

## LaRouche movement flexes its muscle vs. DOJ tyranny

by Jeffrey Steinberg

A political paradigm-shift is radically altering America's political landscape. Citizens' rage at the corruption of Washington's "permanent bureaucracy" has been transformed by the LaRouche political movement into a drive to clean out the criminals in the U.S. Department of Justice, who have waged a war of tyranny against the American public for far too long. The focus of this mobilization has been to build support for the McDade-Murtha Citizens Protection Act of 1998, a bill that would, for the first time, place Federal prosecutors in the docket if they break the law through abuse of their powers.

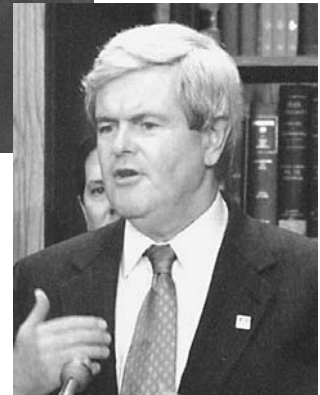
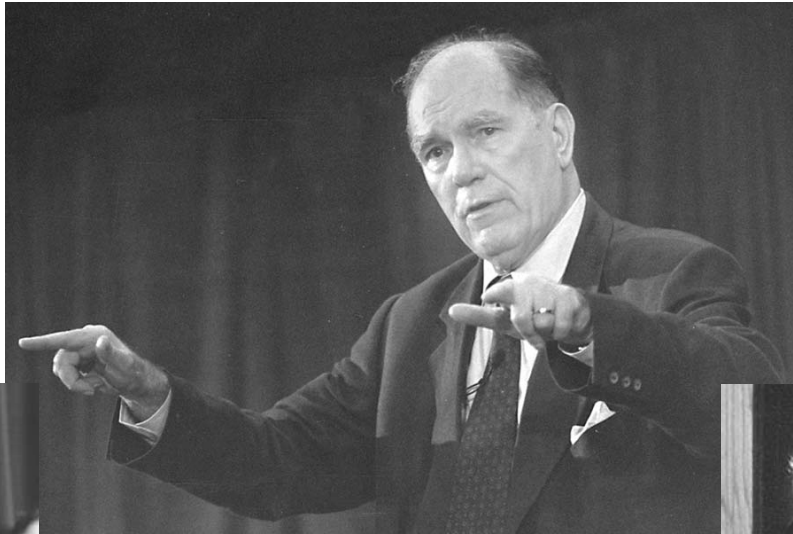
Now, with the fight over the McDade-Murtha bill reaching an end-game phase, and with the Congress preparing for mid-term elections in November, the LaRouche movement has announced plans to expand the fight for human rights in America. In addition to the drive to expose the crimes of the Justice Department, a series of town meetings is being organized, to take on two other hideous human rights violations: the transformation of America's Federal and state prisons into slave-labor camps, and the creation of similar slave-labor camps across the border in northern Mexico, under the North American Free Trade Alliance (NAFTA). In this *Feature*, we provide the documentation necessary for this fight.

### **The McDade-Murtha battle**

On July 16, Rep. Joseph McDade (R-Pa.), the author of the Citizens Protection Act of 1998 (H.R. 3396), introduced the text of the bill, in its entirety, as an amendment to the House Appropriations bill which funds the Department of Justice for the next fiscal year. The bill, with the amendment, passed out of the Appropriations Committee by a unanimous vote, and is now scheduled for a debate and vote before the full House of Representatives within days.

H.R. 3396 would create a permanent review board to probe complaints of misconduct by Federal prosecutors, with the authority to recommend criminal prosecutions of DOJ officials who commit crimes itemized in the bill.

In June, as the list of official co-sponsors of the McDade-Murtha bill grew to



*Left to right: Attorney General Janet Reno, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., and Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich. LaRouche is leading a national fight against human rights violations by the “permanent bureaucracy” of the Department of Justice, and in support of the McDade-Murtha Citizens Protection Act of 1998. Gingrich has worked aggressively to prevent the passage of the Act, while Reno vigorously defended the DOJ prosecutors and said she would urge President Clinton to veto the Act, if it were passed.*

more than 150 representatives, Attorney General Janet Reno came out publicly in opposition to the bill, and vowed to pressure President Bill Clinton to veto it, should it reach his desk. Reno’s action came days after the LaRouche-founded Schiller Institute conducted a week of lobbying on Capitol Hill, with participation by ten representatives from among the most powerful state legislators around the country.

