

September 2nd-15th, 2012

Dear Colleagues,

We have long believed the foundations of our association to be built upon a commitment to the *pursuit of truth*. In that spirit, we have chosen to compile, in as much detail as possible from our combined experiences, a report of the events leading up to our departures from the LaRouche organization. We feel that you deserve to know what happened, and to finally hear our reasons for leaving, “from the horse’s mouth,” so to speak. The accusations made against us as to why we left are conscious lies, manifesting the same spirit of corruption and cover-up that provoked us each in our decision to depart. The chief reasons why we chose not to discuss our thoughts more publicly will be revealed by what is related here.

We no longer subscribe to the belief that withholding crucial information from other members of the organization for the sake of “the mission” is more important than truth. The truth must be told, let the chips fall where they may. What is related here is true to our best knowledge of how things unfolded, and is documented in order to provide access to crucial information which has been heretofore suppressed or obfuscated. What you do with this knowledge is ultimately up to you. We act of our own sovereign accord, under no influence by other persons, monetarily or otherwise. Though the composition and compilation of this dossier has not been an easy process, we felt that it must be done; for ourselves, for the sake of truth, and for you.

Tarrajna Walsh
Nick Walsh
Sky Shields
Summer Shields
Alli Perebikovsky
Riana Nordquist
Todd Nordquist
Oyang Teng

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From Glass-Steagall to the Galaxy

Any beginning point for a discussion of the events leading up to our respective departures has inherent advantages and disadvantages, but one date that stays with some of us is January 27, 2011: the release of the FCIC report, or what we came to call “The Angelides Report.” The reason this date stays locked in our memory is because of the great confusion its release caused among our ranks, the sheer number of phone calls, private discussions, and ultimately NEC meeting minutes that became dedicated to this confusion, and the fact that little was ever resolved around it, despite all the talking, except that everyone agreed that it was a most important document and whoever denied such “wasn’t in reality.”

The six congressional campaigns were still new at this time, and each candidate was afraid that he or she might say the wrong thing and find himself the object of Lyndon LaRouche’s (Lyn’s) ridicule at the next NEC meeting. Most of them found the best mode of operation was to take their cues directly from the website, from *The World in Review* each night, as representing the voice of Lyn, and, in fact, they were explicitly told to do so. Each was also careful to seem to be “on top” of all breaking political events, and again, keeping close tabs on the website was the best way to do this. So when the Angelides Report came out, the candidates were quick to make statements about it. A number of them claimed that it was “blocked” and lacked real power. Lyn came down extremely hard on the candidates for this, and he “went after” them at multiple NEC meetings, where he began to claim that the candidates had been infiltrated by an enemy operation and insisted that one of them must come forward to give the full story of how they were influenced by this enemy operation. He claimed that the “brainwashing of the candidates” around the significance of the Angelides report occurred when they were snowed-in at the Dulles airport, waiting to fly out after a “candidates event.”

The claim that the Angelides report was “blocked” had actually come from a report for the *World in Review*, (that had been quickly removed from the website afterwards.) The idea that Angelides may be “blocked” in his analysis of the economic crisis was very probable to the membership, given that he was attacked by the LYM in Los Angeles when he was running for Governor of California, and that the commission was appointed by Nancy Pelosi after the organization had called for a “Pecora Commission” to investigate the financial crisis. When the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission was first created by the congress, with Angelides appointed as its head, the organization called it the “peckerless commission.”¹

Riana called Lyn, thinking that he would appreciate someone coming forth and “speaking the truth” about the origin of the misunderstanding, that he would be relieved to know that the candidates hadn’t been so susceptible to outside influence. This was the first time that she saw that when Lyn was confronted with a truth he didn’t accept, in this case that the candidates had not been influenced by an outside operation, but instead that they had been misinformed about Angelides’ Report from within our own ranks, he not only refused to hear it, he flew into a rage. She found herself, inexplicably, in a yelling

¹ We include an example of one of the criticisms of the FCIC report before its completion. This is an excerpt from the May 14, 2010 briefing regarding the “Angelides Report”: “The current inquiry into the banking industry, chaired by former California state treasurer Phil Angelides, calls itself the “Angelides Commission,” in obvious homage to the Pecora Commission. So far, at least, it is an anemic copy, lacking anything like the tenacity and impact of Pecora’s investigation; instead, showboating and modestly informed members of Congress berate witnesses without eliciting any useful disclosures -- only self-serving apologies.”

match with the man she respected above all others. At this point a rational person was confronted by serious doubts: is Lyn really as agapic as he proclaims, and as others proclaim him to be? Does he really hold the truth highest above all?

Though nothing was ever resolved about where and how the “candidates were brainwashed,” the political thrust was set by the tumult around the Angelides Report for a couple of months, where the focus, in the locals and on most of the calls with Purcellville, centered on the financial crisis. But then, suddenly, after the earthquake in Japan on March 11, 2011, Lyn’s policy thrust shifted dramatically. One day, a member in a local in Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Houston, Boston, Detroit, or Washington D.C. thought that he or she needed to get some public official to endorse a return to Glass-Steagall legislation, the next day he found himself organizing around the “rim of fire,” the next great extinction crisis as caused by the earth’s changing position in the plane of the galaxy, and the relationship between solar weather and geophysical events. Though Lyn vehemently proclaimed that this was an “existential” issue, when Summer called Lyn from San Francisco, asking him what the local should do about the impending earthquake and whether they should use LPAC funds to buy reserve water, as many from the local were scared and were asking for emergency supplies, Lyn told him not to worry, “Sometimes you have to get people moving and this gets people moving.”

The actual “Galaxy” campaign was a bizarre perversion of work that was actually being done in the Basement at the time. A study of the correlation between extinction events and possible cyclical patterns of the galaxy’s motion was turned, in the course of one NEC meeting, into yet another doomsday campaign, though this one was more absurd than even the constant (40 years-long now) threat of “World War III.” The only thing that the documents read by the Basement actually showed was that there might be an extinction event sometime in the next (or last) 15 million years, and that even if this were to occur, in all likelihood this extinction event would happen slowly, over the course of some thousands of years. Hardly a terrifying event in the lifetime of a single person, or even a single society. Thus, a very interesting study of evolutionary processes was turned into what the movement thrived on: an imminent disaster which only we could avert.

Not long after this urgent mobilization was confusedly underway in the locals, Lyn launched into an NEC discussion denouncing Purcellville, Michelle Lerner in D.C., and the boomers for backing off on the Glass-Steagall drive, when he himself had been the perpetrator, beginning with a March 22 directive to stop focusing on Glass Steagall in favor of the galactic threat.

“Lyndon LaRouche NEC Meeting for Tuesday, March 22, 2011

- THIS IS THE FIGHT OF 540 MILLION YEARS -

LYN: Okay, now there is only one political issue, of any primary importance on this planet today: We have a solar situation, which is also galactic in nature, which is in excess of anything of the same type which has occurred in more recent times. We've already seen in the Pacific, this process, and there's every indication that it is going to proceed.

...

Now, let's take a case, which I discussed with Helga today, this afternoon, on the situation in Europe. They're crazy.

[laughter] No, it's understandable, but you've got a situation, if you have to look at in the right way, don't look at it in the usual political way -- "what's the news from Ireland?" Forget it!

There is no "news" from Ireland! First of all, prove to me that Ireland's going to continue to exist -- {then} we'll discuss Ireland, if you can give a plausible case for its existence! After all, it's in the Atlantic ocean, and you know what you've got up there, on Iceland? Hmm? So, calm down, now, and do some serious thinking. Don't do this usual kind of "what's the issue?" "What's the issue today?" The issue today is somebody farted, what else do you have to say?² [laughter]

...

Now, don't talk about an issue about an alleged Glass-Steagall -- yes, we're pushing through Glass-Steagall. That's taken care of, as an issue! The latest word on Glass-Steagall is not the big issue of the day. (Italics added for emphasis) It's nothing to interrupt your discussion over. When the Congress reassembles, it will go on the table, and then we can discuss it. We're waiting for the Congress to reassemble itself, before it becomes an issue. We already have the vote, it's already set up there, it's ready to go in. We're just waiting for the Congress, to get ready, to open session, and take up the issue. Hmm? All right, that settles that. *Forget it, otherwise. Don't get excited about it, it's not urgent. Some of our people may think it's urgent, they want to gossip about it -- forget it.* We don't need to gossip about it. We have our determination to do something about it, that's the best that's needed."

One month later, one of Debbie's contacts--heavily implied in public (and explicitly stated in private) to be Laura Tyson--mentioned feeling "abandoned" by Lyn on the subject of Glass-Steagall in a webcast. Suddenly, everything changed again, as can be seen in the excerpt from the April 20th NEC below. Later Sky and others realized that the webcast question was, itself, most likely an attempt on Debbie's part to shift the organization's focus to something that was easier to fundraise around.

"Lyndon LaRouche NEC Meeting for Wednesday, April 20, 2011

- MAKE A COMMAND DECISION ON GETTING GLASS-STEAGALL, NOW: -
BOOMER, YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO WASTE GOD'S TIME WITH YOUR COWARDICE

LYN: This game, which we're stuck in, a game which is being played -- it's over. It's over. And what I did get out yesterday, is the summation of it. Including the fakery that's going on in the organization, in terms of what came up with the question which was given at the end, that was some faking going on in this organization, about Glass-Steagall. *I mean, for me Glass-Steagall was, that's it. For some people it was, "it's the thing we don't push, we have to push other things." And that was a terrible mistake. And it's a terrible mistake, because it affected the money, but people were acting on the basis of the assumption of money, and that was exactly the wrong thing to do. They were saying, "This is not practical," you've got to give people more -- typical Boomer stuff. "You've got to give people what they want, don't push this, it won't work; you got to do this, that will work; this won't work, some of our people don't like, don't push it."* And actually Glass-Steagall immediately is the only thing that will work, and I've said it repeatedly. But people thought it wouldn't "sell." This was in the Boomer area, it wouldn't sell.

That's the only thing that will. Because without Glass-Steagall, the United States is dead.

² This was especially confusing, as Lyn himself in the previous weeks, webcasts included, had been in personal dialogue with "the Irish" insisting on the ultimate importance of their support for a global Glass Steagall.

Any other agenda, is {dead}. And so, we had the question posed³ -- I knew about it at the beginning of the session yesterday; we saved it till the end, on the real issue. And that was the problem. The problem has been, the hesitation on Glass-Steagall per se, now and forever. And that's the error that has to be corrected. Nothing else will work."

Riana is Limari

At the beginning of the summer, Lyn went to Europe, where he began exhibiting signs of severe delusional paranoia. Because of the confusion and significance of the events of that period, the following is a detailed, relatively blow-by-blow account as we saw and experienced it.

On June 16th, 2011, Riana, followed by Todd on June 17th, went to Purcellville for the purpose of discussing the Fundly fundraising system with Bruce and Barbara. Todd came one day later because he was deemed so important to the local's political (i.e. fundraising) activity. They attended the Saturday NEC meeting held at the Purcellville office, which Lyn presided over on Skype. When people entered for the NEC, Lyn smiled when he saw Alicia, showing her a memo, entitled "WHAT SELF-INTEREST?" by way of the video camera. He told her that he thought she would be happy with it. The opening of this memo is quoted below:

"Some would say: "I admit that I am, so far, like most of the same generation of intellectually active minds among the maturing, younger adults today, Deep somewhere within me, I confess to myself that I am probably, really, something's 'windup toy.' I am a contemporary, young-adult existentialist. I am bright, and can be clever when the strange impulses which inhabit me, and which control me, may permit me to be clever; but those impulses do that in ways which I do not understand. Then, too often, these impulses which are like those of a wind-me-up-toy (which somebody, or something else controls) might permit me to play, or, may act to shut down my will to act. I try to do the things which suggest to me that I have free will, but, in my darkest moments, I know that that belief in my own free will is only another consoling delusion, when these unknown voices permit me to enjoy such a moment or two of pleasure. There are, in short, strange voiceless voices speaking to me, from where I do not know, voices which will cause me to punish myself, if I do not obey them when they silently speak. Will someone please tell me 'why'..." (from briefing 19062011)

During his presentation, the Skype connection was rough, and Lyn had to stop a number of times. At the end, Riana asked a question that stemmed from her feelings of pressure about L.A. and San Francisco still not being on LPAC, while Seattle had now been on LPAC for some time, and tensions about the campaigns starting, and the way in which the candidates were chosen. Her question intended to address this issue. Ironically, her question was in line with the topic of Lyn's newly written memo, which was the first time he fully attacked the LYM. The NEC was transcribed, but as usual, most of the locals listened to the audio recording of it. In the transcribed reproduction in the briefing the next day, Riana's

³ This is referring to the question supposedly from Laura Tyson.

question was mis-attributed to Limari (who was not present in Purcellville at the time). This was the only real "omission" in the transcript.

At 1:30 am Sunday morning Lyn contacted Sky. Part of their exchange follows below⁴:

[6/19/11 2:05:20 AM] Lyn: I put the matter to Alicia, by dropping the relevant msg into her mailbox,

[6/19/11 4:46:24 AM] Lyn: Sky, I am asking around, in my official capacity, as to who caused the crucial concluding part of yesterday's NEC discussion to be chopped out of the report presented in the Sunday AM Bfg.

[6/19/11 10:45:51 AM] Lyn: Any more on the missing portion of the Q&A which was suppressed in some strange fashion? The issue for our organization is potentially existential, although some among us who prefer to compromise on the truth than stir up essential facts of the matter, will not wish to face the issue of the actual truth in this case. It is "little" things like this matter which, if not treated in strict pursuit of nothing but truth, we are the means by which many a good venture has been literally, compromised by compromise, and thus open to be destroyed.

[6/19/11 10:49:48 AM] Lyn: It is sometimes "the little things," as in the case of the queens' necklace," which set the beginnings of a great mission along a relentless march into disaster. What among our associates might merely wish to be the subject which they desire to avoid, which becomes the virtual "Achilles Heel" of a great enterprise.

[6/19/11 10:50:44 AM] Lyn: CORREX; "what some among our associates might wish to"

[6/19/11 10:54:32 AM] Lyn: As you have said, there is a lot of heat generated over that session yesterday. Heat tends to produce "fire" of one sort or another. The "sort" is precisely the time of seemingly small little sin which sinks even a giant enterprise.

[6/19/11 10:54:52 AM] Lyn: Or, and enterprise such as our own.

[6/19/11 11:13:25 AM] Lyn: The elementary issue is: where is the reproduction of the portion of the Q&A part of the proceeding which began with Riana's questions to the end of the discussion? Attempts to change to almost anything but that simple question, has me really aroused over which has now ceased to be a simple search for some bureaucratic sort of mistake, to a stubborn effort to evade the simple question actually posed by me earlier this morning.

[6/19/11 11:20:21 AM] Sky Jason Shields: I've just received this note, and your memo on the subject. I'm taking a look at the briefing now, and see who might know the sequence of events leading up to the printing. Has there been anything new?

[6/19/11 11:21:37 AM] Lyn: A persistent evasion of the simple question by sundry suggestions on behalf of irrelevant "wild goose chase" diversions from sundry quarters.

[6/19/11 11:22:29 AM] Sky Jason Shields: In my copy of the briefing (emailed electronically) I have Riana's question to you, and your response, but her name is incorrectly put as "Limari."

[6/19/11 11:24:00 AM] Lyn: There was a Limari line of questioning at a much earlier part of the Q&A. The whole section which began with Riana's questioning(s) was a single piece, with back-and-forth in between

⁴ What follows is only the portion of the Skype discussion which was carried out as a chat. It is interspersed with voice calls which are not recorded. Spelling and typos are in the original.

[6/19/11 11:25:20 AM] Lyn: The effect is to bury that portion of the Q&A which was the most crucial part of the entire Q&A.

[6/19/11 11:26:59 AM] Sky Jason Shields: The copy I have here (which may be different from that sent out otherwise) has Riana's opening reference to Dickens: "I'm like the opening of a {Tale of Two Cities}, inherently contradictory. But, Lyn, you've talked about this question of the existentialism in the youth generation, and the toleration, many times before, but, it's funny, because I've never really fully understood what you meant about the consent and the toleration, except right now, you just said, it comes out as indifference. Is that how you see it expressed?"

[6/19/11 11:27:08 AM] Lyn: The heat the debate over the entire presentation and Q&A was the crucial part of the entire Q&A. That continuity of Riana's line of questioning was the conclusion of the entire session.

[6/19/11 11:27:32 AM] Lyn: I am now completely disgusted

[6/19/11 11:28:13 AM] Sky Jason Shields: Do you think there may have been different versions?

[6/19/11 11:29:44 AM] Sky Jason Shields: I get an electronic version "for travel," which does not include the ops, but I have not yet seen the print version which is circulated more generally.

[6/19/11 12:33:51 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Sorry, I had stepped away from the computer and missed your call. I'm trying you now.

[6/19/11 12:35:21 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Oops! I just realized that you're on with the candidates. I'll try again later."

Lyn first targeted Riana as the mastermind of the omission. Next, a "male in Purcellville" was targeted as the culprit. As more people became involved, trying to "cool down" the situation, Kathy Notley (the transcriber), "a link to the White House", Adam Sturman, and Riana, all were targeted by Lyn as possible conspirators in the plot to omit this most crucial exchange with Riana at the end of the NEC meeting.⁵

A discussion with the candidates was scheduled for that evening, and by the time Lyn got on he was so enraged about being contradicted that the entire discussion became a tirade about the Q&A with Riana being omitted from the briefing. He asserted that the portion from Riana's question to the end of the meeting had been stricken from the transcript, alleging that it was done by conspiracy. Riana tried to clarify the situation, as did others. Lyn continued to repeat his accusation regarding the transcript, disregarding what anyone else would present, and became increasingly agitated. The candidates attempted to raise other questions pertaining to the campaigns, etc., but Lyn refused to address anything else. He then established that he would have direct discussions with the candidates, who were now the only ones he said he could trust.

After the call, Barbara contacted Riana, saying that she was very disturbed by the discussion because of the way that the youth were not listening to what Lyn was saying. She cited the fact that Lyn was the only one who knew the FBI raid was coming in the 1980's, and that everyone in Leesburg, at that time, disregarded Lyn's warnings about the imminent raid.

Lyn continued to contact Sky and Alicia through Skype on this issue.

⁵ Sky and Adam (and maybe more people) each were so swayed by Lyn's passion that they listened to the entire NEC meeting, comparing it word for word with the transcript. Not a single word was different, and for a brief moment they along with Alicia, Barbara, and Rick tried to figure out if some enemy agent might have actually edited the audio directly. (!)

[6/20/11 10:16:51 AM] Lyn: By the way, the fraudulent scheme by means of which a fraudulently chopped-off recording of the Staurday event, is now a proven fact. Roger and others in Germany had generated an original copy of the webcast, but a second courier had chopped off the latter part of the transcript, and had sent that version to KRN in Leesburg, instead of the accurate one, which was intercepted and not delivered to KRN, earlier.

[6/20/11 10:17:29 AM] Lyn: Someone has been caught wearing someone's pants.

[6/20/11 10:18:11 AM] Lyn: The case is, thus, in fact, settled with, as it is said, with finally. Perhaps the scamp were soon on the run.

[6/20/11 10:19:02 AM] Sky Jason Shields: Ok, it seemed that that's about where the break in the chain had to be. That seems easy enough to narrow in on.

[6/20/11 10:20:10 AM] Lyn: It may be. However, the indications are that a link to the WHite House, and, or, the Congress, perhaps a Senate office, was a significant factor in the case.

[6/20/11 10:21:06 AM] Lyn: It had been in the Senate, that the actual author of the dirty trick was located, either directly, or indirectly.

[6/20/11 10:23:21 AM] Lyn: It was there that the personal attack on me (within the Senate) had occurred wit tghe

[6/20/11 10:24:59 AM] Lyn: Ttherenwas someone within an inside connection to Purcellville who wa responsible for the cropped version of the record actuallydelivered to KRN.

[6/20/11 10:25:37 AM] Lyn: That would not have been Adam.

[6/20/11 10:26:33 AM] Lyn: I am going downstairs here for another flask of water.

[6/20/11 10:26:42 AM] Lyn: Be back shortly

[6/20/11 10:32:10 AM] Lyn: I will return again, to deal with some politica-intelligence matters in Germany. I will then return.

[6/20/11 10:42:42 AM] Lyn: The editorial correction, indicating that Riana had actually been Limari, is evidence thatKRN was swindled into being the misinformation given to her by the agent operating from inside Purchellville, who was probably the person who effected the fraudulently cut-back version of the disk sent to KRN in the firsr place.

[6/20/11 10:43:29 AM] Lyn: So, we are implicitly closing in on the clone from Purcellville who had been the key agent in delivering the original hoax to KRN.

[6/20/11 10:45:26 AM] Lyn: The attempte brainwashing of people in Purcellville points in the direction of the same person who delivered the mutulated transcript to KRN, or who was behind the person who made the delivery.

[6/20/11 10:52:47 AM] Lyn: The insistence that "Limari" was actually in the opening of the dialog, is the red dye which leads in the direction of the identity of the person who sponsored the cropped transcript originally sent to KRN. It has to be a agent operating on the same program as the Senate authorship of the decision made explicitly against me on the matter of the charges of impeachable offenses by President Abama. We should be zeroing in on those connections. Aactually the complete transcript of the Q&A portion of the fulll transcript lof the Q&A person would require that there be three, rather than two interventions by Riana. Indeed, the only reason for assigning Riana as a substituet for Limari, was to create an "explanation" for the fact that the portion of the fraudulently altered record needed to cover forthe fact, that, since Riana has been recalled as speaking, someone must remove Limari from the record in order to cover the fact that the cropped version would have eliminated the entirety of the proceedings during which Riana actualyl spoke,'

[6/20/11 10:54:16 AM] Lyn: This insistence on the elimination of Limari from the record, and the fact that Limari herself could put up with that, brings us closer and closer the identity of the two-faced culprit in Purcellville itself.

[6/20/11 10:56:33 AM] Lyn: The smell in my nostrils is becoming stronger, and stronger. I am on a trail.

[6/20/11 11:23:03 AM] Lyn: Still, step by step the shadow of the inside Purcellville perpetrator tends to assume the color of flesh. Each attempt he takes to add an additional defensive cover for his successive explanations, threaten to bring a full disclosure of his identity into view.

[6/20/11 2:11:37 PM] Lyn: I have audited the authentic tape of Saturday's event. No one can honestly contradict me on Limari's distinctive voice and the relatively vast cutting out of the the recording. Much must be done to examine the evidence.

[6/20/11 2:12:35 PM] Lyn: The root of the matter is clearly pressures applied from the Obama team and from the accomplices of Obama within the Senate.

[6/20/11 2:13:31 PM] Lyn: Since I know now the actual motive of the Senate's misconduct, there is little which could be honestly denied, and very much to be explained."

Nancy Spannaus was later asked to re-insert the "omitted" portion of the proceedings into the morning briefing for Monday, as well as comments written by Lyn "explaining" what had happened. Nancy refused (by omission) to include Lyn's comments, but did reprint the "corrected" transcript, which only replaced the name of Limari, with Riana.

An emergency meeting was called between Barbara, Rick, Sky, Alicia, Chris and Adam to figure out what the hell Lyn was doing. Barbara, panicked, tried to calm everyone by explaining that this wasn't the first time something like this had happened (an explanation which tended to have the opposite effect). She said that when she joined it was in the middle of a conference where a large portion of the membership were declaring that they themselves had been brainwashed, because after the Chris White "brainwashing" Lyn had gotten everyone into a panic about being brainwashed by the Soviets. Because Lyn would not relent, and continued to believe Adam Sturman was in some way responsible for the omission, Rick, Barbara, Adam, Chris Jadatz, Sky, and Alicia determined that it would be best for Lyn to speak with Adam in person, over Skype, but that Alicia should be present, to keep the situation grounded. Alicia called Lyn for Adam on her Skype account, and left him to speak with Lyn alone. A heated exchange occurred between Adam Sturman and Lyn over Skype, which could be heard in other rooms of the office. Adam's exchange with Lyn ended with Adam yelling something along the lines of, "I am not taking this shit anymore!" as he fled from the office.

