## **Fig. Feature**

## LaRouche candidates' electoral breakout shocks Establishment

by Patricia Salisbury

"Politics as usual" came to an end in the United States, when Janice Hart, the nominee of the Democratic Party for secretary of state of Illinois, flew to West Germany in the middle of the Illinois election campaign, to work with the Patriots for Germany, a new party opposing the destruction of the Western alliance. Hart told her constituents, and an astonished press corps, that it was her concern for the United States and for Illinois that led her to travel to Europe, to express the commitment of U.S. patriots to the alliance, and to aid those who were fighting Soviet-directed irregular warfare.

On March 18, Hart and Mark Fairchild, leaders of the political movement being built around the 1988 presidential candidacy of Lyndon LaRouche, won the Illinois Democratic Party's nomination for secretary of state and lieutenent governor. The slate they headed polled 1,167,000 votes throughout the state, in what the astonished media called the "political upset of the century." Yet more astute political observers were not so surprised. Michael McKeon, a pollster for the Democratic Party, had warned the Democratic National Committee as far back as June 1985, that the LaRouche candidates were getting "a big core vote." "La-Rouche knows how to connect with the population," he said. "They are not in Disneyland the way Washington, D.C. is."

## 'Sticking it to Washington'

In an address before a packed audience at the National Press Club in Washington on April 9, LaRouche said that the voters of Illinois, fed up with lies from the government about the "recovery," ignored the party bosses and the news media, and voted for the only candidates who were making any sense. "They don't believe you!" he told the press. "You have not been doing your job. And what happened in Illinois, and what is going to continue to happen, will demonstrate that the forgotten majority of voters in this country represent reality, and have asked me and my associates to stick it to you, to force you to recognize reality."

LaRouche hit hard at the drug lobby and its protectors in Washington and in the media. In a statement that made headlines around the world, he called for

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White House Chief of Staff Don Regan—formerly of Merrill Lynch—to be jailed for his role in drug-money laundering.

LaRouche particularly ripped the media's role in slandering him—a slander campaign which would reach staggering proportions in the months ahead. "The news media begin to believe their own lies," he said, "lies which originated with the drug lobby. . . . These lies—"Nazi," "anti-Semite," and so forth and so on—repeated by the news media, have intoxicated the news media into believing its own lies, and trying to explain how the voters would behave in response to a person as characterized by these lies. But the voters don't believe you!"

The core 15 to 25% vote for LaRouche's policies, combined with the growing protest vote of a majority of the electorate, reflect a fundamental and irreversible change in American politics. The period in which political results could be orchestrated through media "perception games" has ended. Fed up with economic depression, cultural depravity, the threat of an AIDS pandemic, the electorate turned to "the politics of reality," LaRouche said.

The truth of these assertions was borne out in November, when the Republican Party lost control of the Senate, because the administration refused to break with the failed economic policies of Don Regan.

## The Illinois primary

The LaRouche movement's victories in Illinois were achieved by candidates who spent a grand total of under \$1,000. Yet, they won against a hostile media and against

one of the most powerful Democratic Party organizations in the country. The slate they defeated was headed by big name politico Adlai Stevenson, the former U.S. senator. Secretary of state candidate Janice Hart defeated Aurelia Pucinski, the daughter of former congressman Roman Pucinski, a powerful Chicago alderman. These victories were won through aggressive campaigning in the streets, door to door discussions, and a growing readership for publications—like EIR—detailing policies to reverse the economic depression, and to create a cultural renaissance to replace the drug-rock counterculture.

The candidates broke all the "rules of the game," as laid down by the party hacks. They charged both their Democratic Party opponents and Republican Gov. Jim Thompson with economic illiteracy. They called for the repeal of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings legislation, exposing its destructive effects on the industry and farm sectors which had once made Illinois a hub of production, and its genocidal consequences for the elderly and minorities. A brief dramatic occupation of the Chicago Federal Reserve headquarters by candidates and supporters dramatized opposition to the policies of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Candidates also campaigned for emergency public-health measures to stop the spread of AIDS—an issue that was forced to international prominence when LaRouche supporters in California succeeded in putting Proposition 64 on the ballot there. A commitment to a "War On Drugs" was expressed by the now-famous pledge of secretary of state nominee Janice Hart to "roll tanks down State Street"—Chicago's drug-pushing no-man's land. Hart was to do exactly this—in a parade before the November election. The campaign sponsored concerts featuring the music of Mozart and Beethoven, throughout the wards of Chicago and the down-state farm communities.

Illinois was the first of the 1986 primaries, and it established LaRouche as the frontrunner for the 1988 presidential nomination of a transformed Democratic Party. Henceforth, the policy issues raised by LaRouche would set the agenda for the political process in the United States. Around the world, citizens and political commentators watched in amazement, as the hapless Adlai Stevenson stumbled from one self-destructive blunder to the next, in his feverish effort to defeat LaRouche and associates. Immediately after the primary, he resigned as the candidate for governor of the Democrtic Party, and announced that he would form a third-party ticket.

The Democratic Party national leadership attempted to dismiss the Illinois breakout as a "fluke"—but devoted huge attempted to dismiss the Illinois breakout as a "fluke"—but devoted huge sums necessary to prevent further LaRouche victories. The party leadership and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith spent tens of millions of dollars to keep LaRouche candidates off the ballot, and to slander them

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