

The Federal Elections Commission Has Become Carter's Gestapo

In the past three weeks, the Carter Administration has unleashed a multi-million dollar financial warfare operation against the U.S. Labor Party, led by actions of the Federal Elections Commission (FEC). It is clear from the pattern of evidence of the FEC's actions against the Labor Party and supporters of the party's Presidential candidate, Lyndon LaRouche, plus the FEC "black bag"-style investigations of other political figures that a coordinated reign of terror is being initiated in this country.

Analyzing the pattern of harrassment, Lyndon LaRouche described it as, "treason, pure and simple. Anyone who aids the FEC in its work is to be regarded as guilty of complicity in treason, and should be informed that they will be held so accountable if we avoid general war, which is a probable result of such treason."

FEC Plumbers

The Federal Elections Commission on May 13 informed New Solidarity International Press Service and Campaigner, Inc. (publishers of this weekly) that because they were owed money by the Committee to Elect LaRouche (the 1976 primary campaign committee of Lyndon LaRouche) they were required to provide their complete books, from 1975 to the present, for FEC inspection. At the same time, the U.S. Labor Party and National Caucus of Labor Committees (a cadre association) were charged with having a "concealed" relationship with the Committee to Elect LaRouche and each group was instructed to submit months of detailed back records to the FEC.

However, while LaRouche and the Labor Party remain the foremost anti-Carter targets of the illegal FEC operations, the creation and deployment of the FEC as a plumbers outfit is not confined to use against the Labor Party. In recent weeks, harrassment by the FEC and agencies directly related to it (such as the Justice Department's Public Integrity Section) has also been aimed against the American Medical Association, Governor Meldrim Thompson of New Hampshire, Governor Milton Shapp of Pennsylvania, the Liberty Lobby and others. The details of each situation are given below.

What is clear from every case is that the Carter Administration is out to politically destroy any force opposed to its policies — just as Hitler and Mussolini did in consolidating their regimes.

These FEC plumbers unit moves were initiated against LaRouche under unconstitutional powers claimed by the FEC in April of this year, after the failure of relevant Congressional Committees to exercise oversight on the FEC. The pretext for the FEC's financial warfare is their unconstitutional claim that any unpaid commercial account held by a creditor to a political campaign can be

redefined as an "undeclared political contribution." Unpaid creditors are supposedly required to open their books to the FEC, which may prosecute them with fines and imprisonment for extending credit "for political purposes," unless collection procedures, agreeable to the FEC, including lawsuits, are pursued.

In fact, unlike several other Presidential contenders, LaRouche would have no back debt at all for his 1975-76 primary campaign if the FEC had not illegally withheld \$111,000 due him in federal primary matching funds, and if illegal containment operations were not inhibiting fund-raising. The Committee to Elect LaRouche and LaRouche contributors have two legal cases now pending in Federal Court to gain matching funds due, with damages.

Financial Warfare

In conjunction with the FEC dirty-tricks, a massive FBI COINTELPRO-type drive has been unleashed against the Labor Party involving all manner of dirty-tricks and classic black bag jobs aimed at bankrupting the Party and associated individuals and agencies. According to a survey undertaken by the Labor Party Security Section, in the last two weeks over 150 incidents of illegal terror operations against the Labor Party and associates have occurred.

The patterns of incidents include: spread of misinformation that Campaigner, Inc. and others dealing with the Labor Party are about to go bankrupt, while creditors have been warned not to give credit under penalty of prosecution for undeclared political gifts. Labor Party members have had personal loans cancelled, and been fired due to FBI harrassment, which has otherwise been directed at hundreds of Labor Party supporters, and so forth.

This sabotage operation, of unprecedented scale, is an intensification and expansion of illegal activity on the part of operative networks in place in the Justice Department, State Department and elsewhere under a succession of recent Attorney Generals, all in the service of the Rockefeller and related private interests. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), material has been obtained by the Labor Party and analyzed by legal experts to show clearly how illegal containment operations and financial sabotage have been underway for at least the last six years.

Fifty pages of the voluminous records obtained from FBI files under the FOIA were devoted exclusively to detailed profiling of the personal, business and organization-connected finances of LaRouche backers going back to 1975. The reports are replete with instances of FBI agents sabotage operations against these individuals.

The difference between the past illegal operations,

conducted under auspices with quasi-legal “covers” and what is happening right now is that under the Carter Administration these criminal elements and criminal activities are being consolidated into official government policy — outright treason. At the same time as Carter is steering a course for war abroad, he is installing the agencies of dictatorship at home, importantly including use of such private, Trilateral Commission intelligence networks such as the Institute for Policy Studies.