A Morning in Paradise; Adam Sturman Must be Destroyed

At 8pm Monday evening, Lyn was in contact with Sky, informing him that he just issued an ultimatum which he "did not like to have to make" to Adam Sturman:

[6/20/11 5:12:34 PM] Sky Jason Shields: I'm on.

[6/20/11 7:45:12 PM] Lyn: Are you there?

[6/20/11 8:45:11 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Yes. I'm just now getting your messages from earlier (dated 10 - 11), but I think I followed much of what transpired from Purcellville.

[6/20/11 8:45:27 PM] Sky Jason Shields: I was just on my way to a reading of Jason's Riemann script.

[6/20/11 8:48:05 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Are you still there? I think I'm receiving these messages late.

[6/20/11 8:48:53 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Skype delays sending until we're both online at the same time.

[6/20/11 8:52:06 PM] Lyn: Yes, I am, I just a kind of uktijmation, which I hated to have to makem, tio Adamm Sutрман, There was no actual truth in it

[6/20/11 8:59:01 PM] Lyn: Ths principle is, that the truth must be servued, and despite al l fustiaj in which he was apparently "blackmailed" into sayiing yo mr llate todau>

[6/20/11 8:59:34 PM] Lyn: Today.

[6/20/11 9:13:36 PM] Lyn: Juar now, after reviewing matters with Jeff Steinberg, I have uttered a policyfrom our organizaition will never teturn. The welfare of the human species demands no less than that.

[6/20/11 10:28:30 PM] Lyn: I have to inform you that (for the moment) Adam Sturman has floipped.

[6/20/11 10:28:41 PM] Lyn: just flipped.

[6/20/11 10:52:18 PM] Lyn: The operation is known to us as arecently launched focus on me personally by the Obama administration. Which has been underway during the recent weeks.

[6/20/11 10:53:03 PM] Lyn: Business as usual, has dissappeared.

[6/20/11 11:03:07 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Flipped? What happened? I caught part of an explosion earlier today.

[6/20/11 11:04:21 PM] Sky Jason Shields: And I've seen Jeff's briefing lead, on the extension of the Obama administration operation within the senate, directed against you.

[6/20/11 11:05:48 PM] Lyn: I should deliver my report of the facts of the case now, to you, or to Alicia, because the facts do need that in prepartion for the morning,

[6/20/11 11:06:05 PM] Lyn: Which shall it be?

[Sky and Lyn speak by phone for half an hour.]

[6/20/11 11:37:19 PM] Sky Jason Shields: This connection is very poor, but I think that I have the essentials.

By the next morning, this situation had escalated:

“[6/21/11 5:15:18 AM] Lyn: [4:09:00 AM]: The cardinal symptom centered on the figure of a visiting associate resident in Seattle, Washington: she was a particular object of those apparently drugged or hypnotized, whose suddenly induced mass-obsession was fixated on two members of the national association. The evident compulsion was first expressed, to my knowledge, by the denial of the presence of one associate attending the same event, and the fanatical insistence that person at the same meeting was not present. Instead of the real person speaking, standing up to pose a question, the victims who shared that delusion had substituted the name of a person visiting in that meeting , she from Seattle. That delusion was shared by a number of the associates attending that meeting. In form, this effect was

manifestly shared, even fanatically, by a number of associates who had been present in the room at the time the delusion had first become manifest. Notably, the pattern of behavior shared among those persons, had persisted up to this present day. Is this a case of drugging, or something with similar effects.

[6/21/11 5:35:08 AM] Lyn: SYMPTOMS OF DRUG INDUCED PSYCHOTIC EPISODES

No later than Saturday morning, there were visible effects of some form of mass-psychotic obsession. The obsession which was first expressed on the following Sunday and Monday, was expressed by the fanatical insistence, that one person at that meeting held on premises in Purcellville, Virginia, had never been present that day. Instead, those gripped by this shared delusion, substituted what they commonly avowed was a different person attending that meeting, a person who had been present, but had not stood to speak until a latter time that same day.

The pattern of behavior among those sharing that delusion, suggests nothing less probable than a substance-assisted form of psychotic episode.

30-30-30

[6/21/11 8:17:39 AM] Lyn: It is now morning "in paradise." The only competent view of my report (above) is that it was Limari speaking as the first respondent in the NEC meeting. No other sane member of our association there in Purcellville could have presumed the contrary. Limari's quality and range of speaking voice were fully recognized by any person familiar with both. Formally, the insistence on the contrary was either lying or functionally impaired. Adam is the clearest case of the brainwashing shared by those who insisted that Riana had been the real first respondent of the session.

[6/21/11 8:18:36 AM] Lyn: At least, he has been the wildest among the victims of that sort brainwashing during the recent days.

[6/21/11 8:23:11 AM] Lyn: All of the victims presently known as such, by me, have shown the same pathological symptoms in behavior which correspond to the "grouped brainwashing victims.

[6/21/11 8:30:37 AM] Lyn: During Monday he had expressed rage; in the evening he exploded. Utterly hysterical.

[6/21/11 8:31:04 AM] Lyn: literally outside the realm of sanities.

[6/21/11 8:56:15 AM] Lyn: Have you awakend yet?"

Over phone discussions between Lyn and Sky, Lyn backed up his assertion that Riana was not the questioner included in the transcript by elaborating upon the difference between Riana and Limari's voice species, the type of songs they were able to sing, tone, etc., despite Sky's arguments to the contrary, and his presentation of such evidence as the fact that Limari would not have prefaced her question with a reference to A Tale of Two Cities and other items characteristic of Riana.

At this point, the entire NEC was notified of Lyn's delusions, and was called in to prevent his going public with the Limari/Riana affair. Jeff was asked to give Lyn a briefing that would make him less paranoid, and a fake NEC meeting was staged with only the NEC members, Alicia, Sky, Barbara, and Rick to make Lyn believe he had gone public with all of the above. Their efforts seemed to be successful, but this was only the tip of the iceberg.

And Now, Peter Must be Destroyed

On Saturday, June 25th, Sky received a distressing phone call from Alicia. Both Sky and Alicia had thought at this time that the situation had cooled around the transcript/Adam crisis.⁶ Now, Alicia reported that Lyn had asserted to her that Peter and Anna were involved in some sort of operation. He based his accusation on the fact that he had seen them pass a note (which is something they were known to do regularly), during the NEC meeting earlier that day, which Lyn had conducted over Skype. Sky tried to defend Peter and redirect the conversation by discussing the merits of Peter's Basement work. Lyn continued to attack Peter, asserting he was "duped, through his beloved."

"[6/25/11 3:10:26 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Lyn!

[6/25/11 3:10:30 PM] Sky Jason Shields: 1) Your remarks as delivered seem perfect for posting, including the middle section, with only a minimal framing stating the context.

[6/25/11 3:13:16 PM] Sky Jason Shields: 2) I pulled Peter aside, and he was distracted in that moment. He and Anna had finished the earthquake report late last night. He had been thinking about why we were behind the ball on reporting it. We spoke about reviving a steady feature, making sure that our outward website image reflects our internal deliberation in that area.

[6/25/11 3:14:46 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Part of this will involve linking our Forces of Nature page to a direct space weather feed from NASA, and an earthquake feed from the USGS, complete with a map. This would serve to supplement a regular "weather report," that would be a joint project between the Basement and P'ville.

[6/25/11 3:15:19 PM] Sky Jason Shields: I think that kind of intensity would also serve to reduce distractions which might otherwise become potential security lapses of the psychological sort.

[6/25/11 3:15:54 PM] Sky Jason Shields: When you're free, I can call.

[6/25/11 3:17:45 PM] Lyn: With that, i concur. However, Peter's role touches a direct intervention into our association from alien channels. Peter's behavior was morally very bad. I understand why. but the fact that he was obviously duped in the matter of the basement discussion later, is an unpleasant, but undertsnadable fraud in effect.

[6/25/11 3:20:04 PM] Lyn: Peter was duod, through his beloved, who, in turn, was duped into playing a role which she would have ordinarily despised.

[6/25/11 3:25:20 PM] Sky Jason Shields: The inappropriateness of the behavior I think I made clear to him. I'll keep prodding on the source of any influence over the next days. I'll pull Anna aside as well. In the meanwhile, it seems that it will be good to seal off psychological openings with an increased quality of workflow.⁷

[6/25/11 3:26:10 PM] Sky Jason Shields: I'm in the Basement, so I'm not at liberty to call yet. I'll be in a separate office in a few hours.

[6/25/11 3:28:02 PM] Lyn: For the circumstances as they appear to be for the moment, that seems reasonable, on the condition that we do not forget the nature of the problem.

[6/25/11 3:29:37 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Yes. I'm trying to make sure that we're not duped into explaining away specific cases as isolated "objects." The more general trend, and general threat, is clear.

⁶ Though Adam was, at this point, refusing to film Weekly Reports.

⁷ Unsuccessful attempt to change the subject.

[6/25/11 3:31:15 PM] Lyn: Absolutely. The immediate object reveals crucial aspects of the intention. They can not be passed over. Until Peter drops the crap, he has not rehabilitated himself'

[6/25/11 3:31:59 PM] Lyn: There exist no facts to justify his conduct. That is the standard of discipline for this situation.

[6/25/11 3:32:44 PM] Lyn: We can not have some careening in the base who has not repudiated the crap.

[6/25/11 3:33:17 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Got it. I'll make that clear, and follow it through.

[6/25/11 3:34:31 PM] Lyn: Good. Perhaps I can be a peace in the matter, such that we can return from the version authored by the enemies of humanity who have been behind the problem associated with Peter's act of gullibility.

[6/25/11 3:35:16 PM] Lyn: The truth of whatever lie was involved in her behavior, must be smoked out, of there is no remedy.

[6/25/11 3:35:38 PM] Lyn: our there is.

[6/25/11 3:36:35 PM] Lyn: Simply treating that as Peter's opinion is no justification for his role in the matter. He must be impelled to recognize his folly, and clean up his act.

[6/25/11 3:38:30 PM] Lyn: Libel by gossip, which circumstances clearly define here, must be exposed as lies, by forcing publically the source of the lies obviously the factor here.

[6/25/11 3:38:43 PM] Lyn: Where's the proof, buddy?

[6/25/11 3:39:13 PM] Lyn: Are ashamed to make it public, for some good and defensible reason?

[6/25/11 3:39:34 PM] Lyn: The fact of the lie was in the basement meeting of relevance/

[6/25/11 3:54:54 PM] Sky Jason Shields: I just took him aside for a longer discussion. It was productive. He was preparing to write up a report, but I think I should put him on with you instead. Are you free?

[6/25/11 3:55:14 PM] Sky Jason Shields: I will still have to speak to Anna, afterwards.

[6/25/11 3:59:19 PM] Lyn: Yes, But warn him that I no some circulation of a lie is the only thing which could explain his mis-conduct. Obviously, he has been fed some lies which he must disclose, including the sources of those lies. Otherwise, the discussion would be a farce.⁸

[6/25/11 4:00:56 PM] Lyn: This is, under the present circumstances, an issue of a betrayal of the human race into which he had been drawn in some fashion. Killing that lie, is my only intention on this account presently.

[6/25/11 4:02:26 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Yes. He's been warned not obfuscate anything. Our connection here for video is bad, however. I'm taking him in to Purcellville. We'll arrive in around fifteen minutes.

[6/25/11 4:03:51 PM] Lyn: He must tell the truth about an attitude and behavior which suggests a lie on his part, whether he were witting, or merely a dupe. That must be said, otherwise the entire discussion were a waste of time.

[6/25/11 4:05:40 PM] Lyn: She was highly energized, had over the mouth, during the meeting Peter's sneaky behavior in the basement meeting later, defines the disgusting essence of the swindle into which he was drawn. He spoke behind my back, not to mere, that is the nature of a lie.

[6/25/11 4:06:28 PM] Lyn: I am certain that there is no possible justification for the implications of the subsequent basement meeting.

[6/25/11 4:08:03 PM] Lyn: A qualified apology for this behavior is my precondition for expecting honesty from him in the discussion of this affair.

⁸ At this point the reader should realize that no one had any idea what Lyn was talking about, but it was certainly terrifying.

[6/25/11 4:08:36 PM] Lyn: If he agrees to that, we can clean up the mess.

[6/25/11 4:11:27 PM] Lyn: Whatever he said, it is clear by now, that were was nothing actually truthful in it."

Peter and Sky then headed to Purcellville to get on a Skype call with Lyn, Sky showing Peter the Skype discussion he was having with Lyn beforehand so that Peter would be "prepared." Peter was terrified about what to say to Lyn. Sky encouraged Peter to "just go along with it", admit that Lyn was right, and then redirect the discussion, because any time Lyn was argued with, or insinuated to have been wrong about something, he would become even more adamant, stubborn, and furious.

"[6/25/11 4:25:29 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Yes. We're now in Purcellville.

[6/25/11 4:26:24 PM] Lyn: Noted. Obviosuly, there is no sign of an expressed intention by him to tell the truth.

[6/25/11 4:26:56 PM] Sky Jason Shields: I'll be here also.

[6/25/11 4:27:00 PM] Lyn: I can understand why, but that does notjustify his immortal behaviuorl

[6/25/11 4:27:57 PM] Lyn: Of course. I some good can come of it. Peter must tell the truth, not ""explain why."

[6/25/11 4:28:29 PM] Lyn: What he did was sneaky, and therefore fraudulent in imtent and content."

They both got on the call with Lyn at their house, and Lyn began by yelling at Peter. Sky intermittently hung up the Skype call, so he could discuss what should be said or how to handle the discussion, and then called Lyn back, telling him that they accidently got cut off. Lyn said at one point, "the worst, was the meeting after." Peter replied that there was no meeting after (the NEC). Lyn responded, "you're wrong: Alicia would not lie to me." Sky called Alicia to try to clarify what Lyn had been told, and then got back on with Lyn.

The discussion ended with Lyn going into a creepy "agapic cop" mode, and telling Peter that he loved him.

"[6/25/11 5:09:15 PM] Sky Jason Shields: I have Anna here now.

[6/25/11 5:09:32 PM] Sky Jason Shields: Can she call?

[6/25/11 5:16:03 PM] Lyn: I am here, witing for re-contact."

Immediately after the call with Peter, Anna was brought in for a separate call with just Sky and Anna. It was very similar to the call with Peter, but only seven minutes. At the end, Lyn also concluded with a similar expression of love.

"[6/25/11 5:23:48 PM] Lyn: Sky: I presume you have the picture."

A very shaken Peter and Anna asked Sky to go out for drinks that night, and described the call with Lyn as having been "demeaning." Sky, quietly panicked, simply covered for Lyn. This became his role for much of this period.

During this time period, Lyn began suffering periodic blackouts, at one point falling into the glass front of an oven and seriously injuring his hand. Sky and Alicia began to alternate between meetings with

Barbara, Rick, and Bruce, focused on trying to contain Lyn, and calls with Lyn, where he insisted that those people who were arguing with him were brainwashed. When Lyn spoke of “brainwashing,” he meant literally brainwashed, by either drugs or electromagnetic weaponry. He began insisting to Alicia and Sky that “the enemy” was out to learn their deepest darkest secrets and use them against the two of them. Lyn then asserted that in order to preempt this, they would each have to tell Lyn their deepest darkest secrets first, so that he could help defend them. Finally, during a call in Alicia’s office, Lyn insisted that they report these secrets to him. As they both, uncomfortably, began to speak, Lyn interrupted and insisted that they tell him separately. He said that Alicia should go first, so Sky went home and drank about half a bottle of rum, waiting uncomfortably for the call. Lyn finally called some hours later, and stated that he had gotten Alicia’s darkest secrets from her. Sky had no idea where to start, but Lyn luckily cut him off, declaring “no more of this psychoanalysis stuff.” They instead waxed philosophical about time or Vernadsky or something. Lyn would later tell Sky much of what he had gotten out of Alicia, and would use that information to his advantage in fairly awful ways in the events which follow.⁹

Don Giovanni Fails

Soon after, Jul 2-3, 2011, a Conference was held in Russelsheim, Germany, by the European organization, which Sky attended. Lyn responded ecstatically to the final musik-abend, especially the final choral fantasy, performed mainly by the European youth members. In an NEC discussion, Lyn opened with effusive praise for the performance, asserting that this was the saving grace of civilization, and a demonstration of European artistic/musical superiority over the American organization, etc. In that light, the locals were immediately mobilized to watch and study the performance.

However, back in the US, a recorded performance of the entire Don Giovanni opera was completed by the beginning of June, which Lyn himself had commissioned around a year prior, as a response to the “failed” drama work. Nonetheless, Lyn did not watch this recording, initially said nothing about the project, and finally proceeded to disparage the work that had been done, including the participants’ Italian pronunciation,¹⁰ the distraction to the political situation created by the fact that Aaron brought Banaudi over to direct it, and the fact that he, LaRouche, was not there to oversee it. Ultimately, he said (usually in semi-private discussions) that the participants just “did not get it”. This effectively terminated what was left of the music program in the United States.¹¹

Put on Your Tinfoil Hats!

“Morning Briefing transcript of NEC meeting held on Saturday, July 16, 2011:

⁹ It is perhaps useful to know that it was information that Lyn gleaned from these sessions, and not the situation with Pia, that caused Lyn’s intense hostility towards Harley Schlanger coming out of this period.

¹⁰ Lyn does not speak Italian.

¹¹ As soon as Lyn returned from Europe, he declared that Don Giovanni had come and gone. Here is an excerpt from the briefing: “And that means that the whole support for that, as well as the electronic support, and {electronics} support for that, and it’s important that we get, as I think we’re on the verge of doing, *now that the {Don Giovanni} has come and gone*, that, at this point, we can get the kind of quality coming out of Purcellville, at least a fighting chance to do that, which will make a qualitative difference for the organization as a whole.”

- GREETINGS, YOU HAVE A NEW ORGANIZATION -

LYN: Okay, I shall rise to the occasion: Greetings, you have a new organization. It consists, represented by five people, plus Nancy, as a separate function. And what we're going to do, as we've discussed this today, we're going to pull this together; we're going to make some changes which will astonish you in their effects, they're rather simple changes in terms of policy, on one level, but they're gigantic in terms of implications, and moral implications, especially..."

(This has been edited for the sake of space. Errors are in the original)

"We've changed the character of the organization in a necessary way. We have, with Jeff, Debra will be on, if she doesn't get caught in traffic, which is often a problem, and she will be on. And we have two younger people, who'll be on, this young lady¹², who you know, I believe, who will determine your destiny and part of your life; and Sky, to whom there is no limit.

What this is going to represent is a reorganization of the organization, so the organization in terms of these elements, combining these elements which will sit at the same table, twice a week at least, or in emergency conditions, to formulate the policies of action, which we shall launch, and implement. And the two regular sessions, usually on Tuesday and usually at the end of the week, Friday or Saturday: Sometimes there's a crowded agenda, and therefore, we'll have the meeting on Friday, if necessary, rather than Saturday. But the relevant focal point, will be the Tuesday and Saturday meetings, here....

Because the problem is, is the center of gravity of progress of organization, has shifted from the Boomer generation, to this younger generation, because the Boomer generation has, in large degree, that is, members of the Boomer part of the population, are no longer really functional. They're not leaders, they're followers. You have a handful among them, who are leaders, but most of the others have receded in their role in life, into followers, and they're almost like sheep that you have to have a dog to herd. That's a {fact} of the matter, it's a very {ugly} fact of the matter, for us. Because the few Boomers that do function, don't have much support from those of their generation, and that's a fact. It's not a debatable point, it's a fact!

¹² Alicia Cerretani, recently appointed "Editor in Chief."

And therefore, the lust of this organization for victory, lies essentially with the younger generation. And the younger generation can be discouraged, and often has been discouraged. It has not been functional because it's been discouraged, and largely discouraged by the existence of Boomers. That's a fact. That's not an accusation, that's a fact!"

As related from the NEC excerpt from above, soon after Lyn returned from Europe (Sky was still overseas), he established a new executive body for the organization, which he entitled the "Group of Five," consisting of Sky, Alicia, Jeff, Debbie, and himself. It became explicit in discussions between Alicia and Sky that they were brought into the "policy discussions" largely because Lyn did not want to be left alone with Debbie and Jeff. At this time, the NECs and all public discussion became increasingly internally oriented and Lyn became increasingly paranoid. Disturbingly, upon his return from Europe, he also revisited the "problem" of the brainwashing of the membership.

Dialogue from the same transcript cited above, of the NEC meeting held on Saturday, July 16, 2011:

"LYN: You know, the one thing I would add on this thing, we have to realize that there are some very special operations against this organization, from the Obama Administration directly. The Obama Administration currently, has the largest dirty-tricks capability in the government, against us: This man reads everything I write. Generally has a report on everything that we write, on everything that we do.

And in the organization, there's a certain ignorance about the capabilities of a government operation against us, in terms of brainwashing of our own members in ways they don't even know what would occur. They suddenly find themselves believing in foolish things, and they don't know where they came from, but they believe that they have to believe them! It's the greatest danger to us, directly, from the Obama Administration: You've got to understand the kinds of brainwashing capabilities, electronic and otherwise, they have, for turning human minds into garbage.

And only if you understand that, and are prepared to recognize it can exist, and {does} actually exist, that you're able to defend yourself. If you believe everything that you've been induced to believe is true, you're finished! That's the intent of the Obama Administration, and that is the psychological capabilities, of the U.S. government operations! And we are now, currently, the subject of those capabilities which are deployed in service of Obama! We have to expect, attempted mass brainwashing, of our members, who will not even know they were brainwashed. And only if you're honest about this stuff, will you be able to avoid it.

And it's has actually happened! It has actually {happened} to us! And I have solid proof of it. It's one of the biggest problems we have.

People induced to believe, heartily, in something that never happened, and not to believe, really, in something what did happen! And that's a capability of government agencies, deployed by the Obama Administration against us. And the unwillingness of people to recognize that that could happen to them, or could {have} happened to them, is their weakness: it's the greatest internal threat to our organization.

It's easy to prove it; I've investigated it and proved it. But the victims, of course, don't want to believe it, have a strong emotional reaction against it, and the strong emotional reaction against it, the irrational character of the strong emotion, demonstrates the victim.

ALICIA: I think these are the things we have to keep in mind, in the product that we produce, in the organizing that we're doing --¹³

LYN: Exactly! Go ahead --”

(Alicia then discussed the 9/11 movie they had planned, among other things.)

“LYN: It's easy to detect this kind of thing: But the detection is very elementary. The question is, what change in your goals is effected by this? In other words, you need a test of reality: a person is on an island, something has happened on the island while they slept. They woke up in the morning with a different identity, in some respect. How do you know what's true? Because they will deny things that are true: "I believe this! I believe this!" That's what the brainwashing does: Induces the victim to solidly believe in what they've been brainwashed into believing. The test is, what's the outcome, of believing it? That's the proof. The outcome, the changed outcome, of believing, which is the result of the experience; which can happen overnight, to people while they sleep. And they will strongly believe something, in and of itself, without considering the antecedents and the consequence, to know that

¹³ Sky and Alicia were at this point desperately trying to change the subject to keep Lyn from discussing the electromagnetic brainwashing of Purcellville -- to no avail, as will be seen below. This of course was all printed in the briefing, and distributed to the locals, who had to come up with ridiculous explanations for this the same way they did for many of the other things Lyn would say in NEC meetings. The attempted analysis of this particular weirdness from Lyn will possibly only be surpassed by the attempted explanations of the profundity of Lyn's "love dialogues" with Alicia.

something by night took them over -- like Dracula. *And they believe the nonsense they've been brainwashed into believe, even while they slept, by relevant means, electronic means. If you don't have the brains to recognize that, then they got you!*

...

I'm used to this sort of thing, and understand it. Because I understand that what most people believe, in society, -- what most people believe in society, does not equip them to cope with this. They are naïve in the sense of approaching sense-certainty. What they experience as believe, they believe is proof of what they experience. *And so, with someone like Barbara standing outside the immediate inside the immediate inside of the operation, where the targeting is, was the most likely to respond, to recognize there's been a change in the personality of some of our members. And she did! Only one aspect of it. And she just happened to mention it to me. I hadn't asked her about it, but she happened to mentioned it to me, and identified it right away.*

The evidence is simple, and conclusive. It happened. It probably is a factor in some of the problems we have in Purcellville, in particular. Because it didn't affect the science people. It affected, chiefly, Purcellville. In ... [audio break] targeted operation.

