

government, in my time, or to my knowledge'—be heard.”

The Mann-Chestnut Commission convened a panel of legal experts on Aug. 31-Sept. 1, 1995 to conduct a series of extraordinary independent hearings to investigate allegations of gross misconduct by the Department of Justice. The hearings focussed on cases where there was evidence of politically motivated targeting of groups and individuals by a concert of private organizations outside the U.S. government, working in tandem with corrupt officials inside Federal governmental law enforcement agencies.

Commission members include: James R. Mann (D-S.C.), U.S. House of Representatives (retired); JL Chestnut, attorney, Selma, Alabama and author, *Black in Selma*; Sen. Robert Ford, South Carolina State Senate; Sen. Maggie Wallace Glover, South Carolina State Senate; Rep. William Clark, Alabama House of Representatives; Rep. John Hilliard, Alabama House of Representatives; Rep. Milton Toby Fitch, North Carolina General Assembly; Rep. Howard Hunter, North Carolina General Assembly; Rep. Ulysses Jones, Jr., Tennessee General Assembly; and

Msgr. Elias El Hayek, Chor Bishop of the Maronite Church and Professor of Law.

‘Enough Is Enough!’

On April 30, the Senate Judiciary Committee held hearings on the Department of Justice corruption. Concerned that these hearings not be a coverup, eighteen prominent current and former state elected officials drafted a statement, which was entered into the official records. The statement, which reported on the work and conclusions of the Mann-Chestnut Commission, concluded:

“Some of us have been victims of this corruption. All of us have been witnesses to it. Now we say, enough is enough! A clean-out is long overdue. And, it is our position, that if the relevant committees of the Congress refuse to hear this crucial evidence once again, we will see to it, that the stench of political corruption and cover-up follows them to the end of what will be very short political careers.”

In addition to a number of members of the Mann-Chestnut Commission, the following state legislators signed the statement: (former) Sen. Theo W.

Mitchell, South Carolina; Rep. Andrew M. Hayden, Alabama; Rep. Tommie Houston, Alabama; Rep. Thomas E. Jackson, Alabama; Rep. Bryant Melton, Jr., Alabama; Rep. James L. Thomas, Alabama; Rep. Ben McGee, Arkansas; Rep. Ben Swan, Massachusetts; Sen. William L. Clay, Jr., Missouri; Rep. Charles Quincy Troupe, Missouri; Rep. Harold James, Pennsylvania; Sen. John Ford, Tennessee; and (former) Rep. Ira Murphy, Tennessee.

Release of LaRouche Associates

On March 31, in the month leading up to the Congressional hearings, petitions for a writ of *habeas corpus* were filed on behalf of Anita Gallagher, Paul Gallagher, and Laurence Hecht, three of five LaRouche associates who, despite their innocence, are serving long sentences in Virginia prisons. Don Phau, another LaRouche associate, had filed papers in his case the prior week. Michael Billington, the LaRouche associate serving the longest sentence, 77 years, is currently challenging his conviction in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.



EIRNS/Stuart Lewis

Jordanian Parliamentarian Laith Shubeilat

ate who is serving a barbaric 77-year sentence in a Virginia state prison. “I cannot forget Mike Billington—when the day came that he should go to jail, first he went to a demonstration, calling for my freedom; facing his darkest day, going to jail for 77 years. I cannot forget that.”

St. John Passion Performed in Germany

On Good Friday, March 28, the Schiller Institute chorus and orchestra returned to the Untere Kirche in Florsheim-Dalsheim, Germany, to perform portions of J.S. Bach’s oratorio, the *St. John Passion*. The seventy performers, mostly amateurs, came from many nations—Germany, France, Italy, Denmark, and Poland—and were joined by students from the church conservatory in Bratislava, Slovakia. The work was performed at the scientific tuning of C=256, and was conducted by Anno Hellenbroich.



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