

REVIEWS

## Revolt of the ‘Leo-Cons’

These days, it takes 35,000-50,000 sales to place a non-fiction book on the *New York Times* Bestseller List. Therefore, it is not surprising that the mass distribution of the LaRouche in 2004 40-page campaign report, *Children of Satan*, has caused a fire-storm of reaction in the international media and inside the Washington Beltway. As of this writing, the *Children of Satan* report has been published in two editions, and a total of 600,000 copies have been circulated around the United States. Countless other copies have been downloaded from the LaRouche in 2004 website and recirculated, placing the total distribution at perhaps one million copies in the United States alone.

Since the initial release on April 9, the full text has also been translated into Spanish, Arabic, German, Russian, French, and Italian.

In other words, the impact of the expose of the disciples of Leo Strauss and other “chickenhawks” who manipulated the Bush Administration—from the inside—into the Iraq war, has been massive.

The reactions to the thoroughly documented account of how a small group of neo-conservative Jacobins hijacked American national security and foreign policy since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, have been manifested in two ways.

First, a number of leading Establishment news outlets, led by the *New York Times* and *New Yorker* magazine, have published exposés of the “Leo-Cons” (to use the *New York Times’* phrase), all clearly derived from the material first released in *Children of Satan*. Internationally, the *National Post* in Canada, *Le Monde* in France, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* in Germany, *Corriere della Sera* in Italy, and the *Asia Times*, have all published their own derivative accounts of how University of Chicago professor Leo Strauss (1899-1973) was the intellectual “godfather” to such leading neo-cons as current Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, *Weekly Standard*

editor-in-chief William Kristol, Pentagon intelligence spin-meister Abram Shulsky, and imperialist propagandist Gary Schmitt, of the Project for the New American Century (PNAC).

Second, the Strauss disciples, who have been described by some university scholars who went through academic near-death experiences battling against them as “the Strauss cult,” have launched a string of attacks against the primary author of the exposé, Democratic Party Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

### Wall Street vs. LaRouche

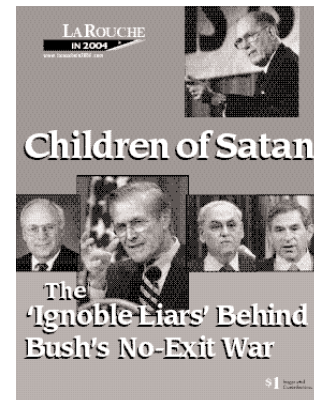
The most telling outburst appeared on the opinion page of the June 9, 2003 *Wall Street Journal*, by former *Journal* editorial page editor Robert Bartley. Bartley had been among the first boosters of the neo-cons, back in the late 1960’s, when he promoted Norman Podhoretz and Irving Kristol, and gave frequent editorial space to the first generation of Strauss disciples who ventured into the world of Washington politics and policy making.

The fact that the semi-official house organ of Wall Street (the *Journal* is owned by Dow Jones Corp.) would launch such a vitriolic, but revealing tirade against LaRouche, says a great deal about the impact of the Strauss exposé on politics in and around the Bush Administration.

LaRouche, in the pages of *Children of Satan* and elsewhere, issued a clarion call for a “counter-coup” against the Straussian cabal steering the United States in the direction of an imperial moment, to be followed by a rapid descent into Hell. The bottom line for the Straussians and the other varieties of neo-cons is, that they detest the republican founding principles of the United States, and aspire to turn the U.S.A. into a silly imitation of the Roman or Napoleonic empires.

### Their Fascist Roots Are Showing

While the Establishment outpouring of exposés of Strauss and the Straussians—in some cases, insightfully zeroing-in on



**Children of Satan:  
The ‘Ignoble Liars’ Behind  
Bush’s No-Exit War**  
Washington, D.C., LaRouche in  
2004, May 2003  
40 pages

the doctrine of strategic deception at the heart of the neo-con war drive—clearly did serious damage to the “Wolfowitz Cabal” inside the Bush Administration, all of these assaults on Strauss and the neo-cons fell short of the mark, in one respect. And this is where the *Children of Satan* report stands out.

Leo Strauss was a universal fascist, who openly promoted the fascist ideas of Friedrich Nietzsche, Martin Heidegger, and Carl Schmitt. His closest intellectual collaborator, the Paris-based Russian emigré Alexandre Kojève, was a leading figure in the Synarchist secret circles in France that carried forward their anti-nation-state efforts into the postwar period, as the major organizational manifestation of the universal fascist apparatus.

The issue of “Strauss the fascist” cannot be dodged, if the opposition to the neo-con putsch is to be strong enough to succeed. This is the unique strength of *Children of Satan*.