Take one of the last meetings I had, from Germany, to Purcellville, on a Weekly Report, and you find the change occurred there. And affected chiefly, only the Purcellville organization, which is typical of an electronic operation.

It's not the matter of this incident, it's the matter of the fact, that's what we're up against. And you have to think in terms of constantly checking the reality of your own mind. See Barbara recognized it. Other people who were in that vicinity, that day, were the ones who were affected. And people didn't check what the change in their belief was. You always have the ability to do that.

Don Giovanni Rises to the Occasion

The week preceding Lyn's official announcement of the "Group of 5," the two NECs of July 9th and July 12th were also punctuated by strange statements that Lyn uttered in the Q & A sections. These parts of the NECs were also characterized by his adoption of a different tone than he normally had in his direct response to questioners, particularly to certain individual youth members. Below, we reproduce transcripts of some of the disturbing content in the NECs which all centered on a new shift in the leadership structure of the organization (aka. Lyn's strangely jubilant praise of certain members and his

extremely harsh denunciation of others). Juxtaposed to this was an obsession with sex, a hatred of what he called “male chauvinism” (specifically targeting certain males¹⁴), and out of place revelations of his troubled upbringing¹⁵.

We begin with excerpts from the July 9th NEC where Michelle Lerner opened the questioning with what seemed a straightforward, “Basement-type” question, but Lyn’s tone of response was far harsher and more dismissive than her question seemed to merit. Indeed this animosity towards her proceeded until the day she was kicked out of the organization.

- DIALOGUE -

MICHELLE L: Lyn, I have a question about the invariance of the invariance... Can you hear me?

LYN: Oh, there you are! I didn't know where you were hiding...

MICHELLE: The different phase-spaces, there's clearly an invariance -- the three phase-spaces, there's clearly an invariance in each of those --

LYN: No.

MICHELLE: No.

LYN: They're not invariant. The invariant is the current state of the universe, just as Einstein defined it. The use of invariant in another way, is an incompetent use of the term invariant.

MICHELLE: So the...

LYN: An invariant has to be a cross-section of the total state of a universal process. And it can not be defined on a lower state. Because it's not an invariant. It does not lead to a conclusion that you can call an invariant. The concept is invariant, as I defined it, not on some so-called invariant, not in some textbook. Most professors don't know what the hell science is anyway, these days!

You have to be, in these matters, when you're talking about universals, or principles which pertain to universals, you got to know what you're talking about! Don't use words because somebody

¹⁴ The particular males he was targeting were all linked, in some form or another, to Alicia's personal life.

¹⁵ The latter is more a testament to some of the problems with LaRouche's own character and gives us an idea of why he does some of what he does. Here is an excerpt from the July 11th NEC: “My father was a beater. And he only stopped beating, when I stopped him physically. I threw him down on the floor, and I said, "You'll never do it again." And he never did it again. He still was a chauvinist, but he was more observant of the fact, that I'd thrown him down on the floor, and said, "You'll never do that again!" He didn't like it, because it was his rights to express his anger and frustration, and take it out on his children and wife. And it was a common practice in my time. And many of you know, of parents you have, who in one way -- the woman who taunted her husband into a rage, and then was self-righteous about the whole thing, if he took a whack at her. "Ahhh! You hit me! Awww! I gotcha now, you ggrrrrr!"

likes to use them! Don't pick a word out of a dictionary, because it comes out of a so-called "scientific textbook," and call it a "universal." It's not a universal.

The universe is integrated, and only the integration of a state of the universe, constitutes an invariant. You adduce the presence of an invariant, by a local experiment, but you don't define it by that! There's a difference of saying, "I'm in the circus." "You mean you're a clown?" "Yes!" "Are you the circus?" "No." The clown is not an invariant. [laughter]

You have to get to these levels of seriousness! You can not play with these things. That's when you get the crap! When people {play} with concepts, according to their fancy, like they're playing with their pud or something!

Juxtapose the above, to the tone he takes with Sky and Alicia, who he had just promoted as leadership of the whole organization in the Group of 5:

Lyn: Don't try to make any accommodations to the stupid world out there, which has fucked everything up! Have some fun: Join my fun, give up that crap! I have fun! And when I need fun, I'll call up Sky. He's fun! He's ebulliently creative! He bubbles with creativity! You give him one sentence, and you get a reference to X this, X that, X this, and you come out of the thing, and you, yourself, by being exposed to his reactions, are forced to quickly compose in your own mind, what he's really talking about -- [laughter].

And then he walks away, and leaves you with what he's dropped on you... and you're happy! If your mind is well-organized, you're happy, because he's very stimulating. He's stimulated himself, by reacting to things the way he does: He has a whole encyclopedia of odd corners of knowledge, and any time you get into something, he's got that tucked away, together with probably a few additional elements, there! You bring up the subject, and he's going to start -- {whew!} "Oh, yeah! Yeah, yeah, yeah!" [laughter]

Don't you know him? Sky's fun! And just as I promoted this young lady, to a higher position in the organization as a whole, as soon as Sky gets back, he's going up there, too. Because that's the kind of leadership we need: This young lady is also good leadership. She's a little bit overloaded with the more mundane aspects of the job, right now, but I know a lot of other people who are going to come up there and take over, and find a broader base for this work. And then she will be able to function as she's supposed to. What's her competence? She'll

gain it: She has the commitment to gain it.”

...

LYN: Yeah, that's exactly why I've been working the way I have been.

Let me add a plain point on this: I was determined that Alicia was the best choice for editor in chief. We had not defined an editor in chief position, but she obviously was qualified for it. So that was it.¹⁶

(Enter Lyn's obsession with male chauvinism and sex:)

Then I found out what goes on in Purcellville, with a couple of experiences there, and I was infuriated. I was infuriated by what is called, vulgarly, male chauvinism. Which has many kinds of expression, of keeping women in their place -- i.e., in bed. And I don't think that's a good proposition for an organization such as ours. *Sex is much overrated. Not that it's not fun, at times. I haven't done any for about 14 years [laughter] -- but I do remember!* And it's very important, in some sense, but it's much overrated.

Although Lyn's statement that he hadn't had sex in "about 14 years" was almost "thrown away", almost no one missed it. It was so very peculiar, even for a man who regularly "shocked" us with statements about masturbation.

Lyn: I mean, as a regular habit, it's bad. Sex as a habit is a terrible thing, because it ceases to have any significance. When it becomes a habit, it becomes a common currency. And it's only a two-buck piece of currency. [laughter] Huh?

What's important, and this thing about this sexual factor, in the organization, I found to be deadly! Now, I know all about these kinds of things. {But!} I was not exposed, because of what I'm doing -- I wasn't exposed to something which I immediately recognized, but had not anticipated. And I said, this thing in Purcellville has got to be straightened out, {but good!} And in the course of two weeks, I saw things that I was horrified by. I said, this is going to change.

And I challenged her (Alicia), to have the guts, to play a part in making that change, because she was already in the leading position there, in this work, and she showed she could do better. I said: Okay, good. We're going to break up this division

¹⁶ Some people found Alicia's promotion to the job of editor in chief somewhat strange. But at the time, nobody realized just how strange it was...

between the Boomers and the youth. There's a very easy way to do it. We now have a Six.

The next NEC was still more intense. This is the one to which Lyn referred in the July 16th NEC as concluding with a great "outpouring of love" around "the woman issue," the "male chauvinism" issue, the likes of which he had never encountered before in the organization.

Lyn: We have what's called male chauvinism of various kinds, including sexual oppression. {That will cease, now!} And you will all be responsible to make sure it ceases. We can not maintain this organization under those conditions. {That crap will now cease! Permanently!} Women have been looking for that in our organization: They're tired of this exploitation by intimidation. {They don't want it any more! It's gone too far! It's been too destructive already.} When you intimidate our women, when some of them capitulate to be intimidated, and you destroy the moral character of this organization. Tolerating that is an evil! Tolerating that is a crime! It's a moral crime, and it will cease, henceforth, as of this meeting! That's the way it is: The bullshit ends. The crap ends, {now!}

...

I don't want my organization to have this crap any more! I've been trying to get rid of it by influence -- didn't work. Now, I take more strenuous exertion of this thing: I am sick of it! It is not going to continue! I will not be responsible for an organization that allows it. And I think we ought to make that loud and clear: That's going to disappoint some people who like bullying women into submission. That will cease, now!

Citizenship depends upon respect for one another, and regard for one another's rights and dignities. Of you don't have that, you don't have that moral qualification in the organization, the organization is thereby diminished in its authority, and its effectiveness.

You can have legitimate fun, under legitimate terms, but nothing else. {I'm tired of seeing the sickness in our organization,} and as far as I'm concerned, it ends right now. No more. No one has the right, no man has the right to tyrannize a woman, or vice versa."

...

Lyn: This is our moment, if we can seize it. And I say, let's have some fun! The people deserve fun. And tell them, take your guns away, you

might shoot your pecker off¹⁷. And that would be painful; we don't want that to happen. We don't want bloody sperm all over the place. [General uproar.] You've got to use that terminology to get the point across. Otherwise, people will say, "Oh, well, that simple. He's not serious." I am deadly serious. [laughter] You like that?

While some of the content of these meetings had certainly been baffling to people in the locals, and the leadership found themselves scrambling to try to explain the validity of Lyn's remarks about electromagnetic brainwashing, even while believing in its validity wholeheartedly, because it had been uttered by Lyn, when Riana returned to Purcellville on July 20th, 2011, she found that the environment there was even more confused and tumultuous than it was in the locals.

Many male members were convinced that all of Lyn's comments, and anger, about male chauvinism was directed at each of them, personally, and each was sure that Lyn "had it in for him." Additionally, there was an incredible amount of energy focused on a number of relationships and love triangles, taking up hours of discussion, not just among youth members and the "players themselves," but between Barbara and Rick as well. Lyn took an intimate role in many of these relationships, even going so far as to serve as a marriage counselor for one couple--though his main advice for their relationship problems was that they needed to have more sex.

The environment in Purcellville was defined by members attempting to win Lyn's praise, and avoid being "destroyed" by him. While his criticism of individuals could be devastating and publicly humiliating, like the exchange he had had with Michelle Lerner at the July 9th NEC, his excessive praise and more and more obviously intimate relationships with other youth, like Sky and Alicia, made people feel they were "missing out" on a more in-depth relationship with Lyn because of some inherent lack on their part. Not only could certain people call Lyn whenever they wanted, *Lyn called them*. What must a person have in his character that would make the greatest genius of all time wish to call him at all hours of the night to discuss the nature of time?

This feeling of a growing dichotomy between Lyn's select group and the rest of the youth was increased by the fact that everyone observed that Alicia was regularly accompanying Lyn up to his study, which was known to all as forbidden territory. Everyone noticed it, but no one said anything publicly.

At one point, Alicia commented to Riana that she was always "on call" and had to have her phone on at all times because Lyn would send Skype messages to her at any hour of the night. Travis Johnson, who was on security at this time, later recounted to Riana that Lyn dressed himself up, and came down to demand to be taken to Purcellville to see Alicia around 7:00 am one morning. The other members of the security team were reluctant to do such a thing without Rick's knowledge, but the younger members were ready to comply. Travis related this in the context of the new policy on the dress code, i.e. even for a seemingly informal meeting, Lyn was ready early in the morning in a suit and tie, but what was actually conveyed was anxiety about the irregularity of Lyn's behavior, and how that was connected to "organization-wide" policy directives.

¹⁷ Lyn's comments throughout the NEC of "shooting your pecker off" and his references to "bloody sperm" had to do with trips Chris Landry and Chris Jadatz occasionally took to the shooting range. Lyn would later threaten Chris Landry with the prospect that he should be jailed for carrying guns across state lines, a totally spurious accusation.

In a discussion with Alli, who was in Purcellville at this time for the male candidates caucus, Alicia described her new leadership role as a member of the G5, seeing herself as taking on a crucial role in history. She professed to Alli that she was totally committed to Lyn and the organization, showing Alli a picture of Joan of Arc, saying that this was her conception of herself: giving up whatever necessary for the sake of the mission. She said that Lyn had told her she was an important person, and had a crucial role to play with him in history. When asked by Alli why she went up to Lyn's room, she replied that she was now involved in every aspect of Lyn's life, including attending his doctor's appointments, being available for discussion at all hours, and tucking him in at night. When questioned about the latter activity in particular, she responded that Lyn was an old man, and needed the help, and that it was the LYM's responsibility to help Lyn in every way possible at this time.

“The Week that Was”

This section is compiled from a combination of journal entries written by Tarrajna soon after these occurrences, and an un-sent letter composed after her departure from the organization.

On Sunday, August 14th 2011, Tarrajna, Bill and Nick headed down to Purcellville from Detroit for a gathering of the “male caucus” as it was subsequently dubbed. This had arisen from a series of discussions between Nick, Tarrajna, Alicia, Sky, and others concerning the need to have regular discussions among the leadership, especially involving the candidates. It worked out for everyone's schedule to come for close to a week, so they were to join up with Summer and Alli, Dave and Riana (who was already there), and a few others, to discuss the campaigns, and hold a workshop with Jason on his Riemann work. While they were still on the road, they received a phone call to come straight to Windy Hill for a meeting with Lyn. When they showed up, everyone else had already arrived. Alicia, Sky, Leandra, Dave Christie, Riana, Leni and Phil were present, and a bit later on, Nancy Spannaus arrived.

The main focus of this meeting was the “end of the youth movement.” The discussion had already begun when they entered, and Lyn was in the middle of a back and forth with Dave Christie on the communist youth movement, making jokes about how they never wanted to grow up. This was the first full call that Lyn made to eradicate the distinction between the youth movement and the so-called “boomers”. At a certain point towards the end of the meeting, Alicia asked him why we have to rely on certain “others” in intelligence circles to do things, since they suck and have been completely lacking in courage. Lyn's response struck Tarrajna as very strange. The whole meeting he had been speaking more quietly than she remembered from past times at the dinner table, so much so that she was getting very frustrated at being stuck in the back and having to strain just to hear him. She was also irked by how strangely he was talking with Alicia: he became even softer, seeming to have lost all awareness that there was anyone in the room but the two of them, and proceeded to have an intimate conversation with her, taking a very fatherly, “calma, calma” tone. At the time, Tarrajna thought her aversive reaction to this exchange was due to some jealousy towards Alicia for being so close with Lyn, and at her own condition of being so far from the center and access to Lyn. She soon learned that it was not that at all. At the very end of the meeting, Lyn turned to Alicia and asked, “are you ready?” and then headed up to his study with Alicia in tow, which also struck Tarrajna as odd.

On Monday the 15th, a group of people met at the office to work through Riemann's Habilitation Dissertation. After a couple of hours Sky showed up and informed them that Lyn was upset and had apparently thought they would be working at the Hill. So they packed up and headed out for the Hill to finish the session there. However, when they arrived, Lyn apparently had something else in mind. They gathered in the living room, and Lyn proceeded to launch into an NEC-like discussion. What follows are direct quotes from Tarrajna's notes from that meeting:

"1) We're dealing with a quality of a military operation. 2) Never gossip: if you gossip, you'll be caught in lies (in military affairs, gossip is a crime. Those who perpetrate it are titled as gossips and liars.) ...Even leading parts of the organization here participate in this...There are a lot of liars in this organization who think that it is just innocent gossip. They cannot be trusted. "Innocent lying" that you may commit, called gossip, is a crime. Don't lie about anybody, or gossip about anybody. Cut it out... [I] picked up on some of it... The point is, we're at war in a very real sense. [We're] a few days away from being as good as dead, now... Gossip: deal with instinctively: "where did you get that bullshit from, and why did you believe it?" Next time you catch yourself repeating gossip, kick yourself in the butt, and make it hurt, so you'll remember it."

After his opening remarks, there were several questions put to him. Tarrajna found it especially disturbing that when she and others asked him a question, he hardly responded, whereas when Alicia asked a question, or merely commented upon something, Lyn turned his whole body in the chair to face her, and only addressed her, as if no one else were there.

That evening Tarrajna was feeling depressed, thinking that it was due to being left out of the decision-making process and central discussion of the organization. Liona texted her, asking if she wanted to talk. She walked over to the house and they headed out on a walk together. Not long into the talk, Liona brought up a visit that Lyn had just made down to the Basement, before she had left Windy Hill, a bit earlier in the evening, when she and Michael Kirsch were the only ones left there. She mentioned that Lyn had said some pretty strange things concerning his relationship with Helga. Soon after her mentioning this, Tarrajna said, "you mean, having to do with Alicia?" (or some mention of Alicia along those lines.) Liona was slightly surprised at her saying this, and took it as sufficient to go into a full recounting of the conversation that she and Michael had had with Lyn. The long and short of it was that he intended to marry Alicia, and was justifying this action to the two of them through a wild explanation of how he had stopped having sex after his heart surgery, how Helga had suspected him of being unfaithful while she was overseas in Germany, that they had split up, and since then had only had a 'friendship.' Liona said she was shocked that Lyn had been giving them details of his sex life and relationship with Helga. According to Liona, Michael had tried to argue with Lyn about this, challenging the idea of him marrying Alicia, and that he had only had a "friendship" with Helga since they knew him and earlier. Lyn was reportedly stubborn, and would not back down on his intent, nor on his justification. This was very shocking news to Tarrajna at the time of course, but not too surprising, given what she had observed, not just the night before, but in the "Dialogue of Generations" shows featuring Lyn and Alicia. Liona was at her wit's end, and they both agreed that it would be absolutely devastating to the organization if Lyn went through with it. They wondered if Lyn was mad. "How could he possibly do something like this? Does he not know what it would mean for everyone?" It came up that perhaps it was his fear of dying that was compelling him to cling to someone young for comfort. But no matter how they thought about it, it was still shocking and nothing could really be said to resolve the shock. Tarrajna told Liona that there was no way she could not tell this to Nick, but that she would not discuss it with anyone else. Lyn's tirade against gossip earlier that day made the whole situation all the more unsettling.

Tarrajna had no doubt in her mind that Liona was telling the truth. It was too crazy to make up, and for what motive? Tarrajna soon recounted to Nick the entire conversation she had had with Liona. They were both stunned with the overwhelming feeling of being on the brink of the disintegration of the entire organization. They felt certain that this would soon be revealed to all, whether Alicia agreed with it or not (which neither of them were sure of) and that that would cause the breakdown of the organization. There was nothing they felt they could do at the moment but keep their mouths shut, and wait. They certainly were not going to tell anyone else. The next morning, Lyn reportedly cornered Liona and asked her not to repeat the previous nights' discussion to anyone. She contacted Nick, and repeated this message, insisting that he not tell Cody.

From here, it became very difficult for them to concentrate on anything.

I'm So Happy

On Tuesday, August 16th, Rick showed up at Sky's house, collected him, and brought him and Alicia back to the Hill, with the request that they get Lyn to the doctor. When they arrived, Kennedy was in the kitchen, looking rather shell-shocked. Lyn arrived in the kitchen at that point, and when Sky suggested that they move to the living room, Kennedy excitedly encouraged them to do so. (It later turned out that Lyn had earlier stormed down, roaring that Rick should not cross his path lest there be "fireworks like you've never seen before.")

Sky, Alicia, and Lyn moved into the living room. Much of the discussion centered on Lyn's chronic insomnia, as that was believed to be the source of his intensified mania and paranoia. He asserted that this problem had nothing to do with him, but was due to the rest of the members of the organization. The other members, he said, were behaving so inadequately that he was suffering anxiety and therefore could not sleep. They pushed further to get him to leave with them, but he insisted that there was no medical problem, only his anxiety about the movement which was preventing him from sleeping (for days on end).

At a certain point, Lyn seemed to acquiesce, but only to appease Alicia and Sky. When the subject of Rick driving him came up, however, Lyn began to shout and asserted that Rick was trying to kill him using the doctors. "If he handles my medical care, I will be dead! Dead! Do you want me dead?! Dead!" Sky found a pretext to leave the room to talk with Rick.

Because of Lyn's emphatic delivery (and because everything Lyn said was supposed to be true) Sky was not sure at this time what to do, and who was telling the truth, but decided to confide in Rick about Lyn's allegation against him, out of concern for Lyn's health. Rick simply asserted over and over that Lyn needed to be taken to the doctor. When Sky returned to the room, Lyn was sitting with Alicia and looking utterly depressed. Sky tried again to convince Lyn to go to the doctor, reminding him of their all-expense-paid Russia trip that was planned for September (and that Lyn had latched on to with incredible emotional intensity). Lyn declared that the Russia trip would not happen.

"Why not?"

"I will be dead."

"No, you won't."

"Yes I will."

"No you won't."

"Dead!"

“Rick will not be handling your medicine, I will handle all of it. Rick won’t be able to kill you.”

Lyn continued to look both angry and despondent, asserting: “No. I will be dead. I will be dead, I will be dead, unless...(turning to Alicia) she says, ‘yes’.”

At this point Sky was confused. Lyn asked Alicia directly if she would “say yes.” Alicia looked uncomfortable and told him that he should come to the doctor’s. It became clear that Lyn was discussing marriage. Lyn then began to go through a description of his marriage with Helga, and that it had not been a real marriage for a long time, that it was only a “political partnership.” At this point, Lyn’s earlier peculiar comments in NECs about not having sex with Helga began to make sense. Lyn told an elaborate story that they had not been in a relationship ever since she had accused him of being unfaithful to her with another unnamed woman.¹⁸ Lyn told Sky and Alicia that Helga had embarrassed him at that time period by trying to get him to have sex with her, and that for his health and political concentration, he decided he would no longer have sex after his heart attack. He also said that Ned Rosinsky cornered him during a check-up, and said that Viagra type drugs would not affect his heart, that he could indeed have sex with Helga.

Sky found a pretext to leave the room with Alicia, and asked her what the hell was going on. She said something along the lines of, “You see what I’ve been dealing with, this is what I’ve been talking about.”

“Well, this is a simple thing to deal with: just say no.”

“Do you really think so?”

“Yes, it’s going to destroy the whole movement!”

“Really?”

“Yes, really.”

“Well, I thought that, but then I thought of these great leaders in history who got to have a few more years and do amazing things because they took a new, younger mistress.”

She finally concluded she would say no, and they returned inside. The marriage proposal, however, was ultimately left unresolved, and Lyn was finally coerced into the car, only to find himself sitting next to Rick. This led to a fight between Rick and Lyn, with Lyn accusing Rick of being a traitor along with Ned Rosinsky, and Rick defending himself.¹⁹ Once at the doctor’s, Lyn spent the entire time showing strange displays of affection for Alicia, such as holding her hand and gazing into her eyes. Rick would become disturbed at these moments and point out to (a now-convinced) Sky what was happening.

That night, Sky, Alicia, Rick and Barbara made the mistake of allowing Lyn to conduct the NEC meeting. His remarks matched a pattern that people had begun to notice, one which alternated between “happy, loving” Lyn and “fire-and-brimstone” Lyn. This was a “happy, loving” Lyn.

Lyndon LaRouche NEC Meeting, Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2011

- HAPPY DIALOGUE -

LYN: ...We're entering a new

¹⁸ Later, Helga insisted to Lyn that she never would have suspected Lyn of being attracted to an “old cow like Debbie Freeman.”

¹⁹ Rick and Ned, it turns out, had earlier attempted to “intervene” on Lyn about his spiral into madness, leading to an episode where they chased him upstairs and he barricaded himself into his room.

period of humanity. I'm particularly happy about the whole thing, myself. I've just had some sleep, I suppose that's a good sign, and I've lived to observe the outcome, which is fairly good. And we're in a point where we are extremely fortunate to be alive, because the world is facing, now, a period of mass insanity, across the nations and the world till now. We had some fun this afternoon, at an earlier point, jokes of various kinds, and we seemed to enjoy them.

...

I feel humble, hmm? I feel humble in a good way. I feel humble about what we've accomplished, here, in this organization so far. I'm happy about what we have accomplished; I'm happy the way that some people here have, shall we say, "made it" and shown themselves to be capable of making it. I feel humbled: I feel humbled by the fact that we do have the ability to live. As I said this afternoon, mankind does have a specific nature: We can conquer, and right now, I'm extremely happy, and I'm overwhelmed by my own happiness, and what I see us as being able to do.

