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


**‘Enough Is Enough!’**

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

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


**Release of LaRouche Associates**

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