

enough. New York's John Cardinal O'Connor said he had "anxieties even apart from the dangers of war," such as the high financial cost of such a venture at a time when the U.S. is in such bad economic shape.

At a peace meeting at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Nov. 13, several bishops expressed even stronger views. Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of Detroit held up a copy of a report issued by the Pentagon in early 1988 ("Discriminate Deterrence"), which laid out a new military policy for North-South wars. "This is the outline of government policy," said Gumbleton. "They feel they have to wage war in the Third World in order to capture the valuable natural resources there. This presents the specter of bloody war confronting us now."

Bishop James Sullivan of Virginia told the meeting, "The Persian Gulf has become Bush's personal war," adding that he has learned that "the U.S. government has sent over 40,000 body bags to the Gulf."

Protestant and Jewish organizations are also organizing anti-war efforts. The American Baptist Churches, U.S.A., the Church of the Brethren, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and several other religious groups placed an ad in the Nov. 8 *Washington Post* addressed to Bush, stating: "We emphatically oppose the United States taking any offensive military action in the current crisis," since "war in the Middle East would be a human, political, and economic catastrophe" which would result in a "a massive loss of lives."

Christian church officials convened a meeting with representatives of Jewish organizations on Nov. 4, to tell them that many churches were preparing to mount strong opposition to the war, and to try to avoid that opposition from becoming a Christian versus Jewish affair because of Israel's demands that the U.S. attack Iraq.

One participant, Rev. John Pawlikoski of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, believes that Christian denominations may come out against the Bush policy "more strongly than they opposed Vietnam."

Former Navy Secretary James Webb leveled a harsh warning at Bush during a Veterans' Day observance at the Quantico National Cemetery. "If the President wishes for war, he should heed the lessons of Korea and Vietnam, and ask the Congress to declare one. The alternative has no place in a democracy. No man should have the power, on his own prerogative, to send thousands of young men and women to their potential deaths against an enemy that has not attacked them, on behalf of a non-democratic nation with which we have no formal alliance."

Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who formed an anti-war coalition last August, was in Baghdad, Iraq. He told the Iraqi newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah* Nov. 12 that the U.S. should "stop being the world's policeman," and described the international blockade of Iraq as a "flagrant violation of international law."

LaRouche associates begin Roanoke trial

The opening arguments in the trial of three associates of Lyndon LaRouche began in Roanoke, Virginia Nov. 13, with defense attorneys telling the jury that the defendants were innocent of all charges and were instead the victims of the "Get LaRouche" task force. They called the task force a powerful and frightening group of government, private, and media interests which wants to silence a political voice. This task force was so committed to silence these defendants, the jury was told, that one of the prosecution's key players, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL), went so far as to try and bribe the very judge sitting on this case.

Paul Gallagher, his wife Anita Gallagher, and Laurence Hecht are charged with violations of the Virginia securities laws. They are among 16 individuals who were indicted by the Virginia branch of the federal-state task force which has run the frame-up of LaRouche and his associates. The case is being heard before Roanoke County Circuit Court Judge Clifford R. Weckstein, who has refused to disqualify himself even though he has close ties to the ADL.

In his opening statement, defense attorney Don Randolph told the jury that LaRouche and his associates were the target of a conspiracy comprised of government prosecutors, the ADL, the secret "Iran-Contra" network of Oliver North, the media, and prominent figures in the Anglo-American Establishment such as New York investment banker John Train and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Randolph had told jurors during jury selection that the case would be about LaRouche, and that since many jurors said they had a negative impression of LaRouche, but could not recall what he stands for, therefore his ideas should be known to them. He described how LaRouche had correctly forecast major political and economic developments since 1971, and spoke about LaRouche's warnings of a Middle East war, the savings and loan crisis, the 1987 stock market crash, the development of the AIDS crisis, and the collapse of electric power production. He also told jurors they would hear evidence about LaRouche's role in the development of the Strategic Defense Initiative and his role in the War on Drugs.

Randolph told the jury about how the "Get LaRouche" task force adopted the theory that the ends justifies the means; that they would do anything to stop this movement, including bringing an illegal involuntary bankruptcy action, intimidating witnesses, destroying evidence, and conducting financial warfare. He told jurors that two federal judges have since ruled that the government's actions were in bad faith.



A courtroom sketch of Judge Clifford Weckstein and the jury as the Roanoke, Virginia trial of Anita Gallagher and Paul Gallagher (foreground below), and Laurence Hecht (right) opened Nov. 13.



Judge Weckstein's bias

In a dramatic moment, Randolph pointed at Judge Weckstein who was sitting behind the jury, and said that the task force even tried to bribe the judge presiding over this trial. Randolph told the jury how Ira Gissen, the Virginia regional director of the ADL, sent Weckstein a letter trying to indoctrinate him with their hate literature about LaRouche and how Gissen's letter was accompanied by an ADL resolution pledging support for the appointment of a Jewish judge to the Virginia Supreme Court, in a blatant attempt to improperly influence the outcome of this trial.

Randolph told the jury they will hear evidence about a series of secret meetings at the home of John Train, where a strategy was developed to combat the growing influence of the LaRouche movement. Attending these meetings were Mira Lansky Boland of the ADL, Roy Godson, a consultant to the National Security Council, and journalists including Pat Lynch of NBC-TV. The strategy planned at these meetings was to discredit the LaRouche movement until it was neutralized as a political force.

Randolph said evidence would also be presented showing that, despite all the efforts of the "Get LaRouche" task force, these defendants wouldn't give up their political efforts.

After Randolph's statement, defense attorneys Jeffrey Hoffman and Gerald Zerkin spoke on behalf of their respective clients, Anita Gallagher and Laurence Hecht.

The jury in the trial was seated over the objections of the defense. Throughout the jury selection process, which began on Nov. 5, Judge Weckstein allowed jurors with admitted bias to be seated, including one who said he believed LaRouche is a fascist and his organization a cult. Many prospective jurors, however, were excused because they had already formed an opinion as a result of the slanders in the

media about the LaRouche movement. Out of 58 prospective jurors questioned, 27 had expressed actual bias or negative opinions. The trial had been moved to Roanoke from Loudoun County, Virginia because the jury pool in Loudoun was biased.

Defense attorneys, in arguing against the seating of the jury, blamed the prosecution for inflaming prejudices against the LaRouche movement, thereby producing a biased jury pool.

The three defendants are all long-time collaborators of LaRouche. Paul Gallagher is the former director of the Fusion Energy Foundation, the non-profit scientific foundation which was shut down by the federal government through an illegal involuntary bankruptcy proceeding. Gallagher's work with the FEF made him a national spokesman on the SDI and the development of nuclear fusion energy. After President Reagan adopted the SDI policy in March 1983, Gallagher was interviewed by national news media as an expert on the SDI.

Anita Gallagher was the political director of the National Democratic Policy Committee, a multi-candidate political action committee formed by LaRouche and other anti-Carter Democrats after the 1980 Democratic national convention. The NDPC backed thousands of candidates for public office and was targeted by the ADL, and also the federal government, because of its successful efforts on behalf of LaRouche Democrats.

Hecht is a former editor of *New Solidarity*, the national newspaper which, like FEF, was shut down in April 1987 by the federal bankruptcy operation. Hecht was a collaborator of the late Dr. Robert Moon, the nuclear physicist, in developing a new theory of the geometrical structure of the atomic nucleus. The validity of Moon's theory has been confirmed by some of the recent developments in cold fusion.