...

I'm particularly happy about what I was teased into doing, or lured into doing, earlier. They said, "Come down here!" I came down, and then the room was filled with people that I knew. And they were all grinning, knowing that I was taken by surprise, and enjoying the pleasure of witnessing my plight, not knowing what the hell was happening. But then, finally, it was all very good.

But right now, I tell you, I'm overwhelmed by happiness, about what we've accomplished, what we {are} accomplishing, and what we're {going} to accomplish. I'm just plain happy! I'll become more sensible a little later -- [laughter] it's a very strong feeling, you know, it's a very strong emotion. And to see the faces here, and I know you, I know you all. It's a very good feeling, it's going to lead to something good: Of some aspects of that, I'm already certain. Other aspects, I'll be pleased to discover.

Following the NEC, Todd called Riana from the Seattle local, asking her what she thought about it. Riana responded that she was really happy that Lyn had praised Ed and Ben, who rarely got acknowledged for their hard work, and that it was much better than his fire and brimstone NECs. Todd, on the other hand, was disturbed by Lyn's tone, and was perplexed about how to strategically organize around Lyn's emotional state. It struck him that the direction of the whole organization was being determined solely by Lyn's feelings. Later, in her first discussion with Helga, Riana was asked about her thoughts on this same NEC meeting. Riana told her what she had told Todd, to which Helga disagreed, saying she found it extremely disturbing in light of the political situation, which merited more of a fire-

and-brimstone tone. Helga was particularly concerned about what other members were saying about Lyn's state of mind during this NEC meeting.

Despite the attempts to manage Lyn, the situation continued to worsen. On August 22nd, Sky was tasked to intervene on Lyn and Alicia during one of their private sessions before a "Week That Was"-type recording, by changing the subject to something more political. Lyn realized what Sky was doing, and prepared a reprisal. During a briefing Sky was giving to the Basement later that day, regarding the significance of NAWAPA for each of the campaign regions, Lyn began to attack Sky's discussion points. It was clear that Sky was now on the "bad" list, and that nothing he could say would be correct. Michael intervened to defend Sky's comments against Lyn (Sky did not realize that Michael knew about Lyn and Alicia, and was therefore surprised that Michael did not just take Lyn's word as gospel the way most other members would have.)

Lyn left, obviously still not done with Sky. Sky resolved to brief the Basement on the events that had occurred thus far, since otherwise they would not understand these strange outbursts from Lyn. That same day, Ben wrote an outline for "Operation Kepler" and left it in Lyn's mailbox. The next morning, as Sky and Ben were discussing this in Sky's room, Lyn sent Sky a message that this was the worst thing Sky had ever written. Sky told Lyn it wasn't his, but Ben's. Sky showed the message to Ben, who then called Lyn to try and clear everything up. Lyn then dropped his attack on the paper, and began to attack Sky directly, revealing that his response to Ben's paper was only a pretext to attack Sky. Sky, in response, immediately went to the Hill to meet Lyn, who was already standing outside waiting when he arrived. Sky asked if there was a problem with "how he was thinking" to which Lyn responded in the negative. Upon sitting down inside, Lyn said that Sky was being seduced by mathematicians, and that this was his personal failing, which was why he had to stick closer to Lyn. It became evident that everything Lyn was saying was a surreal allegory for the situation with Alicia; Barbara, Rick, and Helga were the "mathematicians" seducing Sky, and Sky's affinity to Lyn and science implied his acceptance of Lyn's desired marriage to Alicia. Sky was traumatized.

After the meeting, Sky took refuge in a nearby park. Feeling completely overwhelmed and panicked, he worked frantically on tensor analysis. However, Sky realized that it was a Tuesday, that there were a G5 and a NEC meeting scheduled, and that the G5 was his only opportunity to head Lyn off from a crazy public denunciation of him and his relationship to "mathematicians."

Sky gave Lyn the exact same briefing Lyn had earlier intervened on in the Basement, but he couched it as Lyn's own idea this time. Lyn became excited, and declared that it was good, and named it as though it had been his own idea. Lyn therefore commenced the G5 by briefing them on the wonderful discussion he had had with Sky, despite Sky's problem of being influenced by mathematicians. Jeff, tickled that someone besides him was being attacked by Lyn, repeatedly, throughout the meeting, asked for elaboration on Sky's "mathematician problem," but Lyn remained focused on their "great discussion" concerning the NAWAPA concept. Helga tried to figure out what had actually happened (but Sky did not brief her on the confrontation until later). By the time of the NEC, Lyn was solely concentrated on that "great discussion."

After these events, Sky decided to brief Oyang, Cody, Peter, and Meghan in a nearby park on all of the preceding events here recounted, up to his knowledge at that time. The intention was to be on the same page with them about what was happening, in order to be able to steer the Basement's focus away from insanity and towards pushing important policy. As part of a paranoid security precaution which became a regular practice for all sensitive discussions from that time on, they all removed the batteries from their cell phones, so as not to be "spied on" by "the enemy," as they believed they often were.

The Russia Trip

At some point in August, Debbie showed up to one of the G5 meetings with an elaborate story about an all-expense paid trip to Russia supposedly organized by the Russian ambassador to the U.N., Vitaly Churkin. Lyn immediately latched onto this. It became the focus for his identity in this period. It was proof to him that he wasn't slipping into dementia, and symbolized for him his sense of importance in the world. Lyn insisted that Helga would not accompany him on this trip to Russia, because "it would not be safe to have them both in the same location." He gave an NEC meeting where he announced provocatively that there was something that only Sky and he knew about but that no one else could know which, of course, made everyone want to ask Sky about it.

At a certain point, after a week or so had passed, Sky, Lyn, Rick, and Helga all became frustrated at not knowing who Debbie's contact people were for the trip. Sky and Lyn were unable to plan for a presentation, because Debbie just kept insisting that they were going to meet with "everybody" when pressed about whether they would present at a university, to government officials, to scientists, or to some other grouping. Rick was frustrated that Debbie would provide no contact person to handle security on the other end. Because these mysterious Russian contacts were supposedly handling the costs of tickets, rooms, etc., there was no paper trail to follow to verify any aspect of the trip. At G5 meetings, Sky, Lyn and Helga would press Debbie for more information on the trip. At one point, Debbie said that she could not provide the information because her point-person, Churkin, had returned to Russia for some days on an emergency. Bizarrely, this was claimed on the date that the U.N. Security Council (including Churkin) was voting on the question of Syria *in New York*. Interviews after the vote placed Churkin in the U.S. for many of the following days. Sky and Lyn pressed Debbie until she finally said that Churkin had "returned" from abroad and given her the trip details.

Once they finally received it, the list of supposed contacts was an unlikely mix of contrasting ideologies, including enemies of what were ostensibly the movement's ideals, such as a 26 year-old friend of Leonid Grigoryev, minister of finance in Yegor Gaidar's government. Rick, Sky and Helga spoke openly about the likelihood that Debbie had simply snagged the list of names from some event program in D.C. Lyn suspected Debbie of holding out on him, and tasked Sky to keep pressing her for more details, but he was too emotionally connected to the fantasy of his involvement to agree with Helga, Rick, Barbara, and Sky about the possibility of the whole thing being completely fabricated. As a result, discussions to this effect excluded him, though Sky eventually briefed members of the Basement, and Rick spoke to Ben.

As the date of the trip approached, Debbie found an excuse to move the date back two weeks. This was especially disturbing, since the new dates now fell on a Russian national holiday, where none of the state schools that were supposed to host Lyn and Sky would even be open. Further, none of the event calendars for those universities showed events planned for those dates (or the earlier dates). This made no sense, because Debbie was insisting that there would be hundreds of people attending each of the speaking events. At this point, still no one else besides Debbie had any contact with any other human being connected with sponsoring the supposed trip. Rick was becoming more frustrated and more suspicious.

At a G5 meeting sometime around October 20th, Debbie sat down very somberly and announced that she had something to report. Sky was somewhat relieved, as he realized that this was probably where she was going to relate an elaborate story about why the Russia trip would have to be cancelled for good.

The story lasted for over half an hour, and was told far too quickly and convolutedly to be written down exactly. It took place in several nations, and involved the most important political players in the LaRouche Movement mythology.

It began with Susan Rice issuing a challenge to “our friend” Vitaly Churkin.²⁰ Vitaly told Debbie that when he agreed to this super-tour of Russia for Lyn and Sky, he “was prepared for a scandal, but not for an international incident.” Lavrov supposedly talked to Hillary Clinton about the trip, and Hillary sneakily told him that there was no need to tell the President. Michael McFaul however was somehow tipped off by Hillary not being careful about something, and then approached someone we knew named Sergei (maybe the Sergei Karaganov who Matt and Meghan later spoke to). McFaul supposedly issued a warning to Sergei: “We will consider this an attempt by a foreign government to influence the electoral process in the United States.” McFaul then sent Sergei a transcript of the Sept. 30 address by Lyn to prove this point. McFaul then brought this up to Alexander Parshin. Dame Pringle in Moscow brought it up to Lavrov, warning him that this “will affect how the international community views the electoral process in Russia,” supposedly implying that there would be an enormous scandal about Lyn not liking Obama. Further comments were made to Yakovenko in London by somebody, and the whole thing ended with a dramatic assassination threat: “Lyn has certain protections in the U.S., but those protections are not extended if he travels abroad.” “Our friends” then canceled the Russia trip for LaRouche’s safety.

The spy movie character of this whole thing sent Lyn into a complete frenzy, and he declared that “our friends” were absolutely right to cancel the trip, and that none of this would ever be spoken of. Lyn also knew, however, that Sky was suspicious about the whole trip, and that Sky expected Debbie would find a dramatic way to cancel the whole thing. Thus, Lyn’s declaration that nothing would be spoken of effectively buried the entire thing. Sky and others continued to investigate, however. The implications concerning the authenticity of much of our political activities were enormous. Helga and Rick, due to their suspicions of Debbie, both encouraged Sky in this investigation, though Barbara held on to a convoluted belief that yes, Debbie was a pathological liar, but that she also had important contacts. Like most of the weird theories Barbara came up with to comfort everyone else, this latter theory of Barbara’s (that a pathological liar might actually be talking to Bill Clinton²¹ on behalf of our association) actually disturbed Sky more than the former possibility.

²⁰ Debbie always had elaborate stories about Susan Rice confronting Vitaly Churkin. She would act out both parts very dramatically.

²¹ The illusion of the “Stanford Group” became a major theme in this period. The founding of the “group of 5” (G5) was the first time any of the youth had spent an extended time in Debbie Freeman’s presence. It soon became a constant theme of discussions between Rick, Alicia, Sky (and later Helga) that Debbie was a compulsive liar, even on subjects that had nothing to do with politics. Helga tried repeatedly to meet with Debbie’s contacts, and each time Debbie invented rather elaborate stories for why the meetings would have to be called off at the last minute. At one point, a supposed meeting between Helga and Cheryl Mills (Hillary Clinton’s Chief of Staff) was called off due to a freak car accident, of which no one was ever able to find evidence. This later became a topic of discussion between Sky and Helga in Germany, who together tried to find a way to trap Debbie in one of her lies. Debbie soon began trying to avoid close scrutiny, by finding excuses to miss “group of five” meetings. These excuses were as interesting as her other stories -- at one point she was unable to make it to a meeting because a gas main supposedly blew up a house down the street from hers, and another time she was unable to call because her phone malfunctioned and “could only receive text messages.”

The bizarreness of the Stanford group stories goes back farther, however, to the very peculiar teleconferences in which Sky and Lyn were supposedly speaking to Bill Clinton and his collaborators. The dialogue was always with Debbie as the sole voice on the other end of the line, with no questioners asking questions in their own voice and name. Not even crowd noises could be heard through Debbie’s mic, despite the fact that she was

Several points of follow-up were made even after the trip was canceled. Notable among them was that on February 27, Meghan Rouillard and Matt Ogden were sent into D.C., not knowing that Rick and others intended for them to find out whether or not Sergei Karaganov had ever actually had any contact with Debbie or the organization (since he was supposedly one of the trip's sponsors). They were told to simply make contact with him, and offer him a statement from Larouche. When they returned, it was clear from their report that Karaganov did not even know who LaRouche was.

Meeting In Pittsburgh

On Monday, August 22nd, Sky contacted Nick and Tarrajna, who were on a family trip, asking if they could meet as soon as possible. They agreed. This turned out to be on September 1st, when Nick and Tarrajna could leave Detroit for a day under the pretext of celebrating her birthday. Sky and Cody received clearance to make the trip to Pittsburgh, where they had decided to rendezvous, and Nick and Tarrajna drove down to meet them there. Sky launched into an extensive briefing on a large part of the preceding content of this report. It was relieving for Nick and Tarrajna to have their knowledge of Liona's briefing on Lyn and Alicia confirmed by Sky, after having no one to talk to about the whole thing, and not knowing what had happened since they left Purcellville. Over the course of a 12 hour discussion that lasted until midnight, they discussed the content of this report up until now (at least what was known to them at the time), and what the implications of these occurrences were for the fate of the organization. Some of the most pressing questions were: "What did this say about Lyn's personality in general? Was this simply a temporary condition provoked by a B-12 deficiency, or a more extreme manifestation of a megalomaniacal quality he possessed all along? What about all of the ideas and great thinkers that he had introduced us to? How could he be such a genius, and be acting in such a manner? Was he going senile? If Debbie was a known compulsive liar, what did this say about Lyn's strategic judgment and his years of supposed dialogue with the Stanford group, which had been widely promoted as a key example of our institutional role?" Sky noted that even if she were a compulsive liar, she may have real contacts, which was an even more disturbing possibility.

The Stanford Group issue was a sticking point for the problem of Lyn's judgment and character because it was not something that was created during the B-12 crisis, but went back many years. The conversation inevitably led to the question of what should be done. Should Lyn be retired? Was that even possible? The four finally decided that they had to take some kind of responsibility for the situation, given the understanding that things were not going to get any better if nothing was done, and given the importance they -- at the time -- believed the organization potentially could have in the future. They were

supposedly standing in a room packed with international representatives (the Irish, Chinese, Russians, and Clintonistas). One particularly freakish meeting (the infamous "Glass-Steagall dialogue") began with Debbie opening the meeting, and then ordering for the signals to be established from "Satellite 1," "Satellite 2," "Satellite 3," and "Satellite 4" in a ridiculously drawn out bit of theater. (Upon hearing this story related, one Basement member wittily remarked that perhaps Debbie was actually broadcasting from inside the head of a giant robot.) At many moments Debbie's performances verged on the absolutely comic, but the juicier elements were removed because the actual recordings were never released. Only redacted print versions were allowed to be distributed to members (supposedly because Vladimir Putin himself would allow nothing else), giving the impression that there was an actual dialogue with Clinton and others, while the actual scene was simply Sky and Lyn looking silly while talking to Debbie through a speaker phone. Lyn's addiction to Debbie's fantasy stories became a major theme through the period described here.

concerned with maintaining the integrity of the ideas they had invested so much of their lives fighting for, despite the recently exposed fraud. Finally, they decided to all head down to Purcellville, and call a discussion with the leadership there to address these questions, which was scheduled for first thing the following morning.

Attempted Coup

The scheduled “emergency” meeting was attended by Cody, Sky, Nick, Tarrajna, Oyang, Peter, Meghan, Matt, Anna, Alicia, Ardena, Liona, Michael K., Barbara, and Rick (to the best of our recollection.) Sky quickly filled people in on the situation (though most were already aware of it), and brought up the concern that Lyn would destroy his own legacy, given the way he was acting. Barbara and Rick emphasized that Lyn’s condition was strictly a recent medical issue, caused by a B12 vitamin deficiency which causes dementia; that he was undergoing treatments for this and was on an immediate road to recovery. In discussion of what we could count on presently, someone said, “The Stanford Group,” to which Sky responded, “I don’t think they exist,” to which Rick replied, “You’re not the only one,” and Barbara cackled approvingly.²² Nick asserted that it was hardly conclusive that Lyn was suffering from merely a B12 deficiency, that Lyn was displaying qualities of megalomania, and that Debbie Freeman’s pathological lying, and likely complete fabrication of the Stanford Group, indicated a problem with Lyn much larger than the last few months. Were these things true, it would mean that Lyn had a general willingness to believe any “intelligence” which boosted his perceived importance in the U.S., and a willingness to manipulate his members around pure fabrications, such as the numerous webcast Q&A’s, NEC’s, and policy discussions, which had centered on the Stanford Group.

Peter brought up that he was going to have to reevaluate everything about Lyn’s character, based on the situation. Meghan countered this, saying that that was absurd, and that everyone should be compassionate with Lyn because his “genius” was still apparent at times, such as in certain visits to the Basement. Nick proposed that Lyn be confronted at the following NEC meeting, and be challenged to answer to these serious accusations. Depending on how he responded, Nick suggested, they should then decide whether to retire Lyn from immediate control of daily decision making (for the good of the organization), or, if he refuted the accusations, to move forward as a stronger, more unified group. Barbara reacted strongly against these assertions, saying that Lyn’s state of mind was so fragile, concerning his loss of mind, and that he was so terrified, that confronting him directly would shatter his identity. She also asserted that it was very possible Lyn had been drugged in Europe, and that we did not yet know what had actually happened to him.

The concern was then brought up that the entire Alicia scandal would get out to the enemy through gossip, and that rather than let that happen, action should be taken to preempt it, whether by making a public statement, or by some other means. Barbara immediately squashed this proposal by stating confidently that “they already know,” that “it was already out,” and that it was completely visible in the dialogue of generations.²³ It was agreed upon at this meeting that the candidates should be brought

²² This exchange was later relayed to Debbie, and became a source of friction between her on the one side, and Barbara, Rick, and Bruce on the other.

²³ Barbara revealed that comments had already appeared under the LPAC YouTube video post of those interviews, stating things like: “Does this make anybody else uncomfortable?” These comments were systematically removed.

in to Purcellville and briefed on the full situation, and that those present should have a follow-up meeting with Helga, who had recently arrived in the States through the efforts of Rick and Barbara in order to “handle” the situation. Also worth mentioning, is that those who were deemed “incapable of handling the information” were not invited to attend the discussion, for the sake of maintaining organizational stability.

“Für die Rettung der Westlichen Allianz”

The aforementioned meeting with Helga occurred soon after. The outset of the meeting was of a similar nature. Helga responded by quickly ending the discussion on concerns about Lyn, by saying that it was completely absurd to “throw Lyn to the curb.” Nick responded that that was not what was being proposed, but rather that they needed to challenge Lyn directly on his condition and delusional behavior, and that depending on his response, they would determine the best course of action for the organization. She replied that Lyn was getting better, and that that kind of action was unnecessary. Sky said that they did not yet know whether the problem was even wholly due to the B-12 issue. Nick brought up that it was not a minor problem, as her husband was trying to marry a 29-year-old woman, and his delusional behavior was sabotaging the progress of his organization. This concern was dismissed by Helga, saying that she knew her husband, and that the real question was to focus on making a political “Paukenschlag” with a heavy focus on organizing Congress, and to have more collaboration between the younger and older section of the organization, the latter which she said had been unfairly attacked by the youth, despite their long-term dedication to the fundraising.²⁴

At the conclusion of these meetings, it was tacitly decided not to confront Lyn, and not to brief the organization, with the exception of the candidates, who were ultimately not fully briefed either. The fact that nothing was done and that it was clear that it would not be further publically discussed, created an environment where no one knew what anyone else knew. Everyone, from that point on, became afraid to fully disclose what they were thinking to anyone else. This environment only fostered more factionalization, indecision, and confusion.

In LYMbo

The following week, the candidates came to Purcellville. Diane and Kesha were most fully briefed by Barbara, with the idea that they would be responsible for handling Alicia. It was systematically decided that Alicia would be cut out of any discussions on the matter, and there was even concern that she might file a lawsuit against Lyn. The other candidates were not fully briefed at all, hearing only that Lyn had had a medical problem brought on by a vitamin deficiency and lack of sleep.

In the subsequent period of her visit, Helga represented a more outwardly focused organizing perspective, which was initially perceived as refreshing in the wake of the internally focused NECs.

Beyond that, no evidence was, nor yet has, been found to indicate that “the enemy” was aware of Lyn’s affair with Alicia.

²⁴ Helga would only admit in private that Lyn was the actual source of the constant attacks on the older members.

Soon, however, a split between Helga and Lyn became publically apparent, where he would intervene on her politically oriented remarks by redirecting the discussion into more abstract philosophical and scientific concepts. This dichotomy evolved into Helga developing an increasingly 'hands on' role in the practical/political orientation of the American organization.

This led to an aggressive push launched by Helga, Bruce, and Barbara for the elimination of reading days, Monge brigades, and faculty work in the locals. Lyn eventually echoed this call at an NEC meeting, where he infamously asserted that "the Basement doesn't take reading days," (his attempt to defend the Basement against Helga's move to redirect the Basement's activity towards fundraising).

At this time, there were many divergent views concerning the state and direction of the organization. Sky was intent on trying to salvage what he believed, at the time, to be the intellectual identity of the organization, by feeding Lyn substantial material, and working to generate product which would unify the organization (e.g. the "Planetary Defense" pamphlet). The Basement believed that this would have a decisive effect in transforming the fundraising, without having to shift to the "galley slave"²⁵ model. In contrast, Barbara, Bruce, and Helga increasingly rallied against intellectual work, and rallied for intense focus on reaching the \$30,000 goal.

The View from the Galleys

Todd was contacted by Bruce Director August 31, 2011, notifying him that he was flying into Seattle to meet secretly with some high level contact, and that they should meet. Bruce did not want Todd to tell anyone, even Riana. Todd met Bruce on September 3rd at his hotel near the airport. It became immediately apparent that Bruce was only there to meet with Todd, in order to discuss Alicia Cerretani. Bruce wanted to get a picture of her personality type, background, etc., in order to determine whether Alicia was an agent and/or psychologically ill. Bruce filled Todd in on Alicia's intimate relationship with Lyn, his bout of insane behavior, and speculation as to whether Alicia played a direct role in "preying upon Lyn" while he was "ill".

This was an obsession of Rick, Barbara, and Bruce during this period: they were determined to pin the entire crisis of this period on Alicia. Sky waffled repeatedly on whether he was won over to this cover-up.²⁶

About three or four days after his meeting with Bruce, Todd was contacted by Peter, who said that issues were occurring with Lyn which required the candidates and key people to be flown into Purcellville in order that they be briefed by Peter and Sky.

Once in Purcellville, Todd met with Sky and was briefed by him on the Alicia and Lyn affair, the fact that Lyn had been acting erratic and paranoid for some time, that something must be done to help save the organization, and that this was the time for the non-Boomer leadership to take up the mantle.

The day after the birthday celebration for Lyn, Todd met with Helga for about an hour before heading back to Seattle. They had to meet in the middle of a field to avoid "being heard by spies." Helga

²⁵ Walk into a phone team at a given time of day or night, and chances are you'd see an NC, such as Harley Schlanger, verbally whipping a member of the phone team, or the whole phone team, for not meeting the fundraising goal. As you witnessed a phone team being berated as impotent, you might clearly imagine rows of Roman slaves, in the galley ship, being whipped by the galley master.

²⁶ During this period, Lyn also repeatedly took Sky aside privately, and asked him to defend Alicia against Helga who he said "couldn't think objectively" about the situation. This continued long after Lyn's supposed "recovery."

started by saying that she was so glad that she had Todd and Riana as confidants. It soon became apparent that she thought Todd and Riana were going to be two of her main attack agents, in the United States, to break the youth movement into doing real organizing and fundraising, and into no longer wasting time on reading days and singing. (A month or so later Helga told Todd over the phone that the intellectual work and singing days were meant only to develop the ridiculously uneducated and stupid youth to a sufficient level that they could competently organize in the streets and raise funds). Helga asked Todd if he thought Alicia was an agent out to destroy Lyn and the organization. Helga also requested names of Basement members who would be the most willing to spend some time organizing with the phone team.

Todd received a phone call from Helga the day after he returned to Seattle, asking him to fly to Boston in order to whip Boston into organizing and fundraising shape, before Boston was lost as a viable local, altogether.