The second edition of the report features three Appendices to the original, which underscore this Straussian fascism, particularly *via* his collaboration with Kojève. Tony Papert, a classical Greek scholar who has been leading a five-year project to revive study of the

Platonic dialogues, contributes a pair of vital essays, dissecting Strauss's ideology—and his method of recruiting gifted university students to his political apparatus—and providing a deep insight into the significance of Strauss' collaboration with the "Nazi-Communist" Kojève.

### A Thorough-Composed Exposé

*Children of Satan* is a thorough-composed exposé of the Straussian/neo-con cabal that has staged a policy coup d'état against the American Republic.

The report begins with a devastating essay by Lyndon LaRouche, "Insanity as Geometry: Rumsfeld as 'Strangelove II,'" in which LaRouche dissects the military doctrine of Vice President Dick Cheney and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld as an extension of the insane Utopian doctrines exposed in the satirical movie of the 1960's, *Dr Strangelove*. LaRouche develops the idea of a fusion of the outright universal fascism of Leo Strauss, with the "world government through thermonuclear terror" ideology of Bertrand Russell and H.G. Wells, as the heart of the new Bush Administration doctrine of "preventive war."

After thus setting the scene for the Iraq war, LaRouche delves deeply into the philosophical issues underlying the historical conflict between the republican and oligarchical notions of the nature of mankind. He concludes his essay with a poignant call for action: "See, here, your children, their children, and those yet to be born. Protect them from the evil that the likes of Old Wicked Witch Strauss's predatory Chicken-hawks and their war and thieving schemes represent, for combined past, present, and future humanity today. Humanity is good. It is the best creature in the Creator's eternity. Defend it accordingly; be truly human."

### Ignoble Liars

LaRouche's essay is followed by a detailed account of the neo-con putsch by Jeffrey Steinberg. Steinberg tracks the origins of the current "preventive war" policy—and the key players in the



*University of Chicago ideologue Leo Strauss: the fascist roots are key.*

putsch—back to the Dick Cheney-led Pentagon of the first Bush Administration (1989-1993). He highlights the role of Strauss disciple Paul Wolfowitz, in the foisting of the new imperial agenda, following the events of Sept. 11, 2001; and also zeroes in on the pivotal role of Vice President Cheney. He tracks the continuity through the 1996 "Clean Break" study, commissioned for then-Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and authored by such leading "Bush 43" Administration influentials as Richard Perle, Douglas Feith, and David Wurmser.

The Steinberg chapter also exposes the secret intelligence unit inside the Pentagon, which was responsible for promulgating a string of outright lies, to win over President Bush to the idea of the Iraq war. This unit is now under public scrutiny, as the reality of the "Big Lies" about Iraq becomes more and more of a scandal.

### Why the Democrats Failed

Anton Chaitkin writes another chapter in the report, posing the crucial issue of "Why the Democratic Party Failed To Function in This Crisis," exposing the role of the Democratic Leadership Council (D.L.C.) as a nest of Straussians and neo-cons, dedicated to the destruction of the Democratic Party of Franklin Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy,

and Lyndon LaRouche.

Chaitkin does groundbreaking work, in revealing the roots of the neo-con invasion and takeover of the Democratic Party, in the 1976 GOP-sponsored Daniel Moynihan campaign for the U.S. Senate. Moynihan ran as a Democrat for the New York Senate seat, but his candidacy was backed by two leading organized-crime-tainted Republicans, Max Fisher of Detroit, and Leonard Garment, Richard Nixon's Washington fixer.

Today, the Trojan Horse legacy of Moynihan is carried forward by Joseph Lieberman, the wanna-be Democratic Presidential nominee who is a wholly-owned creature of the D.L.C. Lieberman and his Republican Party counterpart, Sen. John McCain of Arizona, are, in fact, colluding, with D.L.C. backing, to destroy the Democratic Party, in a replay of Teddy Roosevelt's 1912 Bull Moose wrecking operation, which was then targeted at the Republicans.

### Strauss-Kojève-Schmitt

The remainder of the report consists of a series of chapters by Tony Papert and Barbara Boyd, providing the reader with a rich exposé of the careers and philosophical roots of the three men most responsible for the ideology behind today's neo-cons: Leo Strauss, Alexandre Kojève, and Carl Schmitt.

Schmitt was the Nazi jurist who wrote the legal opinion justifying Adolf Hitler's 1933 dictatorial coup following the Reichstag fire. Although a card-carrying member of the Nazi Party, Schmitt was Leo Strauss's mentor, arranging for Strauss to receive a Rockefeller Foundation grant to leave Germany for France and Britain, to study the original works of Thomas Hobbes. Today, in the United States and Western Europe, as Boyd reveals, there is a Carl Schmitt revival underway—aimed at once again assembling a justification for a new universal fascism.

In just 40 densely packed pages, *Children of Satan* provides a road map of the present policy fight for the soul of America. It is must reading.

—Michele Steinberg