The FEC has been turned into a full-scale plumbers unit as part of this overall design to batter down all opposition to the treason of the Administration. This week the Justice department convened a Grand Jury to investigate charges that Gov. Meldrim Thomson of New Hampshire, a vocal opponent of the Administration’s energy policies, had misused federal funds during petitioning in support of New Hampshire’s Seabrook nuclear power plant. (It is indicative of the Administration’s desire to get Thomson that the Justice Department’s Law Enforcement Assistance Administration has refused Gov. Thomson’s request for funds to aid in the jailing of hundreds of demonstrators who attempted to disrupt the Seabrook construction ... *but has given funds to the demonstrators to pay their lawyers’ fees!*)

Likewise, Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC), a key link in the Congressional pro-growth voting bloc which opposes Carter policy, is being subjected to ominous press leaks in his home state regarding “campaign funding irregularities” — the usual code-word for an FEC assault in the offing. Even Pennsylvania Governor Milton Shapp, who has been a notorious toady of Carter’s austerity policies, is involved in Round One of an FEC watering, also concerning alleged funding irregularities.

On the local level, lesser watergates are being nationally coordinated through the FBI and related

federal agencies to search out and destroy all pockets of traditionalist resistance to Carter. Typical is Charlotte, N.C., where the police force is under investigation for allegedly illegal wiretapping during a 1970-1971 drug case. In Philadelphia, the political machine of Mayor Frank Rizzo has been deluged with FBI investigators. State Assemblyman Fineman, a Rizzo associate, has already been forced to resign under pressure from a contrived watergate-type scandal last month.

The FEC has charged the American Medical Association with illegal campaign contributions, after a complaint filed by Common Cause. The FEC has also claimed the Liberty Lobby — which issued a tabloid exposing Jimmy Carter’s connections to cocaine freak and rock star Greg Allman, and Allman’s funding of the Carter campaign — must register as an “anti-Carter campaign committee,” and subject itself to FEC scrutiny.

Tanks on the Street

Only idiots or liberals need tanks on the streets to understand the point of the treason of the Carter Administration. The Carter Administration itself spells it out. Under Carter-approved legislation, soon to reach a Senate floor-vote (the Clarke-Kennedy Bill) and already introduced in several versions in the House, the FEC is to become the arbiter of all elections. They will decide which states get how much money to subsidize no-registration elections. They will decide which candidate for Federal office — the entire Congress as well as the Presidency — gets matching funds money, so that they may run.

The entire FEC apparatus must be dismantled, and the illegal operations networks destroyed, and this means impeaching the Carter Administration. The material which follows is sufficient, if fully investigated, to begin that impeachment.

FEC History: Creation Of A Plumbers Unit

The record of the Federal Elections Commission (FEC), first established in 1971 by the Federal Elections Act, is the story of the creation of a plumbers unit. In the aftermath of the Nixon Watergate, a few innocents hoped the FEC would guarantee honest election practices. On the contrary, the FEC for its prime movers, John Gardner and Common Cause, was a deliberate maneuver right from the start to set in place an agency which could instigate vendetta investigations into political figures for policy reasons.

The following are the key milestones in the creation and deployment of the FEC as a plumbers unit. The telling features of the operation are the blatantly illegal treatment of the Lyndon LaRouche Presidential campaign, and the equally blatant portection racket accorded to the illegalities of the Carter-for-President campaign.

1971 — FEC created by the Federal Elections Act. Powers-of-the-purse were granted to disburse Federal tax revenue as matching funds for Presidential primary and general election campaign

expenses. Equally important were the powers this entailed to inspect campaign fundraising books.

1976 — FEC reconstituted in a way to diminish the oversight control the Congress can exercise over the agency, and to officialize liaison channels with the Justice Department, which was given expanded enforcement powers. This was done after a Supreme Court ruling called for such changes, in a decision favoring a deliberately contrived legal case against the FEC brought by James Buckley and Eugene McCarthy. (Buckley vs Valeo)

1976 — Spring-Summer. Powers of Congressional oversight on the FEC are further weakened. As part of the effort to block potential House opposition to free reign for the FEC, the Chairman of the House Administration Committee, which has purview on elections and the FEC, is watergated out of office — the Wayne Hayes scandal. Hayes was part of the traditional voting bloc which would oppose the FEC dirty tricks. On the Senate side in the Rules Committee, which has FEC oversight, a motion to review the FEC’s charter,