Both Bruce and Phil Rubinstein called Todd while he was still in Boston, and told him that he was needed to fly to San Francisco in order to check in on the Stegers, who were causing some sort of trouble. Phil also wanted to get a sense of what the friction between the Stegers and Alli and Summer was all about, as well as to continue the process of shoring up the youth movement for fundraising and mature organizing.

Diane Sare called Todd while he was in San Francisco. She had met with Bruce and Barbara about the LPAC financial emergency, the need for the \$30,000 LPAC raised on the youth side, and the inability and unwillingness of the youth to move on it. Barbara initially said that she would institute twice daily income reports directly to her, from a youth leader, from each local.²⁷ Diane asserted that it would be better for herself and Todd to head up a national income driver.

By now Todd thought that he was becoming involved in a process which felt and functioned the way the organization used to be, before the youth movement began. Todd wholeheartedly participated at this point, and continued to do so until his departure, because he thought the youth did need to take responsibility for supporting the organization financially, but he was also committed to doing this in a way that required and kept a significant amount of time available for scientific and cultural research and application to the organizing.

Todd and Nick had worked together from such a standpoint earlier in the year and caused the combined income of Detroit and Seattle to rise to a level not achieved in such a sustained way any time during the next phase of youth organizing headed up by Todd and Diane. Unfortunately, the effect on Nick and Tarrajna of finding out that Lyn had gone, or had always been, insane, marked by his demands that Alicia marry him, shattered that organic fundraising collaboration, which had started to take hold in other locals as well.

The Evil Wedding (Or: Ω ξείν', ἀγγέλλειν Λακεδαιμονίοις)

Nick and Tarrajna knew things were becoming even stranger when their approaching wedding and honeymoon became a main subject of the G5 discussion. This started after Bob Bowen “sounded the

²⁷ Bruce and Barbara, at this time, were also needling Todd and others to report the “stronger” and “weaker” members of the locals to them, in order to fire those who were not pulling their weight in the fundraising. This was justified in their minds by the reasoning that ‘this is only what any other company would do.’

alarm” about their marital planning to Jeff Steinberg.²⁸ The first indication that something was seriously wrong was when Bob Bowen sat Nick down for a talk about their intended honeymoon to Greece, scheduled for October 3-October 17. Bob told Nick he did not think they should go. He said that they would be setting a precedent which would destroy their leadership role in the organization. As their honeymoon was already known to others to have been planned for at least four months, and this discussion was taking place a few weeks before they were to leave, Nick found this strident “intervention” to be desperate and odd. Added to this strangeness was the fact that over the course of their entire time in Detroit thus far, Bob had had virtually no interactive role or collaboration with the campaign staff, and was in fact, not even a full-time member of the organization.²⁹ Nick rejected Bob’s initial assertion, and responded, “of course we’re going on the honeymoon,” which provoked Bob to launch into a long-winded, presumed analogy about how he had abandoned a skiing trip to Aspen with his former wife in order to attend an emergency ICLC conference concerning the brainwashing of Christopher White. Bob admitted that this decision had in effect led to a divorce, along with his recruitment as a full fledged member of the organization. At this point, Nick again asserted his intention to go on the honeymoon, and asked Bob who had put him up to this intervention. Bob responded that Helga had put him up to it, as she was very concerned about “what this honeymoon would do to the organization.”

Soon after this, Sky called Nick and reported that there was major consternation in the G5. Over the course of several meetings, and in many private discussions, Helga, Jeff, and the Bowens were all pushing Lyn to have various people publically denounce the honeymoon. Sky attempted to head off this scandal mongering by requesting a rousing statement from Nick defending his honor and “political identity.” Though the public argument was that this would set a bad precedent for the rest of the membership, this was ultimately another part of the overall crackdown on what was perceived to be “bourgeois bullshit.”³⁰ This was a part of the overall program of reforming the movement into the formation that most of the younger members saw in the broken organization that was left when they joined. This went hand in hand with the elimination of reading days, the increased obsession with fundraising, the internal stasi crackdown, and the overall diminished intellectual identity of the movement.³¹

²⁸ Jeff became strangely obsessed with trying to get Sky to intervene on the Walshes’ wedding and honeymoon. This was despite the fact that in the same period Rick Magraw (who despised Jeff, and whose wife paid his phone bill) produced phone records showing that Jeff himself had placed cell phone calls from a cruise ship in the middle of the ocean during this period of war mobilization, which would imply that Jeff wasn’t necessarily against vacations in principle.

²⁹ The time that Bob did spend “in the office” was mainly spent working for private companies.

³⁰ In Helga’s own words.

³¹ Later, after Nick and Tarrajna had left the organization and Riana had returned to Purcellville for her reconstituted “Harmony Project,” Rick commented to Riana that he couldn’t understand why anyone would want to go to Greece for a honeymoon: it was just seedy beaches and cheap nightlife. Although Riana, at this point, was generally very vocal in her stance that Nick and Tarrajna had made a bad decision in leaving, and actually believed that their family probably had something to do with it, and that this could represent a real threat to the organization given its extremely weakened condition; and although she generally respected Rick and his assessments, her look of extreme incredulity made him immediately realize that he had misspoken, and that he would get no easy agreement from her.

“Rick, if I were in any condition to do so, I would go to Greece in a heartbeat. My God, Plato, Aeschylus, Praxiteles, the Parthenon, the Acropolis, Delphi, Thermopylae, Mycenae, the origin of everything that we are fighting for. Even under the strain of these last months, the three of us talked about it extensively. Nick and Tarrajna and I

The View from the Galleys, Continued

While in Texas in early November for Kesha and Ian's wedding, one of the first national fundraising calls with Helga was held. In that call Helga initiated her theme of using the fear of assured death of most of humanity by thermonuclear war, to drive the youth to fundraise. Various youth, as well as Todd and Diane, all said in one way or another, that what worked best for organizing people, was to be calm, almost casual, while they were told that they had a very slim chance of avoiding thermonuclear war, but that they must act. Helga, growing agitated, finally exclaimed that this calm, almost casual approach was wrong, and that we must hit people with the full, fearful impact of almost certain death by thermonuclear WWIII. She said the youth were totally out of touch with reality. From this point on, the number of required national fundraising calls increased and rapidly devolved into the personal testimony of how the potential for global holocaust made organizers feel. Thus, the concept of a successful organizer was shifted towards those who achieved a more emotional catharsis with the population, rather than the communication of clear ideas.

Going back to early October, Sky and Todd had begun periodic discussions, which lasted until shortly before Sky left the organization, on how to achieve the income goal of \$30,000. Sky agreed with the income goal. Both agreed that for most LYM an unstructured reading day was usually not beneficial; even with intensive classes many of the LYM never seemed to get the ideas. A better integrated form of organizing and development of the necessary ideas was needed. Sky's idea was that if the Basement produced a lot more organizing product, such as the Arctic Development and Planetary Defense documents, then the increasing attacks by Helga and others, i.e., that the Basement was out of touch with reality, unpolitical, and not really pulling its weight, as well as the attacks against time for intellectual work, would be counteracted. These discussions were always based on the premise that the organization's political policy was the concept of the science driver. That being the case, organizers had to understand scientific concepts well enough to be able to communicate them. Sky and Todd consistently discussed solving this dilemma in those terms.

Thermonuclear War Über Alles

Also in this period, specifically starting in the beginning of November, was an increasingly urgent political focus on an imminent threat of thermonuclear WWIII. This discussion went hand in hand with the push to reach \$30,000 a week by the LYM portion of the organization. Helga increasingly set the tone for the discussions by asserting that the LYM especially were not emotionally registering the reality of the threat of thermonuclear winter.³² Therefore, any proposals raised concerning a longer-term political perspective, or a positive message to convey in the organizing, was increasingly quelled by the line that "you are not getting that we may be destroyed by thermonuclear war at any moment, and we must go all out on that."

love Ancient Greece, as Schiller did. If they wanted seedy beaches and cheap nightlife they could have saved a great deal of money and effort, and simply gone to Mexico. Tarrajna even speaks Spanish."

³² A phenomenon which might not even exist.

As referenced above, all activities in the locals other than fundraising were more and more frowned upon, and even outright reprimanded. The sole function of intellectual work would now directly inform the fundraising, or it would be deemed as “childish playtime.”

These were the obstacles faced in the locals, which were struggling to maintain a direction on the ground with the campaigns (which had not been in the spotlight in Purcellville for several months), when Lyn again “intervened” with the claim that the real problem was the sectionalism plaguing the campaigns. He claimed that his intervention was now addressing the problem, and soon after, that he had “fixed” the problem with the campaigns. Though the candidates were at a loss as to how their organizing had been in any way parochial, they nevertheless mobilized themselves to acknowledge this “insight” as profound.

Christmas is Over

By mid December, the income of LaRouchePAC was abysmally low. Barbara and Bruce were in constant agitation concerning the dismal level of funds that were brought in. On top of this, most heavyweight LPAC contributors had already given their limit for the 2011 year, thus cutting LPAC off from their largesse until January 1st, 2012. Many were concerned the organization would not survive, financially, to see that January 1st deadline.

In this context, Helga and Lyn decided there would be no Christmas. This was a short notice decision for all members to remain in their locals through the holiday season (traditionally the least productive organizing time of each year), ostensibly to ensure the stopping of World War III. No mention was made to members concerning the dire *internal* financial collapse ongoing, and that a major fundraising drive was possibly required to allow the organization to survive through the end of the year. Rather, the entire presentation, by both Lyn and Helga, solely focused on the “political” urgency for all members to remain at their posts, in order to directly block the beginning of World War III from starting during those very days. This bizarre logic inevitably led to bizarre explanations from LaRouche, as seen below, about how the enemy would “see” LPAC members going home for holiday, and consequently push the button for nuclear war.

Though some members had no major plans for the holiday, many others were thrown into deep moral crises about what to do. After consolidating long term family plans, in some cases involving pulling scarce funds together for plane tickets, members were now told only days before departure that it would be an immoral and world threatening event for them to go home.

Lyndon LaRouche NEC Meeting, Tuesday Dec. 13, 2011

- COUNTDOWN TO WAR: WE'RE ON FULL WAR-AVOIDANCE MOBILIZATION -
- TO STOP THE BRITISH EMPIRE'S IDIOT STOOGE OBAMA -

LYN: On Christmas this year, in Germany, all members of the organization in Germany, will be assembled at Christmastime, to pass out, in part, some material on the question of the threat of general warfare breaking out, either before or after Christmas. All members of the organization in Germany will be there. And I

think the same thing will be true here. There will be no departures, from the time. There'll be no vacations, nor excuses for not being mobilized over the Christmas period, with literature and so forth of relevance, for this period.

The importance of this is, that if any of you think, that you have a safe family holiday, away for Christmas time, you're nuts. Because we're in the range, of the time, and the probability -- there's a certain probability, not an absolute probability -- a certain probability that World War III will have broken out at that time, or about that time. Close enough, that you wouldn't want to miss the event.

Now, what we're going to do, is we're going to mobilize as an organization, at that time, full turn-out, no exceptions, unless they're in the hospital: Because we have to set out a signal ourselves, as we're doing in Germany and in Europe, that we take this seriously. And if you don't take this seriously, you're nuts!"

...

Now, I'm going to be responsible for this, personally, because if I'm not doing it personally, if it's a turnout of some of us, only, and I'm not actually running the thing, it won't be believed. Our leaders in this organization do not have strategic credibility: I do. Therefore, it's urgent that I play my part in this operation, because none of the rest of you has strategic credibility. You may have credibility but not strategic credibility. If I make a move, it will trigger something. If you make a move, by itself, that will not necessarily trigger anything. If I do it, it can trigger.

...

See, the problem is, I know, even among many of you, who generally are serious about these matters. You're not as serious as you think you are. There always will come an excuse, a very important, family reason or something like that, some excuse for not turning out, and that's a loss of credibility. Because as we've found out, like as in the case this recent weekend, wherever we go, we think people are sitting around us, we find out they're spies! Working for Obama's cause or something like that. We are {supersaturated} with attention to everything we do! I get more attention, as an individual, than anyone! I can be sitting here, and I'm getting attention from a distance! They want to know exactly how many times I'm breathing that day, or something.

...

And the key thing here, is not your physical activity. The

key thing is here, is how the enemy reacts to our mobilization. If you don't turn out on this operation, the enemy is going to assume you're not serious, and they're going to act accordingly. And you may cause World War III by that method. Hmm?

What I went through, on the question of the Hillary case, recently: What I did on the Hillary case, my action on the Hillary case, made it possible to do something important politically, to stave off the worst effects. And what I do on these things is crucial: But if you guys don't back up my decision, you're screwing everything up! Because the enemy is looking at you, as a barometer of my intention. And they're not afraid of you, they're afraid of me.

We had, like the thing that happened up in Jersey, which discovered that there are people lurking around there, who are recording -- sitting next to us, while we're conversing, and they're recording everything! Obviously, it's not for their purposes, it's not for their entertainment purposes, they're doing it to record what we're saying, because they're spying on us for somebody else! Not for information, but for information which would indicate to them what we're going to do! In other words, the Obama factor: You have to understand, we are important! And what you do, or don't do, is therefore important.

Whatever Lyn's plans were for Purcellville over Christmas, Helga's were very different. She had no intention of keeping a fully staffed office, and rather schemed to arrange that all members in Purcellville and the Basement *leave* the office. In Purcellville, Helga met with Matt to consolidate plans for the "all hands on deck" Christmas Eve deployments. As members carried out these operations on December 24, Helga herself went shopping, purchasing a Christmas tree. That night she held a festive Christmas feast including Lyn, herself, Bruce and Susan Director, and Barbara and Zeke Boyd. Lyn was not informed of Helga's deployment of Purcellville until Sky called him to report it. Alicia and Sky were incensed that it had not been brought up at the G5 or in the subsequent NEC meeting, although Helga and Matt had clearly been planning it.

"You Are All Going To Die"

During all of this time, Lyn developed a very disturbing habit of equating his perceived proximity to death with the death of everyone else. The more he seemed to feel that he was on the verge of dying, the more he declared that everyone else was about to die.³³ The tendency was expressed most sharply in the NEC meeting of December 17th, 2011, an excerpt of which is included here:³⁴

³³ A humorous (in retrospect) example of this was on August 1, 2011, when Sky and Alicia arranged for Lyn to be on a call with the Buenos Aires local. During this call, Lyn simply repeated over and over, *sotto voce*, that we were all going to die, and that neither Sky nor Alicia understood that we were all going to die. Luckily, the call was *too sotto voce* for anyone in Buenos Aires to actually hear. When Sky and Alicia were contacted by the Argentinians for a

- FACING THE CONSEQUENCES OF OBAMA'S HITLER ENABLING ACT-- -
- DISCOVER YOUR REAL IDENTITY -

LYN: Okay, I'm very busily occupied, Sky's occupied too...
Anyway, I have something to do today, which I shall be doing, at the same time that Sky will be doing something, also with others, and for me, it's also very important. It's one of the most important days of my life, because I'm about to get in the next step of completing the most important thing I've ever written. It will be in process, so I'm a little bit excited about it.

I have a copy here for Sky -- it's not complete, but it's a forewarning, so he's not yet here to receive his copy of forewarnings. It's only very partly done, but the part will give him enough stimulus to know what I'm up to, which will make things useful.

...

So there's this triad. And therefore, what I've committed myself to do, especially considering the lateness of the political hour, is to complete this thing which I've started now, and to complete it with some haste, but also care, so that people would know what humanity once was, if it comes to that matter...

And my point was, that since I'm at the stage I'm at, and you, also, are unfortunately at that same stage in a certain manner, it's about time. That before giving a parting glance to life, we should know what our position in the universe is, what our role is, or what our role is intended to be, and hope that somebody will learn a lesson from our experience. That we shall give them a testament to what we were, and have the satisfaction of at least "going out clean," as they say, not guilty of negligence.

And perhaps, in the remaining days before us, if we survive, the shock of this development, this vote by the Congress, for a Hitler-enabling act against us, like the Jews and many others who went the same way that we're threatened with going right now, from this President, the fools who let him have the enabling act, hmm? maybe we'll learn something, in the remaining days, which will be useful for humanity, in times to come.

But we're going to have to {change our ways of thinking}, give up our convenient assumptions, which are actually become

clearer copy of the audio, they refused to deliver it, ensuring that the disturbing recording could be safely deleted from the historical record.

³⁴ This NEC occurred the morning of the subsequent second Basement webcast, featuring Sky and Cody.

very inconvenient. And that's what I'm up to, so that's what I'm doing. It was just the completion of a series of things I plan to do, on this subject. And since Sky had this important date coming up, I wanted to get this as near to finish as possible, so that his party will not be spoiled, by an unseemly interruption.

So that's where we stand: We're at a point where a judgment is being shown on humanity's failure -- and your failure! -- to come up to snuff, on {your} responsibilities, your responsibilities for knowledge! Your responsibility for the knowledge of how to act, and why to act, hmm? You failed in large degree, because you got occupied with other preoccupations, personal preoccupations, "how I feel," that sort of thing! Not how the future of humanity feels, not whether there is going to {be} a future of humanity! How that feels! Those little important points have been conveniently overlooked.

And at least, before they snuff you out, you ought to have the chance to know what it's all about.

So, that's why I'm in process of completing this--which will complete the series of what I've been working on, to give you the facts of what the true nature of mankind and his destiny might be.

Okay. That's up to you.

Many present were very disturbed by Lyn's assertion that all we could do was to read his paper. It just didn't make any sense. If we were all going to die, there was no point in reading his paper. In particular, Sky and Cody were about to give a webcast that evening, which would also not be necessary if we were all going to die. Tarrajna (who had returned to Purcellville with Nick the day before to pursue more discussions about the state of the organization) uniquely gave voice to this problem during the Q&A of that NEC:

TARRAJNA: Just so you can see me.

LYN: How're you doing? I'm glad you finally made it back from your honeymoon.

TARRAJNA: Yes. So, we're encountering in the organizing, a population which is possibly at their darkest hour, right now, in terms of what's presented to them as a chance of a fight, where you have Obama the Dictator, you have Congress, as you were just going through, which just passed an Enabling Act, and you have the so-called opposition in the form of idiots and worse, like Newt Greencrotch [laughter].

So what political fight can we offer them, in terms of some hope besides the reality of Armageddon and World War III, and impending doom? What chance of a fight can we give them?

LYN: Give them exactly what I said to you today. That's

the only truth, and if you want something durable, it better be the truth, because what is not the truth is not durable. Just do it! That's the whole point: It's always been the confrontation we faced, hmm? People are looking for an entertainment or something, which they find is a substitute for truth, a comfort zone, in which to escape from the feeling of meaninglessness in life. People are seeking entertainment and gratifications, which they hope will remove the taint of {meaninglessness} of their lives! And most lives out there, as was said, by a 19th century figure, "they lived lives of quiet desperation, meaningless lives of quiet desperation, and they call it, 'happiness.'" Except when they weep, silently, at night.

Now, the one thing we've got, is we've got the pleasure {of} pain! The pleasure of facing the pain of the reality we confront. And the gratification you get from that, is you're not a faker any more.

Most people die in pain, because they fake their way through life. In part or in whole. They have pleasures they wanted, securities they wanted. And it's like the old bowl of pottage, isn't it? You've got what you bought.

Many people were quietly panicked about this question from Tarrajna, and along with Rick and Barbara's nervousness about Nick and Tarrajna after the post-Pittsburgh meetings in early September -- and the fuss that had been raised about their marriage and honeymoon -- there was increased paranoia about both of them.

Directly following the NEC, Sky, Cody and others headed to Leesburg to broadcast the Basement webcast from the studio. Given the instability of Lyn and the leadership structure, many were looking to this Basement webcast as an opportunity to provide a basis for deploying the organization. Many members by this time had expressed frustration at the lack of consistency in the organization's focus in the recent months.

Unfortunately, Lyn's response to the webcast was not one of enthusiasm. In a phone call with Sky shortly after, he asserted that there had been a major problem with the way that they handled the "Stanford Group" question on creativity (ironically, this particular question had been submitted at the last minute, and had seemed to many of the members attending the webcast to be completely disingenuous and fabricated by Debbie; it sounded as if Debbie had simply turned an excerpt from a Lyn paper into a question, and stamped it with the name of the prestigious "Stanford Group"). The following evening was the regular Sunday candidate's discussion with Lyn. When the webcast came up for discussion, Lyn emphatically stated that Sky and Cody had utterly fucked up their response to the most significant question, that from the illustrious "Stanford Group." According to Lyn, it was proof that they did not get what he was doing.

At this point, Nick and Tarrajna had not yet completely resolved to leave, but there was very little holding them in. They spent the remaining time of their stay in Purcellville talking extensively about these problems with Sky, Cody, Peter, and Anna. One problem underlying all discussion was that no one in Purcellville knew what anyone else knew, thus there was a distrust and inhibition for members to

openly talk with each other, for fear of being betrayed or “turned in.” Nonetheless, Nick and Tarrajna were able to talk about nearly everything with the above mentioned four. At this time, none of them disagreed in essence with the fact that Lyn had lost his mind, that the organization was not based in getting at truth, but rather based on Lyn’s whims, etc. Nick proposed that they move to “retire” LaRouche, meaning he step down from his organizational command and play a role as a paper-writer. The others, especially Sky, argued with Nick and Tarrajna to stay in the organization.³⁵

Nick and Tarrajna Leave the Universe

Upon returning to Detroit in the period between Christmas and New Years, Nick and Tarrajna found themselves tackling a monstrous dilemma: whether to plow ahead in the organization with an unstable and blundering captain at the helm, or to jump ship and swim for their lives. After the last several month’s whirlwind of scandal, crises, and earth-shattering revelations, the thought of continuing forward with no view of a change for the better in sight was truly daunting. Also, the unwillingness of their associates to openly discuss or confront the problems that they had experienced first-hand in Purcellville gave little hope of potential to shift what they saw to be the downward-spiraling trajectory of the organization. Another troubling factor was the thought of returning to the Detroit local, unable to discuss these matters with anyone there, and yet having to continue to toe the line and attempt to explain away Lyn’s erratic behaviour to the local and in the daily organizing. Not to mention, amidst the increasing clamp-down on the ideas and intellectual curriculum the youth movement had been based upon, they found it harder and harder to reconcile their daily activity with the ideals that they held.

Explaining Lyn’s erratic behavior was especially dismal to them, as they would essentially be forced to lie about everything. On the other hand, their political ideals, passion for ideas, and long term relationships with others in the organization were the main elements still keeping them in. If they left, they would, in the immediate sense of time, have little to no political impact on the world. If they stayed, they would continue to be members of a group ostensibly committed to changing the world. But if (as the last few months had revealed) the group was in practice more committed to rallying around Lyn’s delusions of grandeur than actually “changing history”, then what was the point? Would this not be as delusional as Lyn himself? Over the course of many discussions at 24-hour diners, lasting long into the night, they went over and over the possible courses of action, and implications of each. Their deliberation came to a head on New Year’s Eve, when they decided that it was not possible to ride the fence any longer: either they must take a stand within the organization, and bring their concerns to light in a public confrontation with Lyn and the Purcellville leadership, or no longer participate as full time members of the association. They decided upon the latter course of action after concluding that Lyn himself was the chief source of the organization’s dysfunctionality, and that trying to change the organization meant somehow reforming Lyn himself, which was not possible. They also decided that they would not discuss any of their true reasons for leaving with anyone other than those who already knew, based on the fact that Sky and other collaborators were still committed to making the organization work. This decision made it impossible to clearly communicate to the general membership why they were leaving. They

³⁵ It’s especially ironic that Sky was later accused of being an enemy agent for “as long as a year,” given that when Tarrajna and Nick decided to leave the organization, Sky himself disagreed with their decision the most, and tried his best to keep them in, based on a view that things could still be made to work for the best, whereas if they left, that created no option for doing anything positive.

basically lied to members about their reasons, saying that they saw a fundamentally dysfunctional split between the fundraising locals and the brainstorming center; that Lyn was not in a position to correct this; and that they saw no positive role they could play in solving the problem. They left with the idea that they would maintain contact with Sky and others, and continue to play as much of a role as they could in organizing, and especially collaborating with the Basement. As they soon discovered, there was no way that that could happen.

