

Eye on Washington by Katherine R. Notley

Feds defend Klan statue

On Nov. 13, shortly after noon, Lyndon LaRouche's vice presidential running mate Rev. James Luther Bevel and historian/author Anton Chaitkin were arrested at Judiciary Square in front of the statue of Ku Klux Klan founder Confederate Gen. Albert Pike, and charged with "statue climbing."

Reverend Bevel is a renowned civil rights leader; a close associate of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; the former director of Non-Violent Direct Action for Dr. King; and the leader of the Birmingham Children's March, the Selma Right to Vote fight, and the Chicago Open Housing battles of the 1960s. In the period leading up to the 1992 general elections, he successfully led the fight here to defeat the death penalty referendum that was put on the ballot by Sen. Richard Shelby (D-Ala.), over the objections of the city government.

Part of that fight involved the exposé of Albert Pike and why the Scottish Rite Freemasons had the statue erected in 1901. Investigative journalist Anton Chaitkin helped research the history of the statue.

The huge statue of Pike, the chief strategist of Klan terrorism and murder, has stood for 90 years at Indiana Avenue and 3rd Street, put up by the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry to commemorate Pike, who, in addition to being the Ku Klux Klan chief judicial officer, was the commander of the Scottish Rite; the Ku Klux Klan's leaders were Masons under Pike's command. Pike was a Satan-worshiper and racist, who wrote the terrorist propaganda (he earned the title "poet," because some of his ravings were versified) for the Klan Night-Riders. Since its establishment, the statue has been maintained at federal government expense.

Bevel and Chaitkin have been campaigning to bring the Pike statue down since September, with rallies against the statue and the death penalty referendum every Friday during the election campaign. In full sight of Park Police, one enterprising protester scaled the statue and dressed it in its appropriate Klan hood and robe. However, it was not until after the election that any effort to hinder the demonstrators was made. Currently there is a resolution before the Washington, D.C. City Council, introduced by City Councilman William P. Lightfoot, which calls for removing the statue.

When LaRouche was informed of the arrests, he called for "an international alert and activity around this, because either the enemy made a mistake, or somebody made a mistake on behalf of the enemy. The fact is, the defense of the statue by the relevant Freemasons has now occurred."

LaRouche pointed to the importance of tying the government defense of the Klan statue into the current activities of the Klan in Germany, in fostering neo-Nazis and skinheads against immigrants. "Really hit them hard," he said. "Let's have some fun." The former candidate's statement provoked such a barrage of calls into the Park Police, that Chaitkin and Bevel were released by mid-afternoon.

Reverend Bevel vowed that "no Scottish Rite or Ku Klux Klansman will be the judge, at least in trying us."

Media lie about Nation of Islam

Beginning Nov. 11, the local ABC affiliate, WJLA, launched a three-day blast against Malcolm X and the Nation of Islam, putatively the result of a six-month investigation. In Washington, the Nation of Islam has ac-

quired fame for the success of its "Dopebusters" patrols of both public and private housing complexes. Moreover, NOI minister Dr. Abdul Alim Muhammad's efforts to have the National Institutes of Health conduct tests in the use of the drug Immunex to treat AIDS, were recently successful, despite ongoing attacks by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) of B'nai B'rith. Dr. Muhammad achieved some prominence in Washington because he has been treating AIDS patients with the drug.

WJLA interviewed the ADL's David Friedman, who denounced the Nation of Islam as racist and anti-Semitic. Dr. Muhammad, who has repeatedly and publicly denied any racial or religious prejudice on the part of his organization, responded that, while "there aren't any Night-Riders anymore, the ADL is the new Ku Klux Klan." As *EIR* has documented, the freemasonic B'nai B'rith was seminal in the founding of the "old" one, as well.

Clinton told to 'Free LaRouche'

During President-elect Clinton's first visit to Washington since Nov. 3, he was encountered three times by volunteers from the LaRouche-Bevel campaign. The first time, he was presented with the former candidates' *Program to Save America* book, and asked to release LaRouche from jail and open the files that would prove LaRouche's innocence.

The second organizer to greet him also gave him a copy of the program book, which he promised to read. A third organizer had so seeded the crowd around Clinton with LaRouche campaign material, that people were shoving it under the President-elect's nose, and asking for his autograph.