The Department of Justice, through a number of front groups, including the National Association of Assistant United States Attorneys (Naausa) and the FBI Agents Association, deployed to Capitol Hill, beginning in late May, in a desperate effort to disrupt the momentum toward the McDade-Murtha bill’s passage. Members of the House and Senate with long-standing ties to the Justice Department permanent bureaucracy, joined in the effort to stop H.R. 3396.

Sen. Jefferson Beauregard Sessions (R-Ala.), a former U.S. Attorney and Alabama State Attorney General who reinstated chain gangs in the state prison system, boasted about his collusion with Reno and the DOJ against the Citizens Protection Act, at Senate Judiciary Committee hearings on July 15, the day before McDade put the bill before the Appropriations Committee.

Bill McCollum (R-Fla.), a member of the House Judiciary Committee, was another aggressive opponent of the bill. Before he moved his bill out of the Judiciary Committee, McDade had succeeded in shifting the jurisdiction over H.R. 3396 from McCollum’s subcommittee, to another, headed by the far more sympathetic George Gekas (R-Pa.). McCollum’s notion of justice and human rights is revealed in his current

sponsorship of a House bill that would open America’s Federal prisons to exploitation by private corporations, seeking “slave labor” workers, to allow their goods to “compete” on the global market.

It is noteworthy that, although support for McDade-Murtha has come from a majority of Republican and Democratic rank and file members of the House, the Gingrich-led Republican leadership in the Congress has worked aggressively against the bill’s passage, while the Democratic leadership has sat on the sidelines. Indeed, on the Democratic side of the aisle, Congressional Black Caucus members Maxine Waters (D-Calif.), John Conyers (D-Mich.), and Jesse Jackson, Jr. (D-Ill.) stand out as three hysterical opponents of McDade-Murtha, a position that has not been lost on their constituents and other colleagues in the Black Caucus.

Despite the DOJ-FBI hooligan tactics, momentum in support of McDade-Murtha grew, as Congress prepared for the Fourth of July recess. During the recess, hundreds of voters mobilized by the Schiller Institute, in every part of the country, met with their Congressmen back in the districts, to press for their co-sponsorship of the bill. By *EIR*’s calculations, when Congress returned from the recess, nearly 200 members had either formally signed on with the Clerk of the House as co-sponsors, or had informed their constituents that they were about to co-sponsor. In short, the bill was at the threshold of reaching an absolute majority of support in the House, when all hell broke loose.

Above all, the DOJ is committed to stopping the planned public hearings before the House Judiciary Committee on the

bill. Such hearings threaten to blow the lid off decades of Justice Department tyranny and criminality, directed against constituency leaders, against African-American officials and political leaders, and particularly against political figures, like Lyndon LaRouche, whose policies pose a serious threat to the international financial oligarchy.

The DOJ and the FBI dispatched a veteran of the Hill, former Rep. Ed Bethune (R-Ark.), as its chief thug in the drive to defeat McDade-Murtha. Bethune had been the so-called “ethics adviser” to House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) in 1996, when Gingrich was facing criminal prosecution and House censure. Bethune is reputed to have used every hard-ball tactic in the book to salvage Gingrich’s post as Speaker.

Bethune personifies the links between the corrupt DOJ bureaucracy and the higher-ups in the financial oligarchy. He has recently been a lobbyist for Seagram’s, Royal Dutch Shell, the Bush-linked Enron energy corporation of Texas, and Africa Resources Trust—an adjunct of Prince Philip’s World Wildlife Fund (WWF), a murderous front for the Anglo-Dutch oligarchy. Bethune, a former FBI agent, is now the general counsel to the FBI Agents Association.

While *EIR* has not yet assembled a full picture of the events leading up to McDade’s parliamentary maneuver, which short-circuited the immediate prospect of House Judiciary Committee hearings and put the Citizens Protection Act directly before the full House for a vote, it is known that he came under immense pressure from the Bethune-led DOJ protection squad, in the days leading up to his action.