On New Year's Day, Nick called Sky to let him know what they were doing. Sky disagreed on the decision. He went back and forth with Nick for a bit, and finally asked him to at least also call Todd and Diane to let them know their full thinking on the decision, which they did. When they returned to Detroit a week later to move their things, a meeting had already occurred in Detroit, hosted by the visiting Diane Sare, in which she asserted that Nick had always been a faker. Many members there, who obviously took their cues from Nick the entire previous year, were suddenly echoing Diane's allegations, without any consideration. The other quickly adopted line was that Nick and Tarrajna had been seduced out of the organization by the generous offers of wealth and comfort proffered to them by Nick's family, as demonstrated, it was said, by their bourgeois, a-political wedding.³⁶ (At one point, it was also alleged and circulated that Obama himself had funded part or all of their wedding.)

Initially Sky and others obtained an agreement from Barbara that Tarrajna and Nick would not be attacked, since everyone on the inside of all of this knew the actual reasons that they were leaving, and Tarrajna and Nick were willing to not discuss these reasons with anyone else in the movement (in order to defend the organization). As it became clear that Sky and others were resisting the transformation to the structure of the older organization, Barbara, Rick, and Helga began to apply pressure on Sky and Cody in particular to break ties with Tarrajna and Nick. This played out on several different occasions, including a meeting between Rick, Riana, Barbara, Sky, and Ed, where Rick and Barbara tried to squash any discussion of Bruce Director's role in eliminating the intellectual work of the youth.³⁷ The discussion became largely an argument between Sky and Barbara, with Rick and Barbara accusing Sky of just defending his friends, and Sky warning them that they were about to lose the entire intellectual capacity of the movement if they continued like this. It became clear that Barbara was going to push for a public statement by Lyn about Nick and Tarrajna.

Barbara started a surreal "investigation" of the reason for Nick and Tarrajna leaving.³⁸ This made no sense, because everyone involved already knew the reason for Nick and Tarrajna leaving. She began to "investigate" the funding of their wedding, and other ridiculous things.³⁹ A line went out that Sky and

³⁶ Nick and Tarrajna's wedding, though not different in essential expenses or arrangements from other recent LYM weddings, brought a unique and humorous disdain from many in "the leadership." Indeed, they did have a "rock band" at their wedding. However, many of the members who later said how degenerate their wedding had been didn't seem to mind the entertainment during the wedding itself. Photos from the wedding exist to this effect.

³⁷ Upon Riana's first arrival in Purcellville, in January 2012, she had expressed to Meghan R. that she felt there was a coup underway, given all of the policy shifts designed to eliminate the intellectual core of the youth movement. Meghan agreed and said that Helga, Barbara, and particularly Bruce were pushing the coup. Riana later confronted Bruce directly about this.

Barbara then contacted Riana to "talk" about this, but it turned out instead that this talk was a super-secret meeting at Sky's house between Barbara, Rick, Sky, Riana, and Ed. Riana was incensed at this sort of manipulation.

³⁸ The argument between Sky and Barbara also covered the financial situation on the West Coast. Sky defended Leni's argument that the pay on the East Coast should be cut enough to provide a stipend for the West Coast members. Barbara refused, and accused Sky of resisting "the \$30,000."

³⁹ This investigation was the same as all of Barbara's investigations, which means that she didn't investigate anything, stated an "enemy operation" line, and then declared that all available "evidence" proved it.

Cody were being overly influenced by Nick and Tarrajna. Despite this, the leading members refused to believe most of this, and thus an open denunciation by Lyn of Nick and Tarrajna was delayed.

However, when Mark Calney passed away, Nick wrote a short eulogy for his old friend and sent it to everyone he had worked with in Los Angeles.

Although Nick had *no intention* of this being read at the wake for Mark held in L.A., Liz Sopkovich, in an email to Nick, suggested that be done. Nick said okay, as long as it contributed to the celebration of Mark's life. Upon Liz bringing this suggestion to Leni, the shit about the Walshes hit the proverbial fan. Leni reportedly flew into a foaming rage at the suggestion, saying that Nick had turned his back on everything that Mark Calney stood for (despite the fact that Leni had been thoroughly briefed by Sky as to the Walshes' true reasons for departure). Word of the eulogy quickly reached Barbara, Bruce, Helga, Lyn and everyone else, and it suddenly became Nick's attempt to intervene into the organization. Rick told Riana, who had not seen the actual document, that the eulogy was a piece of crap which basically stated that Mark could have been a great person, had he not been a victim of the ICLC for so many years.⁴⁰

This stir was the pretext for finally bringing down a more public hammer, via Lyn, on Nick and Tarrajna. At this point, in an NEC, they were famously cast "out of the universe," turned into "pieces of shit," "factory rejects," and other such nonsense. The policy was clear: to communicate with the Walshes was to communicate with the enemy. From that point on (though they knew, at that time, almost nothing as to cause) the Walshes experienced a complete cutoff of communication with nearly all members they had previously been trying to collaborate with on Basement matters. The next time they heard from anyone was when Sky contacted them some weeks later.

The View from the Galleys, Continued

Meanwhile, Todd had decided by late December that he needed to meet with Sky and Diane, as well as Helga, in order to discuss in person increasingly worrisome issues. While Helga, Bruce, and Barbara became more and more vocal in their claim that the time taken for intellectual work was sabotaging the fundraising, Todd and Sky tenaciously fought for the science driver identity of the organization, arguing that the fundraising would increase, if the time taken for intellectual work were upgraded, not eliminated. Todd was also concerned about the effectiveness of the many fundraising calls, whether they were experiencing a "law of diminishing returns," with the sheer hours now spent on calls. He was also concerned about Lyn's continuing erratic behavior as the underlying cause of the inability of the organization to actually accomplish its stated missions and goals.

Todd arrived in Purcellville around January 20, 2012. Todd and Diane agreed on setting up a meeting with Helga and Sky. When Todd arrived in Purcellville, Diane told him that they would meet with Helga the next day. Todd inquired why Sky was left out, to which Diane replied that they really did not want him there. This disconcerted Todd, who later told Sky that he had been snubbed from the meeting. Sky put out an email saying that secret meetings not involving key leadership were unacceptable, if an environment of "transparency and trust" were desired.⁴¹ The next day, at the meeting

⁴⁰ Anyone who read the eulogy knew this to be patently false.

⁴¹ "In the interests of transparency, any meetings that occur in the next two days should include (at least) the individuals on this list currently in Purcellville. Anything more clandestine will probably not contribute to a healthy sense of camaraderie." This email was sent to Barbara, Rick, Ed, Hector, Meghan, Oyang, Ben, Peter, Matt, Alicia,

with Helga, she referred to the “strange email” by Sky. Todd told her it was probably in response to his telling Sky that he had been disinvited from the meeting. Helga then cut the meeting short, saying she had a paper to write.

A second meeting was set up a few days later for Helga to meet with Todd, Riana, and Diane. Helga and Diane intentionally blew the meeting off, while making Todd and Riana wait needlessly for an hour and a half in the living room at Windy Hill. Afterwards, Helga made herself unavailable to Todd, even though he was leading the national fundraising effort. Todd realized at that point that Helga held grudges, was suspicious to the point of paranoia, and wanted people to be unquestioning subjects of her directives. Nonetheless, Todd continued to think that Lyn was a genius, that the organization must succeed (no matter how confusing and contradictory the directives Lyn put out could be), and that the fight for the ideas and the money must continue.

Sky and Todd continued periodic discussions under the realization that the intent of Helga, Barbara, and Bruce was to convert the locals into purely fundraising machines, while Lyn kept the Basement, and especially Sky, as his personal mental stimulation center. Between January and the time Todd left the movement in April, he and Sky were trying to help solve the fundraising problems.

The End of Reading Days, or, “Re-Education”: Becoming Integrated with the Workers, Peasants, and Soldiers

The next week, Lyn took a nasty fall. Helga declared that he should rest, and that the NEC meeting should occur in Purcellville instead of Windy Hill. This made a number of people very suspicious. Sure enough, Helga used that opportunity to further push her reform program, and to explicitly attack Purcellville. Rick and Helga arranged in advance for the meeting to be recorded and sent to the locals, as part of Helga’s overall approach of turning factions against each other.⁴² Immediately after the meeting, Sky informed Lyn. Lyn told Sky that Helga was irrational and simply enraged about his relationship with Alicia. Sky asked whether the audio should be sent out, and Lyn replied that Helga’s criticisms of Purcellville were fueled by her dislike of Alicia, and that the tape should not go out. Sky sent out an email to this effect.⁴³

At the next meeting between the Basement, Lyn, Helga, and the leadership in Purcellville, things were very heated. Helga got into separate shouting matches with Ben, Lyn, and Alicia about the “embargo.” Lyn maintained that it was necessary. Things continued in this way for some days.

Finally, Helga applied enough pressure that Lyn opened an NEC meeting with a fiery denunciation of the “embargo,” and announced that the culprits in Purcellville would be found. It became clear to Sky that someone was trying to target him, because Lyn spent the entire second half of the “anti-embargo” NEC praising Sky to the high heavens--Lyn’s usual way of informing people that Sky was not to be attacked. Hector, who had watched Lyn and Helga fight about the embargo on the prior Thursday, mentioned this after Lyn finished, saying that he had heard Lyn explicitly call for the tape not to be distributed. Lyn then declared that such a discussion never took place.

Jason, Cody, Riana, Todd, Diane, and Helga. Hector replied by email: “I must expose that I giggled when I read this. Good job.”

⁴² The older members versus the youth, and Purcellville versus the locals, primarily. (But, as Leni loved to say, Helga’s mode of operation was to give herself a quota of “ten new conspiracies a day.”)

⁴³ Without mentioning Alicia.

Afterwards, Sky approached Lyn and Helga. Helga glared at him and said that “there are many things that I could say to you right now, but I will not.” Sky responded that she should tell him soon, though. She said that she would -- in Germany. Helga left to pack, and Sky asked Lyn if he recalled that it was he and Sky who initiated the “embargo,” and said that there was no one to attack in Purcellville. Lyn insisted that he and Sky had never discussed this, and that someone in Purcellville was responsible.⁴⁴

In the fourth week of February, Sky flew to Germany for another conference. The day before leaving, Helga insisted that the two of them speak. Her tone had changed considerably. She took Sky out for wine and a fancy meal, while her security waited in the car for several hours. During the discussion she relayed to Sky that he was being manipulated by Purcellville “group think,” and that Sky had to make “a break with Purcellville” and help to push the \$30,000. Sky said that there was no “group think,” that he was glad to increase the fundraising, but that it would not occur by simply repeating that number. Helga said that the environment in Purcellville reminded her of the environment before the European split, and that if Sky did not weigh in there would surely be another.

Sky argued for recreating the environment that he believed had existed around the SDI and the Fusion Energy Foundation, and Helga said that the older members had created that environment, and that she saw nothing comparable with the youth. Sky said that the organization, at the time he joined, was not the organization that created the SDI. Helga agreed, and said that the American movement had been crushed emotionally by the raids, and that the only American member who was exactly as she remembered him was Dennis Small. Sky found this curious, because Lyn had always insisted to him that Dennis Small was an agent of the enemy, constantly working to counteract Lyn’s directives.⁴⁵ Helga declared that Lyn was absolutely wrong about this assessment, and that Dennis was the only sane member of the NEC. This fundamental disagreement between Lyn and Helga reminded Sky of bits and pieces he had heard from older members about an earlier split between Lyn and Helga on the subject of Fernando Quijano and the weird “Catholic stuff.” He knew that Dennis had at one point been on the “Catholic side” of that debate, and that some people had said that Helga was as well. Sky resolved at this point to seriously investigate this.

Upon his return to the U.S., Sky dug up everything possible about that period, in hopes that it would shed some light on the confusing factionalization he had been observing. This led him to Dino de Paoli’s memo, where Dino described being close to Lyn and Helga during the “Catholic split.” Sky had only wanted to find out where Helga had stood at that time, but instead he found an amazing account that almost exactly paralleled what he had been experiencing for the last several months in Purcellville. He decided to forward that account to several other people who were also trying to make sense of the craziness of that period.

⁴⁴ Lyn soon determined that Hector was the responsible party. Hector, Lyn insisted, “was going insane.” In a meeting between Barbara, Rick, Lyn and Sky where this was being discussed, Sky again brought up publicly that it was he and Lyn who had ordered the embargo. Rick said that Lyn was correct, and that it was actually Hector, in an email to MyHoa, who was responsible. Sky and others later had to take elaborate steps to prevent Hector from being declared insane, publicly, by Lyn, though this culminated in a loud confrontation between Hector and Lyn during one of the Thursday “Lyn-Basement-Purcellville leadership meetings,” where Lyn repeatedly roared at Hector that he had gone insane, despite Hector’s protestations (the immediate provocation in this case was that Hector had allegedly posted a fundraising appeal on the website that violated federal law). Sky threatened to resign were Hector to be ousted from Purcellville. In the thick of this, Sky, Hector, and Oyang had an explicit discussion about the possible necessity of a split between the youth and the older movement.

⁴⁵ This reminded Sky of an internal conflict he had had much earlier. His discussions with Dennis had always seemed so cogent, though Lyn constantly bashed him in private discussions.

The Woman on Mars

The first time Riana met with Helga, probably on the morning of August 23rd, 2011, the day she left Purcellville to return to Seattle, she was vastly relieved that Helga had arrived, and she felt after the meeting that somehow, they would hold the organization together and continue to fight.

Riana knew that the real motor of the organization, the power that kept the thing moving, was, in reality, the boomer phone teams, who raised all the money. Riana had joined because of the ideas, but without money, there was no food, no housing, no healthcare, no Basement, no Purcellville operation. Without money, however dirty a word that might be, there would quickly be no organization. And Riana was frightened by how little it seemed that other “youth” members seemed to recognize that. Riana also knew that she did not want to be on a phone team, and if anyone were really honest, he or she didn’t either. No amount of talking could make that reality disappear.

Riana had long been deeply disturbed by how the phone teams were treated, both by Lyn and by the NCs. Bashing on the boomer generation seemed no solution to her, though she only began to become more vocal about this after her experience with the tweener deployment in 2006. And Riana would never openly criticize Lyn. She could always rationalize his behavior in her mind, at least after an initial adverse reaction. But the problem nagged at her constantly.

So when she met with Helga, the two seemed to be perfectly in accord. They wanted to save the organization. They thought it was long overdue for the “former youth” to take up more responsibility for the fund raising. And they both thought Lyn went far too far in bashing on the “Boomer phone teams”.

What they did not discuss that morning, was the other side of the issue. Riana refused to give up the “intellectual work.” She believed everyone should participate in it. She was deeply disturbed by what she perceived as a class structure in the organization, where the privileged few, which she admittedly felt included herself, could do, and had access to, wonderful things, while the rest, the troglodytes, hardly had time to do their laundry without feeling guilty for abandoning their post. But her deep abhorrence of this dichotomy did not convince her that she should sacrifice herself on the altar of the “mission.” Just the opposite. She felt that the mission demanded that *everyone* participate in the culture that the movement claimed it was creating, that *everyone* understand their contribution to the civilization they so adamantly wished to save. Not just through the medium of the organization, but directly.

The idea that the youth locals should report their income on PGM was Riana’s idea. She had gotten Bruce to set it up, partially so Seattle could keep track of how they were doing week-to-week, since they had set a goal for themselves, independently of any outside directive, and partially so other locals might see that they could do both: raise money and do intellectual work.⁴⁶

Initially, no one really seemed to care about the extra function on PGM, and Seattle was the only local to utilize it. But in the period under discussion, it became a constant monitor of LYM activity, with Bruce sending PGM income reports two or more times a day.

In the face of the major shift in the “youth” organization, aspects of which Riana had long been a proponent of, and aspects of which gave her grave concern, and under the strain of listening to more and

⁴⁶ Lyn, by the way, never fully endorsed Seattle’s initial thrust to raise money, at one time explicitly saying they were “blocked” for doing so. Todd reported to Helga, when he met with her September 10, 2011, that Lyn said that Seattle worried too much about money. In reply she said that this smelled like “operations” she had experienced before. In this case she said that LYM from the Basement or Purcellville probably wanted to sabotage the Seattle income drive out of fear and anger that their privileged positions could be jeopardized.

more NEC meetings where it seemed that Lyn disagreed with Helga's stated objectives, Riana thought she should get back to Purcellville as soon as she was able. Because of a number of discussions she had had with Bruce and Barbara in the months of November and December, through the "Christmas Mobilization," she feared that there was a coup underway, in the face of Lyn's unstable condition, to take the movement back to the organization of the 1970's period, and she and Todd decided that it would be good for her to get back to "The Center," where she had important ideas to contribute, particularly in light of her medical condition, which made her feel that she could contribute little to the local's new, "financially potent," orientation.

Riana returned to Purcellville on January 14th, 2012 as part of a project she organized to revamp the Harmony website with Megan Beets. Riana also organized to have Travis Johnson stay to work with them after a night shift security rotation with Megan, because of his familiarity with the Harmony material and his computer skills. Todd returned to Purcellville Friday, January 20th, 2012, ostensibly to meet with Helga about the financial situation and the \$30,000 mobilization in the locals, but also to converse with Sky to create a better plan about how they would, actually, save the organization.

Because Helga was an "expert" on Nicholas of Cusa, and because Lyn had been emphasizing the connection between Cusa and Johannes Kepler, with even more zeal than usual, Riana had arranged a meeting among Helga, Megan, and herself, ostensibly about their Kepler project, but Riana knew, and told Megan, that they *must* begin by talking to Helga about the fundraising and the perspective from the locals, or they would get nothing about Cusa that day.⁴⁷

And they never did get anything about Cusa that day. Instead, what Riana got was an eerie feeling that Helga was operating on a completely different level from herself and that there would be no use in trying to collaborate with her on trying to save the organization.

March!

Following Nick and Tarrajna's departure, things quickly deteriorated. Their departure was used as a pretext for enforcing the new policy of "fiscal responsibility" and was heightened by Lyn's discussions in the NEC about how most people cannot "act as a commander in warfare" and will desert the mission. The fact that Nick was working at Panera Bread was used as a way to show other members who questioned "the mission" that there was nothing outside of the organization anyway--"What--do you want to spend your life spreading mayonnaise on sandwiches?!" The entire organization was placed on a constant mobilization footing, and the existential issue became, "raise the \$30,000 or lose the organization." This led to a glut of fundraising calls, campaign calls, and the national Sunday discussions, sometimes occurring multiple times a day and continuing six days a week. It became virtually the sole

⁴⁷ As they sat down for the meeting in the living room at Windy Hill, Holly, the \$2000 Havanese puppy that Helga had recently "purchased for Lyn" ran up to them. Megan and Riana tried to play with it, and the dog took a liking to Megan, biting her hands and growling affectionately. Megan began an attempt to push the dog away. Helga moved forward in her seat, almost yelling, "No Stop!"

Megan was shocked, as was Riana. They both thought Helga had been giving commands to the rambunctious puppy, but it was suddenly clear that Helga had been commanding Megan, not the dog, to "stop," because "her bones are very soft, you can not play with her so rough."

thrust of the campaigns. The locals and the campaigns were basically told to put everything on the line for the fundraising.⁴⁸

On Thursday, March 15, the following email was sent out to the organization regarding the fundraising, by Bruce Director:

Income (w/o N.J.):

⁴⁸ Feb. 17, 2012

Internal Memorandum:

Re: LaRouche PAC financial status,
LaRouche Youth LLC

(1). For the past 20 weeks, LaRouche PAC has been regularly depositing \$50,000 or so per week when its baseline operating budget is \$80,000 per week. The high spot in this picture was a one week \$65,000 deposit.

(2). I briefed Lyndon LaRouche on the financial fallout from this shortfall this morning and he proposed the writing of this Memo.

(3). As of this week, LaRouche PAC and its contractor for political organizing services, LaRouche Youth LLC, have reached a wall wherein if LaRouche PACs budget does not reach the \$80,000 per week baseline range, within the next 10 days, and sustain it, cuts across the board will have to be instituted, including layoffs. I could detail the situation in terms of non-payment of rents this month, services on the brink of cutoffs, inability to fund basic political organizing deployments, possible cancellation of health insurance, but the simple fact is that we have built a wall of debt which we cannot sustain at \$50,000 per week. The irony is that the political situation we face is so very wide open to us.

(4). A clear approach has been outlined to this problem in discussions with LaRouche -- sustain and build on the basic income provided by existing phone teams at the same time as the 120 former youth organizers commit to ensuring that \$30,000 is raised by that section of the organization based on a unity of overall effort.

(5). There are some who fantasize that we can cut LaRouche Youth LLC expenses down in some super austere way and continue to somehow muddle through communally. That is, in point of fact, a zero-growth model which does not take into account the basic necessities required to be an effective and growing political movement, nor the basic legal requirements faced by any competent employer in the United States. LaRouche Youth has already imposed a hiring freeze because it is immoral to hire new members when our California members continue to organize under such conditions of hardship.

(6). The challenge we face, organizationally, is therefore, existential. That is the simple fact of the matter which every member should now internalize and address.

Barbara Boyd,
Treasurer, LaRouche PAC

LPAC-----27891
Tot-----55358

Dep:
LPAC-----20490
ToT-----49974

Detroit	357/357	
Boston	0/505	Monge ????????????????
NJ	170/480	
Tx	60/640	
LA	350/1596	
Bay	0/634	Monge ?????????????? ⁴⁹
Seattle	626/1638	still going
Tot-----	5850	

When Riana woke up and saw this in her e-mail she totally freaked and called Sky. Sky had already received about twelve missed messages and calls from terrified Basement members, after Lyn had stormed down and declared that people “would be fired.”⁵⁰

Riana called Todd to try to figure out what was going on from his end. Todd was freaked out, given how much energy he, Sky, and she were putting into trying to SAVE reading days from Bruce, Barbara, and Helga, even as Bruce was denying that he had any intention of “ending the intellectual work” or “getting rid of the Basement.”

That morning, Barbara contacted Summer saying they needed to talk. She questioned him about why both San Francisco and Boston had decided to take a Monge day. Barbara told Summer that under organizational policy, *Monge days had been outlawed* and taking them was a serious affront to our political mission. Apparently, earlier that day, she had also contacted Jenny in Boston regarding the incident and bullied her, questioning her leadership because she allowed the local to take a day off from fundraising.

However, despite these discussions Barbara had with Summer and Jenny, where it was clearly communicated to her by both members that the Monge day was not taken with any ill intent or attempt to sabotage fundraising, Barbara had communicated to Lyn that the Monge days were a conspiracy hatched between San Francisco and Boston to “destroy the organization.”

The Sky’s the Limit

For some time, especially after the “Christmas mobilization,” and realizing that Helga had created a universal trump card with her “World War III” threat, Sky began to wonder about the source of these manipulative tactics. The fact that these arguments would always supplant more reasonable ones disturbed him. They were *beyond* reason. Argumentation that served solely to diminish the ability of others to reason struck him as the hallmark of a cult. He resolved to look into cult literature, to see how many of these techniques were common ones. Some time earlier, he had discovered Steven Hassan’s

⁴⁹ Todd wrote “Monge” next to Boston’s and Bay’s stats to make clear they were not on strike. Bruce added the exclamatory line of question marks.

⁵⁰ Sky raced in to Windy Hill and spent much of the day going over income figures with Lyn to show that the locals which had maintained their reading day schedule were actually raising *more* than those who hadn’t.

Combatting Cult Mind Control in the Windy Hill lunch room, and decided on that day that he would finally read it. On March 29 he finished the book. He was fascinated by the section on difficulties people face upon trying to re-enter society, and sent those sections along with the de Paoli memo to Nick and Tarrajna.

Sky next sent the de Paoli memo to Summer, Alli, and Todd. Todd forwarded it to Riana. Riana was fascinated by it, particularly in light of what had been happening with Helga, because the way that de Paoli described Helga's behavior was very much in line with what Riana had observed. Riana was terrified, however, when she saw that it came from a "slander" site and immediately erased it from her e-mail.

Given all the stress everyone was under, Riana began to worry very seriously about Sky. Todd and Riana discussed the real possibility that he may undergo a nervous breakdown, given everything that had happened since the summer.

