and I embrace as friends and brothers in the struggle, we are the elders in the struggle of our people for liberation. And our chapter in this history of quest of our people for freedom, justice, and equality is closing. But, we must let the children live! The children of Malcolm X. The children of Dr. King. The children of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. The children of Rev. Jackson. The children of Louis Farrakhan. *Let the children live!*

As we close this chapter on the old, and we start a new chapter in the battle for Justice, let not the children of the warriors of this old chapter go down. Let our children set a new agenda. Let them take the good of their parents and build on that, and let them leave the garbage behind. Let them make their day brighter and newer. And give our people a new spirit and a new hope. Let us stand firm together, and stop the enemies of our rise. They ruined our yesterday. And we helped them. They are fighting to ruin our today. We must not help them. And by putting Qubilah Shabazz behind bars, they are attempting to ruin our tomorrow. So, let us say, in one voice: *never, never again!*