### **The LaRouche factor**

According to one Congressional source, McDade and other backers of the bill were told, point blank, that if they proceeded with the planned Judiciary Committee hearings, McDade would go down in history as “the man who thrust Lyndon LaRouche into political power in the United States.”

Another former Congressman put it this way: “LaRouche has been fighting for five years to win exoneration, following his frame-up and jailing in the late 1980s. A public airing of the LaRouche railroad before the House Judiciary Committee would have had far-reaching implications. It would have been a far more significant political break-out than even a Presidential exoneration. LaRouche’s enemies couldn’t let that happen. Not in a million years.”

The issue of public hearings was vital for the bill’s sponsor. From the outset, McDade, who has served 36 years in the Congress, and who beat back a vicious DOJ effort to railroad him into jail on fabricated racketeering charges related to a Pentagon procurement “sting,” had told associates that the public airing of the crimes of the DOJ was pivotal to his drive to create an oversight board “with teeth.” He saw the tremendous support for McDade-Murtha, from his fellow Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, and from the American public, as a clear mandate to proceed with such hearings.

McDade had also indicated that he was prepared to include issues first taken up in the Mann-Chestnut August 1995

Independent Commission hearings, at the Judiciary Committee hearings on his bill. The Mann-Chestnut hearings took testimony on Operation Fruehmenschen, which targeted African-American officials; the LaRouche frame-up; and the Justice Department’s Office of Special Investigations effort to carry out the “judicial” murder of John Demjanjuk, who was falsely accused of being the Treblinka concentration camp mass-murderer “Ivan the Terrible.” These cases demonstrated a systemic pattern of corruption by the permanent prosecutorial mafia at the DOJ.

McDade had indicated that he was prepared to take testimony from former Attorney General Ramsey Clark and attorney Odin Anderson on the details of the LaRouche case.

The fate of the McDade-Murtha bill is now ambiguous. If, as is expected, the House of Representatives passes the DOJ Appropriation bill, with the Citizens Protection Act language intact, the bill will then go to House-Senate conference. The Senate has already passed its DOJ appropriation, without McDade-Murtha parallel language. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) is expected to use every parliamentary trick in the book to prevent the inclusion of the Citizens Protection Act language in the final version of the bill. With Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) collaborating with Sessions to prevent McDade-Murtha from being signed into law, its prospects of surviving the conference committee appear to be a long shot.

However, the flexing of political muscle by the LaRouche movement cannot be ignored. Whereas, for years, the ideas of Lyndon LaRouche have reached into every pore of the political establishment in the United States and abroad, it was only with the McDade-Murtha mobilization that the LaRouche movement demonstrated a level of constituency support and activism that could move a majority in the U.S. House on a vital issue—even one that was vigorously opposed by the heart of the “secret government” and by the oligarchs of the London-centered Club of the Isles.

The fight to expose DOJ corruption and tyranny cannot, at this point, be stopped, even if the planned House hearings don’t take place in the immediate future.

The latest indication of the break-out of the fight against DOJ tyranny, came in a surprise move in the Senate on July 22. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.) introduced an amendment to the Senate Commerce, Justice, and State Appropriation bill, which would have allowed grand jury witnesses to bring attorneys into the grand jury room. The Senate rejected the amendment; however, 41 senators voted in support of the proposal, and Judiciary Committee Chairman Hatch felt compelled to agree to send the matter to the Judicial Conference for a review. Hatch agreed to a similar judicial review of another Bumpers bill, which would force prosecutors to provide grand jurors with exculpatory evidence.

### **The next step**

In response to the assault to stop hearings, the LaRouche movement will broaden the campaign against human rights

violations in America. Some of the most outspoken *opponents* of McDade-Murtha in the Congress have been the leading *proponents* of brutal human rights violations, including the willful spread of slave-labor policies inside the United States, and across the border in Mexico.