At this point Sky still believed that we could "save" the organization if we just got rid of the cult "parts."

On March 30-April 1, Sky flew to Boston. This was part of a plan to get more of a reading from youth members outside Purcellville. Inspired by recent discussions, he thought that maybe the youth actually still maintained some independent motivation distinct from the otherwise pervasive corruption. He had one discussion with the Boston leadership, where they were pretty explicit about not liking the direction in which things were moving. Ian Brinkley said he hadn't been able to do any background work on the Weekly Reports for quite some time. This depressed Sky, who felt personally responsible for him being in that situation. Rachel, Frank, and Jenny were very upset about the collapse of intellectual work. Sky was emboldened enough to have a talk with the entire office, where members voiced their frustrations.

Sky took Jenny aside and gave her a full briefing. Jenny was impressive in voicing what she really thought, at one point asking: "Why do we have to deploy every day?" Even after the crazy Sunday briefing, Jenny and Frank made fun of Lyn's crazy "in the bushes" formulation. Frank asked, "If some guy is hiding in the bushes at Windy Hill, what the hell is security doing?" Their response seemed very good, but it didn't last. During this trip, Nick and Tarrajna called Sky, rather provoked, but intrigued, by his email containing the cult exit material. At this point, Sky still thought that he could simply inoculate people against "Helga's" cult program, and "save" the organization.

As of mid-March, Sky told Summer that things had gone too far and he was no longer going to worry about disclosing sensitive information regarding Lyn, et al. over the phone. Sky began an open and almost constant dialogue with Summer, and later, Alli, regarding the situation with Lyn and the organization, briefing them on Helga's attempts to cause a split in the organization, the fact that Debbie was a habitual liar and most of her contacts were likely fake, and his fears of whether Lyn had ever made any honest discovery or forecast. Sky told them about finding and reading Hassan's book and Summer and Alli immediately began looking through his website (Freedom of Mind). They also began looking up old briefings and literature, and realizing what a mess past ICLC campaigns had made of the organization's reputation in San Francisco -- something that had become very clear to Summer during his campaign. At the same time, they began finally reading forbidden resignation letters from former members in an effort to paste together information about the identity and history of the organization. In

the course of their research, the discrepancies in the last year began to fall into place.⁵¹ These documents, readily available for anyone to view on the internet, later proved to be real-life “Purloined Letters.” At this time however, they still thought the organization, or at least the best ideas in it, could be salvaged and perhaps the problem was not Lyn, but that he was subject to the manipulations of all the insane people around him. However, it was slowly dawning that there was no way you could have such an insane structure and organization history with a leader who was completely oblivious. Either LaRouche was complicit, and the source of the problems, or he would have to be impossibly ignorant.

On Friday, March 30, 2012 Summer and Alli made the decision to methodically inform other members of the San Francisco local about Sky’s story. Summer met with Michael Steger while Alli met with both Nicole and Amie. It was during these meetings that Summer and Alli had frank discussions that presented the contents of the De Paoli article as having validity. At this point, the decision to leave still had not been made--but they knew that everybody needed answers. It was in these discussions, that the idea came up of having Sky come out, under the pretext of holding a town hall meeting, along with Todd and several leading members from other locals, to hold a completely frank and honest “constitutional convention” broaching these issues with the rest of the locals. However, the following events made such a trip impossible.

On April 1, after Summer had his last town hall meeting (at this point they still thought they would stay at least until the end of the campaign) Summer, Alli, and Amie came back to the house to find Nicole frightened after a discussion she had had with Adrien, (who had been at his grandfather’s funeral at this time). Adrien, having listened to the Sunday call, said that Sky was being attacked explicitly by Lyn. They listened to the call where Lyn described a “senior member” “hiding in the bushes” outside of NEC meetings “reminding people not to raise funds.” This was likely referring to a discussion Larry Hecht had with Pavel outside of one of the NEC meetings, but at the time, most interpreted that person to be Sky. Sky called Liona from Boston and found out that the attack on Larry was provoked by a briefing Barbara had given Lyn about Sky circulating the Dino de Paoli memo. At that time, however, Lyn was still willing to sacrifice anybody other than Sky. Lyn announced that there was an enemy operation being run against the organization being coordinated between California and Purcellville. He repeated many times that, “We have the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all the enemies involved in this thing.”

The nature of that call created an eerie environment. Summer and Alli realized at that moment that, were they to stay, any discussion of real issues and problems, such as questioning LaRouche or the history of the organization itself, would not be tolerated, and they would be caught up in an insane stasi-like environment worse than what had been happening all this last year. They called Sky and decided they had to leave that week, telling him to purchase a ticket for Southern California rather than San Francisco (as his previous idea had been). On Monday morning, the weekly candidates’ call was scheduled to take place. En route to the office, Summer received a phone call from Sky. Sky told him that somebody sent the De Paoli memo to Phil, that he couldn’t handle any more of the crazy internal situation, and that they should leave now. At this point, Lyn, still looking for anyone else but Sky to blame, shifted full blame to Michael Steger. Alli and Summer decided to leave that day and meet up with Sky in Southern California to decide what to do.

⁵¹ Since February, Summer, after reading Lawrence Kubie’s book “The Neurotic Distortion of the Creative Process,” tried to reconcile the strange behavior exhibited by Lyn as both insane and creative and had concluded that he was neurotic. He presented this as a likely possibility in discussions with Sky. The reports of former members helped clarify that he was definitely insane-- possibly a genius.

Before packing, they met with Mike and MyHoa to tell them they were leaving and that Lyn was blaming Michael for the De Paoli memo. After Summer and Alli went home to pack, Mike and My-Hoa notified Phil, Barbara, and others and immediately the Stegers called together members of the local for a meeting. Apparently in this meeting, (attended only by Nicole, Amie, and Vu), the Stegers told them that Summer, Alli, and Sky were an operation and that the De Paoli memo proved it. Nicole and Amie were upset, fought with Mike and My-Hoa, and stormed over to Summer and Alli's house demanding to know why they were leaving before having the planned meeting with the national leadership around these concerns. Though the goodbyes were difficult and the decision to leave was a painful one, Summer and Alli, given what they had seen over the previous several days, realized that a meeting or any discussion inside the organization would be of no use and left that night.

The next few days, they received many phone calls, text messages and emails from those still in the organization. We highlight one of these discussions to illustrate the untruthfulness of certain later accusations. On the morning of April 3rd, *Kesha contacted Summer* asking him why he was not on the candidates' call the day before. Upon being informed that Summer had left, she said that this had the potential to destroy the organization. Summer told her things were too crazy, that Lyn was being manipulated, and the dishonesty in general was too unprincipled to stay in. When Kesha asked what he was going to do, Summer told her, "You have a mind, I have a mind. We don't need this organization in order to do good things." It was reported later that this discussion proved that Summer was trying to recruit Kesha to an alternate movement.⁵²

The very next day, April 2, an internal memo was released (see documentation below) where it was stated, with no evidence, that "over the past 24 hours it has been conclusively determined that Sky Shields has been operating as an agent of influence of enemies of Lyndon LaRouche for an extended period of time."

"The following memo has been approved by Lyndon LaRouche.

Over the past 24 hours it has been conclusively determined that Sky Shields has been operating as an agent of influence of enemies of Lyndon LaRouche for an extended period of time. While professing loyalty to the political movement and to advancing its political organizing program, Sky Shields has been working with others to set up a separate political movement predicated on the financial collapse of the LaRouche movement.

Sky Shields, together with his brother Summer Shields and Alli Perebikovsky announced their departure from the LaRouche political association yesterday after being caught, red handed, so to speak, peddling memos authored by Dennis King and Dino DePaoli attacking Lyndon LaRouche and Helga Zepp LaRouche to other members of the LaRouche movement. Shields' unveiling of his operation occurred in the context of renewed litigation in the case of Marielle Kronberg versus Lyndon LaRouche, a long-standing British and Obama steered legal case in the Eastern District of Virginia. It is a clear that Shields and those working with him are determined to take other members of the LaRouche political movement out with them.

The specific personnel from British and Obama circles employed in seducing Sky Shields are presently under investigation as are the efforts by Shields and others to suppress the income and organizing activities of LaRouche PAC. It is to be predicted that Shields' response to the internal airing of the truth of

⁵² About a month after they had left, Sky, Summer, and Alli realized that someone was *illegally* logging into one of their email accounts. Alli checked all of the IP addresses that had logged onto her email account, and found that there indeed were foreign IP addresses opening her email. They realized that it was a current LPAC member doing this.

his betrayal will be, “See, I told you, Lyn's response will be to attack me,” the time honored response of those caught in such operations.”

April Fools

On the morning of April 2, before the memo was posted, Todd called Riana to inform her that Sky, Summer, and Alli had resigned, which came as a total shock to her. At this point, Riana felt that all hope of saving the intellectual nature of the organization, the idea that it would be a scientific driver for humanity, was now lost. Without Sky as an “inside” ally to help direct policy, Riana knew that the insanity that she had witnessed in the organization would only increase. She hadn’t formulated anything concrete at this point.

Riana went to the studio to do work, but was highly distracted. She and Megan Beets were very cagey with each other, and it became clear that Megan knew something as well, but Riana didn’t know what, or how much. Megan said that some very bad things were going on, and that Sky had said some crazy things when he was in Boston, according to Jenny. Riana replied that there were some crazy things going on in the National Center. Megan said it sounded like an operation. Riana thought so as well, but she thought, at this point, that it was an “inside” operation, run by Helga, et al. to oust Sky as the last man standing in the way of going back to the “galley slave” model of organizing from the period before the youth movement. It took very little for Riana to see that she and Megan were not on the same page. She told Megan she wasn’t feeling well and went back to the house.

Later, sitting with Adam Sturman, who had been relating strange goings on in Purcellville, she finally burst and declared to him that Sky, Summer, and Alli had resigned, which took the breath out of him. Based on Adam’s knowledge of a recent event where Lyn had threatened to fire Hector, and Sky had threatened to resign if he did, Adam hypothesized that Summer and Lyn must have had some falling out and that Sky was defending his brother. He proclaimed that “the old man better back down.” At this point, Riana did not wish to contradict Adam, but she believed that the issue was far more complex, and tied, in some way to the Sunday night call, the De Paoli memo, and the incredible amount of stress Sky was under. But at this point, she and Adam both agreed that this was likely the end of the “youth movement.”

At a bar in Leesburg they toasted the end of their efforts in the movement, hoping that they wouldn’t lose touch with each other in the chaos that was likely to follow. Both assumed that they were about to witness a general disintegration.

Back at Adam’s house they waited for Cody to arrive, since he was at Windy Hill, and would be able to tell them more about the situation. By the time he got there, Riana had had far too much to drink, and the mood was quite somber. Cody began to relay how erratic Sky was behaving, how Ben picked him up at the airport, and claimed⁵³ that Sky had been making claims that he “feared for his life,” or something to that effect. Riana, in her drunkenness, proclaimed, “No! You don’t understand, that’s a reference to the “Jonestown” documentary. I doubt that he actually fears for his life the way you are thinking. He thinks Helga is trying to set up a cult.”

⁵³ Falsely.

This, of course, in no way helped things. In fact, Riana quickly saw how her one remark got used and reused in the following days, always with little or no understanding as to what she had meant.⁵⁴ Riana spoke with Todd that night, and told him that she was going to leave the movement. He didn't fully believe her, since she had made such statements before, and had always "come back to reason." He told her to get some sleep; the wound wouldn't be as fresh in the morning.

The next morning Riana called Peter, as they were supposed to meet up at some point anyway, and she was going to leave on Thursday. She wanted to talk to a friend, and to someone who might understand part of what she was thinking. He agreed to meet and they ended up walking to a fast food joint to get coffee. As they walked, she poured out everything that had built up in her over the last year: the inequalities, the money problems, the attack on the intellectual core of what they had joined, the insanity of the summer. As she spoke, she said, "Peter, I'm leaving the movement." The fact that she had said it out loud surprised her, a little, but once she had begun, she wasn't going to relent.

"What about Todd?"

(This became the constant refrain over the next few days. "Oh, you're leaving; what about Todd?!?")

"Todd's is his own man and must make his own decisions."

"You need to get back. You think he'll talk you out of it?"

"He'll try. But this is CRAZY."

"What about Lyn, his forecasts, what we're trying to do?"

Here she paused, and then the words flowed out of her: "I believe in the nine forecasts; I believe LaRouche is a genius, that he formed an organization that is doing what no one else will do. I believe it, but this is unsustainable, and it can not continue in this way. And I will have no part in creating another Susan Schlanger. No one should die on a phone team."

When Riana got back to her room, she took her medication and became extremely sick, which ended up being a useful cover for the rest of the day. Adam Sturman texted her when "the memo" went up. She read it immediately. Because text messages lack inflection, initially, she thought that Adam thought that it was as insane as she did. She soon found out in a direct discussion that he believed the accusations that were made therein.

That night there was the "normal" NEC meeting. She didn't go, using her illness as a good excuse. Right afterward, Adam texted her and told her that she really needed to listen to it, since it was *really good*. The minute it was posted, Riana listened to it. Lyn began by talking about all the wonderful things they were doing: the breakthroughs with the Planetary Defense Paper, the Arctic Development proposal, and the amazing work Michael Kirsch was engaged in with NAWAPA. He gave a presentation about the moment of victory that was clearly in sight. When the Q and A began, Michele Fuchs asked about the memo that had gone out about Sky, Summer, and Alli. Lyn attacked them as having been an enemy operation in our midst, claiming that we would be stronger now that they had been "smoked out."

⁵⁴ It is useful to note that while Sky had recommended that Riana watch the documentary on Jonestown, it was not because he thought Lyn was planning a mass suicide, but because he thought it was interesting to see how many parallels there were between how The People's Church operated in its early phases, and how our organization had operated in its early phases, which was the issue that had occupied a great deal of their time in trying to prevent a return to the organization "pre- youth movement." One of the things that resonated most strongly with Riana were the parallels between what Lyn had been saying about his upbringing and Jim Jones' childhood.

Riana felt nauseated as she listened to the whole thing. A line from Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* came to her mind, and she couldn't shake it. "What are you disgusted with? Mendacity! You know what that is? Lies and liars. Mendacity!"

But the effect on other members was quite the opposite. Megan Beets called her a little later on to ask her how she was doing, and Riana told her she was disgusted. Megan asked if she had listened to the NEC.

"You should really listen to the NEC. It was wonderful."

"I listened to the NEC. I think it was bullshit."

"That doesn't sound good."

"Damn right it doesn't sound good."

"I think you should talk to someone."

"I'm talking to you, and I don't want to be, and I certainly don't want to talk to 'someone else' who is going to try to convince me that bullshit isn't bullshit. I don't know what I think about Sky, but I've lost hope in our generation."

"That's very bad."

"I'm getting off the phone now, good bye."

When Riana hung up the phone, she felt horrible. Megan was her dear friend, she didn't want to "disorganize" Megan, and she certainly didn't want to yell at her, but she was feeling more and more like a caged animal, trapped in that basement room. She text messaged Todd that she had to get out of Purcellville, that she couldn't contain herself.

"I just had a blow up with Megan. The wolves are closing in."

April 4th, Wednesday: Sometime around 8am, Sky text messaged Riana. When she saw this she thought, "Persona non grata, persona non grata!" The phrase was so strongly associated with seeing his name and number on her phone, that she almost dropped it, and she spoke out loud, as if he could hear her, "I can't talk to you, you fool! You left the movement; you are now persona non grata!"

Still, she desperately wanted to talk to him.

(The following is a sampling of Riana's e-mail correspondence this day. She has decided to include it because it gives a good indication of her frame of mind.)

Riana Nordquist

to Sky

date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 10:18 AM

(no subject)

Sky,

I really want to talk to you. But as you probably know, this memo went out yesterday: "*The following memo has been approved by Lyndon LaRouche: Over the past 24 hours it has been conclusively determined that Sky Shields has been operating as an agent of influence of enemies of Lyndon LaRouche...*" [Full memo above]

I really don't know what to think, from what Bruce went through with Todd. I honestly feel betrayed on all levels by just about everyone. I am pretty goddamn fed up with the whole mess. And the sad thing is, I really believe in what we are fighting for. I know that the Planetary Defense paper, and the Arctic Development paper that were lauded along with the NAWAPA thrust in last night's NEC were your brain children. And without you, I really

don't know how we will avoid the real pitfalls of the 80's organizing. But fuck, man. I think that you, too, have been duplicitous. All I can say, is that I am truly sad. I love you.”

(Sky text messaged that they should meet in person.)

Riana Nordquist
to Sky
date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 12:13 AM
(no subject)

Just to let you know, I still really want to talk to you. The cell phone issue is an LPAC issue. I know there is real craziness going on. But what I said about feeling betrayed also still holds. I didn't realize how much I cared about you, until this happened. What I told you in the bar that night is beginning to look like the only option. New Mexico desert. All the political problems still exist. Drought. God, Sky, I feel as if I've been turned inside out.

Sky Shields
to me
date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 4:09 PM

Riana,

Let's talk. I can guarantee that I've told you everything that was on my mind pretty much in real time. The decision to leave wasn't made until Sunday night after that crazy call. I initially honestly thought the De Paolo thing would give insight into how to operate in this situation, but then it blew up in a totally bizarre way and made remaining in these circumstances damn near impossible for the time being.

But yes, I would like to talk in person since it clearly isn't possible to be assured of basic confidentiality by email.

--Sky

P.S.

In case it needs to be said, I have not been in contact with either Dennis King or Obama, have not been siphoning funds, do not think we should bankrupt the movement in order to fund some sort of parallel operation, in case any of that might have been the duplicity you're referring to. Otherwise, I am at a complete loss and we should speak in person.

Riana Nordquist
to Sky
date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 4:21 PM
(no subject)

Sky,

The duplicitousness that I was speaking about was what seems to be the possibility of meeting up with Nick in California? And inviting Kesha and Rachel to do so as well? I do believe that that also may be a fabrication. I am in a total state of shock, honestly. And as you might imagine, I can't imagine much of a future for this association without you. Can we meet, or speak on a land line tonight or tomorrow morning? I leave tomorrow evening.

It did not need to be said that you were not in contact with the aforesaid, nor that you have not been siphoning funds.

Riana Nordquist
to Sky
date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 4:32 PM
(no subject)

Could you meet me at the airport tomorrow before my flight? I fly out on United at 5:20pm. I could have Peter take me early. I fly out of Dulles. Nice and neutral. I would like to see you before I go.

Sky Shields
to me
date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 4:37 PM

Ah! Ok. Summer spoke to Kesha and did not invite her anywhere. I only spoke to Rachel about how to improve the fundraising, though I told Jenny that I'd like to continue working with her even if I left or got the boot. Perhaps that latter counts as an invitation. No, I'm only hoping that this is legitimate insane paranoia on the part of the memo writers rather than outright lies.

Ok, it's freaking me out how much this stuff is catching with some people. That, almost more than any event of the past six months.

Sky Shields
to me
date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 4:39 PM

But yes! Let's talk tonight. My cell plan is separate from the org.

Riana Nordquist
to Sky
date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 4:41 PM

I see. Mine isn't. I will try to call you some way. They are having meeting after meeting now about how this is an in depth operation that goes back months and involves Nick and Tarrajna. And I have been freaking out. So I'm not making a very good name for myself.

Sky Shields
to me
date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 4:57 PM

I fly out of Dulles at 7 am. That's very early, but I would like to meet up.

Riana Nordquist

to Sky

date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 5:15 PM

(no subject)

There used to be pay phones. But no more. Many a tense movie scene could no longer exist in this, our modern age. I am unsure how we can meet up tonight, given my constraints. I am stuck here, with no ability to get out, and I am already attracting attention, because I ain't showing up and smiling like I ought. Todd is doing is damndist to keep me calm. I just had a bad run in with Bruce. So, I would love to talk to you as soon as I am able.

Sky Shields

to me

date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 5:49 PM

Can you borrow Liona's cell phone? I think it's separate.

Riana Nordquist

to Sky

date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 6:02 PM

Sky,

Adam knows that you met with Liona and the word is that your long term plan to create another movement failed utterly. Now people are all relieved, because "the longstanding operation in our midst has been rooted out" and we can really fight as a unified organization! I am supposed to tell Bruce and Barbara about my communications with you. I told Adam that you texted me this morning, but never called. That's it. I also told him that Bruce and I just had a blow up and I don't want to talk to Barbara. I told him that while everyone else is optimistic and having a kumbaya moment, I am not. I really like Adam. But man, this is not a good situation. I need to be able to get back to Todd, and we need to figure out what we want to do together. I've already made things very difficult. I don't think I'll be able to talk to you before tomorrow. Then, I can call you on Todd's verizon phone, which his family pays for.

Sky Shields

to me

date: Wed, Apr 4, 2012 at 6:41 PM

Riana, this is fucking insane. This situation is nuts. It doesn't matter what anybody thinks or who checks the phone records. This mode of operation is bizarre. History will only remember it as bizarre. Any historian will quickly check the facts and realize what was really happening. This is only meant to manipulate our own members."

It was only at this moment that an "awakening" occurred, as if Riana had been awoken from a dream. She looked at his message and called him.

At this moment, Riana knew she would never be a part of the “movement” again. But the feeling was so freeing, she was honestly shocked. At this point, she still thought Lyn was a genius, she still believed in “the mission”, but the feeling of freedom was undeniable.

When Todd read the April 2nd memo about Sky being a long term agent against the organization working with the Obama administration and the British, and that Sky was committed to shutting down the fundraising of the organization, he knew that it was impossible to conduct the necessary investigation in less than twenty-four hours, and that Sky was not sabotaging the fundraising, but had been trying to do something to improve the income. At that point Todd questioned the viability and integrity of the organization as a whole, and decided by Friday, April 6, that he could not be part of such an association any longer.

Clarity

Funny enough, it was only in this period of the first attempts to slander him and cover up the preceding events that everything came together for Sky. Up until this point he had held a great faith in the “youth movement.” He believed that, despite the insanity they had all experienced, the really awful elements were somehow isolated to the older members and a corrupt leadership. Even Lyn’s delusions and severe emotional problems, he thought, must be tempered by genius, and the youth movement he felt to be primarily organized around the latter and not the former. After all, none of the youth had witnessed the real corruption of the center; they really believed that Helga was the great master of Schiller and educated emotions, and that Debbie legitimately had contacts in high places, that the Stanford Group and secret networks in Russia were waiting to implement our amazing plans. The youth members honestly believed that even if none of them could really tell you what the hell Riemann had to do with economics, surely *someone* must be able to -- even if this someone wasn’t Lyn, they must believe that someone in the Basement or elsewhere could actually discuss more than the first sentence and the last paragraph of Riemann’s Habilitation dissertation. And in Sky’s mind, this meant that the youth movement might still be some unsullied source of potential revolution -- that somehow, when faced with the madness of the situation they might find in themselves a way to do something bold and useful.

The release of the memo about him, Summer, and Alli had little emotional impact. It was just too weird. It declared that in one day of investigation, they had all been linked to every bad person in LaRouche mythology. The only effect this had on him was to make him realize that the cookie-cutter statement was the same sort of thing the organization had printed about all prior defectors (and that in some cases Sky had believed those accusations about others). It wasn’t unusual that Barbara would simply make something up and call it the results of an “investigation;” she always did that. It was extremely shocking that they expected much of the movement to be swayed by the contents of the memo, however, and Sky was chilled by the idea that they were probably correct, and that they had obviously done this before.

The specific details of the memo were ridiculously self-contradictory -- Sky and others were supposedly trying to depress the fundraising so that they could siphon said funds off to another movement. One would expect that he would try to *raise* the funds before siphoning them. It was useless to try a logical analysis of the memo’s contents, however. He knew that the real reason they wanted to connect him to a conspiracy to “stop fundraising” was because they could then use that to retroactively

attack every argument he had made in defense of the intellectual work, reading days, etc. The completely internal character of the whole thing disgusted him.

As he watched the process unfold from afar over the next few days, he concluded that he had been wrong about quite a lot. There were no “cult-like elements” trying to impose a cult structure on a good movement. The movement *was* the cult. From one day to the next, he watched people reject things that they had known to be true, and he watched very few people bat an eye at the constant morphing of the allegations against him and others. They had the attention span of goldfish, it seemed to him. Each memo seemed to erase the memory of the last. It became clear to him that they had all been trained to have such short memories. The first allegations against him were forgotten and replaced the same way Mayor Bloomberg’s planned fascist takeover of the U.S. had been erased from his own memory shortly after Obama’s election. Everything in the organization worked this way.

