

LaRouche defends nation-state vs. 'Clean Hands' subversion

by Our Special Correspondent

On Jan. 27, Democratic Party Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche held an international telephonic press conference, broadcast via the Internet, which was attended by several dozen journalists from the United States and around the world. In his brief introductory remarks, LaRouche made reference to the ongoing so-called political corruption scandals that have rocked Germany and France, and earlier, had all-but destroyed the entire political class in Italy, through what was referred to as "Operation Clean Hands."

Warning that the world is facing the worst financial crash in modern history, and is already beset by regional and civil wars on almost every continent, LaRouche noted, "At the same time, we have in Europe—in France, and in Germany, a destabilization process has been unleashed under these conditions, like the 'Clean Hands' operation in Italy earlier."

During the course of the far-reaching question-and-answer session, LaRouche was asked to elaborate on his earlier comments on the continental European corruption scandals, which took on monumental proportions beginning in early November 1999. At that time, an indicted German arms dealer, living under house arrest and quasi-asylum in Canada, Karlheinz Schreiber, began levelling accusations against former German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and other senior officials of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), that they had taken bribes and set up off-the-books party slush funds. The scandals later mushroomed, to include allegations of large-scale payoffs from the late French President François Mitterrand, to secure a French oil company's takeover of refineries and gas retail stations in eastern Germany. Soon the scandal-mongering had spread to target the current ruling Social Democratic Party (SPD) in Germany and the governing Socialist Party in France.

An exchange between a Germany-based freelance journalist and LaRouche on this subject went as follows:

Q: "Yes, Richard Williams, from Germany. Mr. LaRouche, we have new revelations almost daily in Germany in the party finance scandal. One can't help seeing parallels with the Clean Hands operation in Italy. President [Johannes] Rau and Chancellor [Gerhard] Schröder have repeatedly emphasized that this is not a national political crisis, though the national institutions are still intact. Do you agree with them, and how do you account for German politicians' acceptance of a kind of victim role that I see them as playing, a kind of mice being chased by a cat called Schreiber in Canada?"

LaRouche: "Well, someone ought to trace Schreiber—this Karlheinz Schreiber, who I think ought to be squeezed thoroughly; and I think that since Canada has possession of the fellow, they ought to squeeze him for all he's worth.

"Of course, I don't think that a Titus Oates is a very good witness. And I don't think that institutions that respond to a Titus Oates type of problem, as in the Bloody Assizes in England, back during the 17th century, that that kind of witness, and that kind of process, which smells of things like the Bloody Assizes—we don't want that in politics."

LaRouche was referring to the notoriously perjured witness, Titus Oates, who was used by the court in the most infamous, mass-murderous prosecution in English history, the Seventeenth Century "Bloody Assizes" under the notoriously foul-mouthed Chief Justice George Jeffreys.

To continue with LaRouche's reply: "Now, I also know a few facts about the whole thing; yes, tremendous corruption, by someone's terms; but, I don't know any part of the world, or any part of the political process, which is not experiencing similar, or worse, corruption. So, maybe we ought to shut down all government? Maybe somebody wants to do that.

"Now, in the case of Germany, Germany was in fact an occupied postwar country. It behaved that way. It was conditioned to think that way. Many politicians were either owned

by the Soviet system, more were owned by the Anglo-Americans, and a few by the French. That's the way the system was made.

"In 1989-1990, the issue was put on the table of the reunification of Germany—an issue which I was familiar with before it happened. And Germany was subjected to operations which wanted to destroy it. And as a part of the wheeling and dealing which was initiated among, largely, Mrs. Thatcher, then British Prime Minister, the President of France, François Mitterrand, and with George Bush: though George Bush, I think that Ambassador Walters—Vernon Walters, played a positive role in that situation. Bush was dissuaded from doing the worst possible thing to Germany, and compromised on doing the next worst thing to Germany. As a result is, certain arrangements were made, which are typical of what I know goes on in every country in the world regularly; and, suddenly, as in Italy, conventional practice, established practice, was by the letter of interpretation of some law, suddenly conceived to be a scandal. But that's the way things were done!

"Now, on top of it all, in most of the stuff that's come up in Germany now, as in Austria also, most of this stuff involved from the 1980s, and 1990s, is a continuation of something we knew in the United States as the Iran-Contra scandal. And George Bush, both in his capacity as President, and as Vice President, was up to his ears in the middle of it: and, in his capacity as President, was able to have his friend James Baker III, and others, negotiate arrangements, which imposed these kinds of conditions upon Germany, as on France, as they had on Italy. I'm familiar with this.

"I think that the world has to wake up, awaken to reality. Do we want responsible sovereign government, or do we want the things that were done on the dark side, by agreement among governments, by agreements among parties—things that were actually matters of national policy and national security—do we want these things to be used as a pretext for destroying the very institution of sovereign government itself?

"I think that the line has to be drawn. The first thing is, we cannot have party organizations, or governments, destabilized by these kinds of operations, particularly when you have a Titus Oates in the woodpile. That should not be done. This whole Clean Hands operation should be shut down, by agreement among nation-states. It shouldn't go on. If somebody actually took something for personal profit, which was improper, or used money for some political purposes in an improper way, they should be spanked for it, and exposed for it. But we should also say, we must refrain from prosecuting people, and destroying governments, for the sake of the smell of scandal.

"Look, I recall the disaster that happened to Britain, for example, in 1963, in which you had the Profumo scandal—was orchestrated for the purpose of bringing down the Macmillan government, which involved a change in policy. So after an indecent interval, Macmillan was out and succeeded by Harold Wilson. Now, the Harold Wilson governments,



Italy's Giulio Andreotti, then Foreign Minister, at the UN General Assembly, 1983. The fraudulent prosecution of Andreotti and others, says LaRouche, was "a deliberate, willful destruction of the political system of Italy by a foreign power. It was not indignation against corruption."

number one and number two, were the worst things that happened to Europe, I think, prior to Margaret Thatcher.

"So, we don't want this kind of thing. We don't want this orchestration of politics by scandal. It may be considered good parliamentary practice, but at this time, we can have wars and chaos resulting from the breakdown in political processes, resulting from the use of these kinds of tactics in a coordinated way.

"I know in detail what happened in Italy. Not all the detail, but a great deal. That was a deliberate, willful destruction of the political system of Italy by a foreign power. It was not indignation against corruption. Nothing was done that wasn't done traditionally in Italy, and everybody knew about it."

Typical of what LaRouche referenced concerning the "Clean Hands" subversion of Italy, was the fraudulent indictment of Italy's former Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, who was recently exonerated of the false charges placed against him by the U.S. Department of Justice. In this case, like many other "Clean Hands" prosecutions later exposed as fraudulent, U.S.-manufactured and other false witnesses were used to ruin both political figures who were later exonerated, and, in the process, destroy the democratic system of parties as well. There are some inside the U.S.A. who refer to such corrupt "Clean Hands"-style operations as "Project Democracy" at work.