This is no accident. The DOJ's targetting operations have always been directed at individuals and institutions that the financial oligarchy has deemed "potential adversaries." Nothing demonstrates this more clearly than the railroad prosecution of LaRouche, who was singled out in the early 1970s by the likes of McGeorge Bundy and his protégé (and self-admitted British agent) Henry A. Kissinger, as a "potential threat" to the power of the financial elites of London and Wall Street. Hence, the issue of Congressional hearings on the LaRouche case was a *casus belli* for the DOJ and its backers.

Under the North American Free Trade Agreement, U.S. and foreign corporations have established a no-man's land of slave-labor private work camps, all along the northern Mexican border with the United States. As *EIR* warned, even before Congress passed NAFTA, this "Auschwitz south of the border" has wrecked living standards of working families in both the United States and Mexico. It is not coincidental that the ongoing strike by the United Auto Workers against General Motors, is over the impact of globalization on the U.S. auto industry. And it is not irrelevant that the United Steelworkers of America (USWA) recently filed a lawsuit in Federal court in Birmingham, Alabama, challenging NAFTA as unconstitutional. The move may signal that the labor movement is, at last, prepared to wage a war, as the LaRouche movement has, against this new eruption of slave-labor policies.

Complementing the hideous consequences of NAFTA, Representative McCollum and his confederates are pressing ahead with a variety of legislative initiatives and "pilot programs" aimed at transforming America's labor force into a modern form of chattel slavery. There are currently 1.7 million Americans incarcerated in Federal, state, and local prisons; and, this "captive" population has been targetted for a special role in driving down living standards of all American working families. The various state-run workfare programs that have been implemented since President Clinton's summer 1996 capitulation on the welfare reform bill, have created an adjunct to the prison-based slave-labor workforce: a small army of welfare recipients, who are being herded into jobs that were formerly filled by regular employees enjoying full wages and benefits.

Is it any less a form of slave labor if prisoners are being forced to work at sub-minimum wages under lock and key in American prisons, to feed an export market for cheap goods, than if the prisoners were in Chinese prisons? This is a question that the LaRouche movement is posing to Frank Wolf (R-Va.), a fanatic champion of "human rights" violations in places like China and Sudan (where it serves British interests), but a defender of DOJ tyranny in America.

Likewise, is it any less a violation of basic human rights to force Mexican workers, in *maquiladoras* near Matamoros

or Ciudad Juárez, to work for \$1 a day, producing auto parts for GM, than it is to complain about sweatshops in China?

The report that follows takes you on a walking tour of the "commercial" slave-labor camps that now dot the U.S.-Mexican border, and shows what the impact of NAFTA has been on the economies and conditions of life for Americans and Mexicans alike. It also gives a shocking view of what goes on in America's Federal and state prisons.

In the days ahead, LaRouche activists will be organizing constituency organizations, trade union leaders, state legislators, and members of Congress to build town meetings, expanding the scope of the battle for human rights in America.

By the time Congress recesses in early October, to complete the race to the November mid-term elections, the Gingrichites and their FBI and DOJ cronies are going to be wishing that they had allowed the Judiciary hearings on McDade-Murtha to proceed—rather than exposing their filthy hands in front of an American public that is smarting for a good fight.

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## Testimony

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### Three cases of DOJ prosecutorial misconduct

*The following testimony was submitted by the Schiller Institute to the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, July 13, 1998:*

On June 15, 1998, Attorney General Janet Reno sent a letter to Rep. Henry Hyde, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, presenting the views of the Department of Justice regarding H.R. 3396, the "Citizens Protection Act of 1998," now pending in the House. As of this date, H.R. 3396 now has over 200 co-sponsors.

Attorney General Reno emphasized to Chairman Hyde that "the Department is committed to ensuring that Department attorneys and other employees maintain the highest ethical standards." The Attorney General explained: "The Department has in place a formal disciplinary system administered by the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR)," and she described how the Department has more than doubled the number of attorneys in OPR since 1993, as well as outlining various other measures taken by the Department.

From this flowed the Attorney General's conclusion: "Additional, duplicative disciplinary authority over the public servants of the Department of Justice who devote their efforts to the rule of law is unwarranted and unnecessary."

At her weekly press availability on June 18, the Attorney General was asked about the Citizens Protection Act of 1998, and she responded: "I think the sponsors of this bill are trying to solve a problem that really doesn't exist."