Phil brilliantly explained exactly what Lyn “really” meant about the defectors in the same way that Sky used to explain the other crazy things Lyn would say. Everyone else turned on a dime the same way they had been trained to do after experiencing so many wildly changing “flanks” during the course of the movement’s history. Distance afforded a very useful, but saddening, perspective.

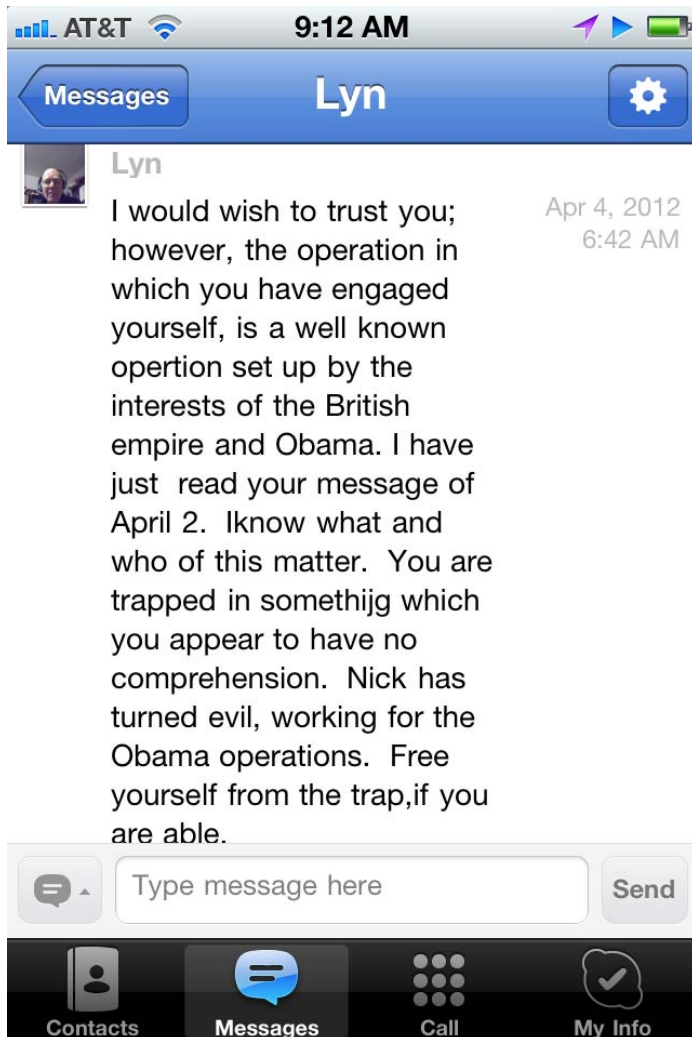
Sky read resignation letters on LaRouche Planet, and realized that the same thing had always been occurring in the organization, and that this had been validated by both his own experience and by too many other sources to simply be “slander.” He sent the exit memos to Summer and Alli.

He had several meetings with Basement members around this point, which struck him as generally weird. The impression they conveyed was as if he was dying. This made sense, given the organization’s practice of shunning certain defectors. However, his general argument to each was along these lines:

“If the organization is not a cult, you will still speak to me. If it is a cult, you should leave, and then you will speak to me. Either way, you’ll speak to me, unless you’re a cult member.”

Several people wanted him to continue his fight against the encroaching cult strictures, and he had a hard time expressing that he didn’t think it was possible. They announced that they were making great strides in “talking” to Helga, Bruce, and Barbara. Sky by this time knew what those three were, and knew that these discussions would not get very far. The only thing he could do was to encourage their attempts, however, and hope they responded in a sane fashion when they realized what they were really up against.

Helga was not the problem. Barbara was not the problem. They were as deluded and broken as anyone, even if more corrupt. Debbie, with all of her fabrications was likewise as much a victim as anybody. Sky realized that what Helga and Barbara and others were implying was actually true: What he thought the movement was -- the better parts of the youth movement -- were actually just a historical accident from the standpoint of the organization. The organization itself was “the problem” that Sky believed he was combating, and Lyn sat at its center as the source of it all.



In Praise of Folly

Following the departure of Sky, Summer, Alli, Todd, and Riana, Larry Hecht began to protest what he characterized as the KGB-style atmosphere within the organization, typified by the memo which preemptorily asserted that Sky, Summer and Alli had been enemy agents acting on behalf of the Obama Administration—and therefore any defense of Sky (in particular) would be read as hostile to internal security. On Tuesday, April 17 Lyn announced that Larry and Marje Hecht had left the organization, referring to both as “corpses,” who had “voluntarily destroyed themselves; they destroyed everything good that they'd ever done. And they just decided to do it, because they were afraid, and because they found a certain oozing comfort, of going over, to belong to the enemy.”

It was, according to Marje in a discussion with Oyang later in the week, the first she had heard of her and Larry's departure from the organization. The immediate provocation for the announcement was likely a letter that Larry had addressed to Helga, in which he stated that he believed that Lyn required the equivalent of the 25th amendment in order to save the organization, and offered his support to Helga for the undertaking he assumed she would have to initiate. After Lyn's prolonged, public denunciation of

Larry, Sky, et al. during the NEC meeting, Helga conducted what amounted to an inquisition, accusing the assembled members of dishonesty and disloyalty toward Lyn and demanding confessionals about any subversive thoughts and discussions they had had.

On Saturday, April 21, Lyn delivered another fire-and-brimstone NEC presentation on the immediate threat of extinction of the human race. In the course of this, he took the opportunity to vilify the recently departed members as “human trash”, who “mean nothing,” belong in the “garbage pail”, etc.

After Lyn's opening presentation, Oyang—who had been on a honeymoon in Europe when the initial blow up around Sky began, and had been in Atlanta for an astrobiology conference with several other Basement members immediately following his return to the States—objected to the “enemy image” rhetoric whipped up by Lyn in the week following the initial crisis around Sky, saying he was disturbed both by the departure of his friends and collaborators, but also by their immediate vilification as enemy agents when the necessary evidence had not yet been presented to the membership.⁵⁵ Lyn's response was to declare that all the relevant evidence was out there for anyone willing to look at it. This led various assembled members to testify to the moral and other failings of Sky, Nick, etc. At one point, it was asserted that, with regard to evidence concerning the connection of Sky et al. to the Molly Kronberg legal case (and by extension, a broader conspiracy directed by the Obama Administration), one need only see “the dossier” that Barbara and Bruce had assembled (described below).

The next day, Oyang and Diana met privately with Lyn & Helga at Windy Hill to state their concerns openly, to minimize the taint of “private gossip” that Lyn & Helga had accused Purcellville and the Basement of in the run up to Sky's departure. On the lack of evidence presented to the membership regarding the accusations of enemy agency, Lyn's response was to describe that he'd had enough experience with such operations to recognize them, and proceeded to give a generic accounting of political corruption in the United States since the assassination of Kennedy. Helga suggested that the problem was ignorance about the history of the organization, and suggested that the two of them study the previous splits to see that each was a result of outside enemy operations. Oyang also raised a general concern about the lack of policy deliberation in the organization, tied to the dysfunctional nature of the NEC, with which both Lyn and Helga generally agreed.

The following day, on April 23, Oyang and Diana met with Barbara and Bruce at the CDF office to see the contents of the dossier that supposedly contained the evidence substantiating these accusations. The sum total of the evidence presented during the course of the meeting amounted to the following: That Sky and Alli had both made references to Steve Hassan, an author on the subject of cults, who had also allegedly contacted Ian Brinkley (and possibly other members). Barbara alleged that Hassan, because of his views, might be connected to Molly Kronberg and the Factnet discussion board. Barbara also said she was beginning to look into the use of hypnosis, presumably to investigate the possibility that Sky had been hypnotized to carry out enemy operations. It was implied, both at this meeting and in other discussions in the Basement at the time, that the discovery process then underway in the Kronberg case, in which she would be compelled to turn over private communications, would likely reveal Sky's behind-the-scenes role as a co-conspirator with Kronberg in the case. In fact, Lyn and others (indeed, it is explicit in the April 2 memo) stated that the timing of Sky's departure, coming just before the discovery

⁵⁵ A number of people in Purcellville, Leesburg, and from the locals later told Oyang privately that they were grateful he had raised his concerns publicly, as the situation was totally confusing, despite Lyn's forceful assertions to the contrary.

process in the Kronberg case was to begin, was not coincidental, and that Sky had left before the damning evidence of his involvement in the case would be revealed.

Throughout the weeks that followed, Lyn continued to assert not only that Sky and others had left under the direct influence of an enemy operation, but that Sky had been operating as an enemy agent since at least the spring or summer of 2011. It began to dawn on Oyang that this latter allegation represented an attempt to discredit not only Sky's decision to leave, but the entire discussion that he had been forging among a number of the younger members about how to maintain the organization financially without sacrificing the intellectual core of it. The fact that few people in the Basement seemed to take much note of this latest version of the Sky conspiracy narrative was particularly disturbing to Oyang, since it implicitly implicated most of them in this supposed enemy operation, given that Sky had for the entire period been in very open and intimate discussions with them on what had now been declared *verboten* issues. In a private discussion sometime in May, Helga told Oyang that he had questioned long enough, that it was time to make a decision regarding the issue, assuring him that she had seen evidence of Sky's direct involvement with Kronberg that would be revealed once the case went to trial in August.

While various members publicly exulted that the departure of "those jerks" had actually purified the organization--as evidenced by a brief improvement in the youth income--the continued skepticism of the party line maintained by Oyang and Peter in particular, provoked a contentious meeting amongst the Basement, which was generally divided between those who outright disagreed with the basic outside conspiracy premise insisted upon by Lyn, those who were ambivalent, and those who believed that defending Sky was an unacceptable affront to Lyn's authority and a threat to the organization's political mission. At issue were not only the recent events, but the implications of the entire last year for Lyn's state of mind, and his strategic and organizational command capabilities. Unresolved, for example, were the implications of his prolonged attempt to coerce Alicia into marrying him while simultaneously anointing her leader of Purcellville. Oyang had, weeks earlier, suggested to several members of the Basement that they relocate to the Purcellville office in order to strengthen the autonomy and unity of the Basement and Purcellville at some distance from Lyn's volatile and often disruptive presence, a proposal that was uniformly rejected.

During this period, Oyang also maintained occasional contact with Sky and Larry, who each had become convinced that there was no possibility of reform from within the organization. Oyang told them that he believed it was worth the effort to at least try to broach open discussions on both internal and external policy in a way that might lead to productive deliberation. In one such attempt, at one of the weekly Thursday night Basement/Purcellville leadership meetings presided over by Lyn at Windy Hill, Oyang brought up his concerns regarding the relevance and effectiveness of the Weekly Reports (and, implicitly, the lack of scientific rigor), including the strange format in which John Hoefle was excluded from planning discussions and was compelled to sit silently during sessions which often seemed to have no coherent thematic structure. Lyn's response was immediate, saying that he understood the problem but then shifted the blame entirely on John, saying that he "casts a pall" over the proceedings.

Meanwhile, attempting to initiate any meaningful policy discussions during the NEC meetings seemed, as ever, to be a losing prospect. The combination of Lyn's apocalyptic foreboding about the imminent extinction of mankind and his emotional outbursts/paranoia connected to the departure of Sky & company seemed to increasingly define the main themes of his remarks to the entire organization. An example from the May 8 NEC meeting:

Well, you know, you're just days away from the possibility of the extinction of the human species. This is not a fantasy! This is not a guess! This is not a possibility! This is an actuality! If Obama continues to be President of the United States, taking orders from the Queen of England, and similar kinds of things, and if on that basis, the British-controlled system, using Obama, decides to give a challenge of a certain type to Russia, and if Obama does not accept that, or the Queen of England does not accept that arrangement that Russia has prescribed, which is quite workable, then Russia will stop it. Russia will intervene to prevent the British and Obama from doing, what the British and Obama intend to do. They will do that, because they have no choice. If that is not done, you're seeing the extinction of the human species.

...

Look at everything in life: Everything in life is filthy, evil, right now. Mankind is deprived of anything that was morality! Look at these children out there: They're not going to live! They'll be dying before they die. Nothing is being done for them.

...

We've got a bunch of people, being run by Sunstein and people, who are the people directly ordered, {against me, personally, and against our organization.} This guy was a Harvard University freak with\ Chicago complications, and his girlfriend, are the same thing: They were very close to Obama when Obama was doing a professor job in Harvard University. They went to Chicago, together with Obama. And they're back again. When Obama was made President, this pair o' creeps was brought in. This pair of creeps has orchestrated an operation against this organization, including the organization which we have a lawsuit involved with, right now. And that's the fact! Anything else is a lie! Anyone who tells you anything contrary is a liar. That's the truth.

But the problem is -- and it's the problem, as it was then -- you make a big wild excuse for doing something that's rotten, and you have to then expiate your feeling, by doing something rotten and making a big excuse to believe you didn't do it. That's how it works. The cases are well known. And all the cases involved in the operation against this organization, as least most of them, the ones who left, we know exactly how it happened: It was under relevant outside influence, in every case!

Sunstein, Obama, that's the threat to all mankind. And some people around us, have joined the enemy. What're their morals? To try to deny the truth? That doesn't get you anywhere.

You have to face the truth! And Sky did not. Sky had been, for at least eight months, involved in this operation. And his brother dumped a lot of the crap on us, which indicated exactly how that was being operated -- that's a fact. And this is Obama, directly.

And there's no contrary truth; absolute truth. No room for denial, no margin of room for denial.

Do you think Sky would have done what he did, if he hadn't capitulated, at least for six months or more, before he left. And we know from whom, most of you know; it was part of this legal case. And we got, from his brother, we've got a funny thing that happened, one long night -- he spilled the whole beans, and [they had a wrecker?]. Nick! A real piece of shit. He didn't have to become a piece of shit, but he did it. And they're working for Obama, now! Ha-ha!

Over Memorial Day weekend, LaRouche pounced on reports of the bailout of the Spanish bank Bankia to declare that this was the signal for the “official” collapse of the entire trans-Atlantic banking system, and promptly launched the organization into a full mobilization through the holiday on the premise that by Tuesday, the entire system would likely be gone. (See the leaflet, “The Glass Steagall Moment is Upon Us”.)

At this point, Oyang's growing doubts about the integrity of Lyn's strategic judgement suddenly crystallized. The organization had been put into a full mobilization without any clear indication of why this latest European bank development signalled a qualitative deterioration, aside from the vague generalization that “the rate of collapse now exceeds the rate of the attempts to overtake the collapse”. It was also becoming apparent that the organization had no effective strategy to remove Obama by catalyzing a “mass strike” through the campaigns, since, as Lyn remarked at the May 26 NEC meeting: “This is not a mobilized nation, it's a demoralized nation...It's a hopeless situation—there's no impetus in the population right now to stop this problem...This is a question of the mobilization of a virtual elite of the population, to come together and do what the Russians are doing.” (LaRouche would reverse himself the day following Kesha Rogers' primary victory, declaring that this was the signal for a gathering mass strike for Obama's ouster). It was also apparent, however, that there was no impetus within the “elite of the population” to remove Obama before the Democratic Convention, meaning that it appeared that the organization was on a course to become a de facto campaign for Mitt Romney. It seemed that our Obama campaign consisted solely of using hatred of Obama as a fundraising strategy.

Strangely, during the Sunday national call, in which Lyn declared that among the “certainties” of the situation was the likely disintegration of the entire European system by that Tuesday, he also chose to criticize what he characterized as an unhealthy focus on the election campaigns, despite the fact that they were supposed to be the leading edge of our mobilization against Obama, and the fact that Diane and Kesha's primary was only two days away.

In addition, Lyn's constant assertions that we were moments away from a direct, unannounced pre-emptive thermonuclear strike against Russia and China were so stark that they couldn't honestly be equated with the actual, verifiable danger of military intervention in Syria.

It was only when he called John Hoefle at the end of the weekend in an attempt to understand how the Bankia bailout signalled the end of the entire system that Oyang learned that John had in fact been fired from his position at Windy Hill for “disloyalty” in the aftermath of the departure of Sky, Larry, et al. This further confirmed his suspicion that “internal security”⁵⁶ was being used as an excuse to squash dissent and enforce a party line, a suspicion that boiled over into confrontation that night during a Basement meeting. It turned into another argument, in which Oyang accused others in the Basement of capitulating to lies, with some others accusing him of undermining Lyn and siding with an enemy operation. Oyang’s doubts about organization policy on Obama and thermonuclear war were also raised.

At the end of the meeting, Oyang declared his intent to take his grievances on policy issues directly to Lyn, possibly by phone that night. Instead, he decided to wait until the Basement/Purcellville leadership meeting the next night to engage Lyn directly on the issue of Obama, and the seemingly contradictory statements Lyn had made about the mass strike.

As it turned out, the Thursday meeting would be solely focused on the issue of Sky’s involvement in the Obama conspiracy, and again, pivoted on The Russia Trip. This time, Lyn went into further detail about the alleged plot, declaring that Cass Sunstein,⁵⁷ on behalf of Obama, and working directly with Susan Rice and Michael McFaul, had deployed Sky to find out the names of Debbie’s Russian contacts in order to sabotage the trip. Lyn emphasized that his authority as a leading figure in Russia was incontrovertible, that “if you want to know my role, look at the lack of thermonuclear war after Libya,” and that Putin had personally organized the Terra America interviews as compensation for the scuttled Russia trip. He called anyone refusing to believe the story about Sky stupid, and demanded that such nonsense end immediately.

Merv was the first to speak, asking incredulously why the Obama Administration would need Sky to find out the names of Debbie’s contacts. Lyn flew into a rage, accusing Merv of twisting his words and taking them out of context, to which Merv responded by reading back Lyn’s exact words which he had written in his notebook. This made Lyn even angrier, and he continued his irrational tirade against Merv and Oyang. When Oyang asked if the membership would be allowed to see any evidence to back up his accusations, Lyn argued alternately that the membership would not be allowed to see it, and that the evidence was out there for anyone willing to see it. At some point during the course of Lyn’s yelling, Merv stormed out of the room, saying that he didn’t deserve that kind of treatment. The group intervention then focused exclusively on Oyang, with various people in the room testifying to Sky’s corruption and attempting to shame Oyang by pointing to Lyn’s crucial role in history, his agapic nature, etc. It was even asserted by one member present that Cass Sunstein’s 2008 paper advocating infiltration of groups promoting conspiracy theories was an exact blueprint for how Sky had been deployed to disrupt the organization.

When Oyang pointed out that he should be allowed to question the party line, he was told that no one was prohibiting him from asking questions--but that he was asking the *wrong* questions. Specifically, that his fixation with the “details” of Sky’s departure were a diversion from facing his own pessimism about the political situation and fears about whether or not “victory” was really possible.

After berating him, mocking his friendship with Sky, and generally raging out at Oyang, Lyn suddenly switched, effecting a tone of compassion, and playing on Oyang’s status as a newlywed to

⁵⁶ It also became clear that the obsession with equating the organization’s activities with a military operation had more to do with enforcing internal security over the membership than executing effective political actions.

⁵⁷ Sometime around this period Sky received stalker-esque Skype messages from Lyn, asking him if he was “Cass Sunstein, perhaps?”

melodramatically implore him not to “throw his life away.” At that point, seeing how thoroughly Lyn had manipulated the group dynamic, and how utterly he depended on bluster and bullying when challenged, Oyang decided that he, too, had had enough, and left the room. An ultimatum had effectively been delivered: either denounce Sky and quit raising objections, or be considered an obstacle that, as Lyn would phrase it during the NEC meeting two days later (excerpted below), must be “crushed.”

From the June 2 NEC meeting:

The Sky issue is dead. Sky is politically dead. Forget him, he's gone. He's permanently gone. He was working for the enemy, I don't know when he started doing that, but it occurred sometime during the summer of last year, no later. It had to do on the Russian issue, and everything Sky said on the Russian issue was a lie. Everything Sky said about our going to Russia, our dealing with Russia, the question of Russia, was a lie. It was not a mistake, it was a lie. Everything he said, was false. Directly opposite to the truth. So he's been an enemy agent in our organization for some time. And it's over.

For example, the Russian issue, my going to Russia: he lied. It was not a question of a misunderstanding, he deliberately lied, and he was working for the enemy when he did it. But the problem was, how do you clean it up? How do you deal with a situation like that?

The organization was in weak shape, it could not pull things off anymore, it lost that sense of organization, and you had a factor, the youth factor so called, in which people who come from a younger generation have screwball ideas about reality. They have people they talk to, people they don't talk to...So the whole thing has been a farrago of lies, based on a factor which is called a youth factor, based on people who lie...Sky lied. I was going to Russia, it's clear I'm not going to talk about the details because it involves a foreign nation, leadership of a foreign government, and Sky has no right nor anybody else has any right to have access to that.⁵⁸ And on this relationship of me to the Russian situation, is part of a tango on which the peace and the survival of civilization depends. The time has come that anything that gets in that way, is crushed. Run over it with a steamroller. We're running the organization.

...

⁵⁸ After all of the insanity of this period, Lyn's obsession with the Russia trip (probably the most insignificant, even if one of the more humorous, parts of this strange story) shows how much he is addicted to the sorts of fantasies that Debbie and others concoct for him. The “enemy” that Sky was supposedly working for, if it existed, would probably have been much more interested in all of the other elements of this account than whether or not Lyn was going to fly to Russia.

For example right now, the entire financial system of the transatlantic world is now on the verge of {extinction}. At any day, at any hour, the entire economics system of the transatlantic system can go, it is ready to go, it is ripe to go. You are never more than moments away from extinction of the economic system...Tomorrow morning, or any other morning, in any instant right now, the entirety of the US economy can disappear, together with all of the economies of Western and Central Europe...So the Sky question is dead. He's a fool, he's a liar, he cheated a great deal. He lied to people, betrayed people, and did all kinds of things with his methods. He's now a dead issue. He's outside our province, he's no longer our concern. And all we have to do is say, this is the fact: He's dead politically, he was a liar, he was a cheat. He was bright, but he was a liar and a cheat primarily. And bright second. He held back on many things we could have done, he destroyed things that should have been, could have been done, he was a factor of sabotage and he used his influence on a certain circle of people, in order to prevent things being done by a larger number of people. Things we could have done in the basement were sabotaged, they were misdirected into a different direction. A lot of things were done. The whole thing about the money thing about not raising funds was his operation. His. So those things just simply go away.

All you have to do is say, look, the truth of the matter, certain things were diplomatic matters and we cannot talk about them publicly, openly, but, the truth is, that Sky was a complete liar in everything he said about the Russian trip. And you'll find that his lies about the Russian trip go to everything else. Anything Sky said about the Russian trip was a lie, from the beginning. There was no truth in it. Don't try to explain away the problem, which some people have done. Try to give explanations to prove Sky's case. No! Sky was a fucking liar all the way through on this one. From the beginning. And the time is to say that, clear the decks, drop the issue, he's gone! And he's gonna {stay} gone. No more. Because the time has come, that we're going to reestablish this organization on the basis of its actual original intention. And this crap and side trips are over. And you needed a unifying factor. And the unifying factor has been supplied. Sky supplied it, by demonstrating what a sonofabitch he was. A lying sonofabitch from beginning to end. That clears the deck. Now you forget him, and go on with the business we have to do.

...

The farce is over. Sky is gone. The sky has fallen. We don't know how low he's going, but his reputation is about to be destroyed. he's going to become a joke that people don't like to talk about. And I had to make

the decision over last night, ok, it's hopeless, the score is set, either this is done, or it's a waste of time. And I don't think it's a good idea to waste time. you waste time as long as you think you have to, to give people a chance to come to their senses. But after that point, no.

...

So clean the decks, this myth of Sky is gone. He's written his own political epitaph. Nobody who knows anything and who has any brains is going to trust him at all. They don't want to hear his voice, they know he's a skunk, he's declared himself a skunk, he left as a skunk, and he went away and left only the stink behind. And that's over. So back to business.