PIRNational

LaRouche fights for justice, above sewer of U.S. politics

by Michele Steinberg

As the campaigns of the so-called front-runners George W. Bush and Al Gore have become a shrill effort to keep substantive political debate out of the election, and with the media writing political obituaries for Democratic Party challenger Bill Bradley, the Lyndon LaRouche campaign is engaging Americans, particularly students, Hispanic Americans, and the real working base of the Democratic Party, at an unprecedented level.

On March 2, LaRouche's Democratic Presidential primary campaign released a 24-page pamphlet entitled the "U.S.A. vs. Lyndon LaRouche: 'He's a Bad Guy But We Can't Say Why' " (see *Feature*). Following LaRouche's Feb. 22 victory in the Michigan Democratic primary, and a worldwide "Day of Reckoning" on Feb. 25 that featured rallies and meetings supporting LaRouche, the release of the pamphlet is a shaped-charge escalation leading up to the March 7 and March 14 primaries, where LaRouche is facing off against Bradley and Gore in 15 states.

The pamphlet, which documents 30 years of targetting of LaRouche by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and former National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger, will be presented at press conferences across the country, where LaRouche representatives will report on the international human rights campaign to stop the blackout of LaRouche's Presidential candidacy, and to stop the deliberate disenfranchisement of LaRouche voters being carried out by Gore and his racist cabal in the Democratic National Committee (DNC).

Campaign representatives have started an intensive outreach to civil and human rights organizations, including the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and to the thousands of VIPs in the United States and around the world who have signed an appeal to President Clinton to exonerate LaRouche. As the pamphlet documents, LaRouche was framed up by means of "secret files" and other illegal tactics of the DOJ in its 30-year campaign of injustice against him.

'Stop ducking ...'

The LaRouche campaign has exposed the continuing heavy-handed, illegal operations which are designed to keep him from being heard by the mass of voters whom Franklin Delano Roosevelt termed "the forgotten men." His candidacy has successfully *mobilized* tens of thousands of Democratic voters in Michigan who had been shunted aside by the DNC. After LaRouche's victory in Michigan, campaign supporters took to the streets in cities all across the United States and western Europe in a "Day of Reckoning," demanding free elections in the United States, and a halt to the rigging of the Presidential primaries.

On Feb. 25, outside newspaper and Democratic Party offices, and in downtown areas, rallies and leafletting by LaRouche volunteers urged Americans to throw off the attempts by Wall Street, through the Gore wing of the Democratic Party, to exclude LaRouche. The rallies had a great effect, activating citizens against the blatant media censorship and the racist moves by the DNC to rip up the Voting Rights Act, and engaging the population in real politics.

In Washington, D.C. and Maryland, the LaRouche campaign demonstrations raised a ruckus, when a 6-foot, Donald Duck look-alike joined activists in visits to the haunts of the leading establishment politicos. The duck and his associates carried signs that said, "Stop ducking the issue," "Stop ducking LaRouche," and visited the Maryland State House in Annapolis. In Washington, the entourage made appearances at the U.S. Supreme Court, the DNC office, and the *Washington Post*, whose owner (dubbed "Katharine Graham-quacker" by one sign) has systematically blacked out all mention of LaRouche.

The DNC's practice of locking out real Democrats was exposed, as the duck, accompanied by LaRouche Democrat and Maryland Central Committee member Helen Alexander, approached the office, and asked to speak with DNC chair Joe

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Andrew or his spokesman Dwayne Ingram. Alexander was, at first, told that "someone" would come down and speak with her, every entrance was shut tight, and nobody, not even employees or even a flower delivery boy, was let in or out.

The most popular targets of the demonstrators were the media outlets, the leading culprits in "fixing" the U.S. election. The *New York Times*, CNN, and other major radio and TV stations in cities from Philadelphia to Detroit to Los Angeles, all heard from citizens who are outraged at their elimination of LaRouche from normal election coverage and debates. "Wall Street and the News Media Preach Democracy Abroad, But Practice Vote Rigging at Home!" read one sign-board sported by picketers in Philadelphia.

All the way to August

On Feb. 22, the day of the Michigan primary, LaRouche campaign volunteers participated in an Internet town meeting dialogue with LaRouche. Campaign volunteers asked LaRouche to lead them into the next phase, the March 11 "caucuses," where the DNC racists under Chairman Andrew have excluded LaRouche and his thousands of voters from the delegate selection process. In that discussion, LaRouche said, "Let's create a Michigan Freedom Democratic Slate caucus!" and urged supporters to fight to ensure that all Democrats' votes are counted.

To that end, a letter was sent to Michigan supporters in early March from the LaRouche campaign, urging Democrats to rise to the occasion. It reads in part: "Just as in 1964, Fannie Lou Hamer and the Mississippi Freedom Democrats fought the racists in the Democratic Party in defense of the right of *all Americans* to vote and have their vote counted, so today we intend to do the same. This fight is not just to defend our own rights, but to defend the very foundation of our nation—the sacredness of the right to vote—a right for which many have given their lives.

"For this purpose, we hereby constitute ourselves as the Michigan Democratic Freedom Caucus. Should [state party chairman] Mr. Brewer, or any other party official, disregard the U.S. Constitution, the 1965 Voting Rights Act, and the Michigan Democratic Party Rules and Delegate Selection Plan, which provides for a write-in vote for any candidate not placed on the ballot by the party apparatus, we will oppose this party tyranny and take a challenge all the way to the August Convention, just as the Mississippi Freedom Democrats were forced to do in 1964."

The LaRouche Democrats will be going into the Michigan caucuses in a strong position, given the fact that their campaign won citizen support in gathering more than 20,000 petition signatures, and brought out tens of thousands of voters to the primary, contrary to the instructions of the Democratic Party leadership. In some parts of Detroit, LaRouche garnered more votes than George W. Bush.

The importance LaRouche's campaign was all the more evident following the Feb. 29 elections that saw the media fawning over crown prince, George "Dubya" Bush, who "re-

captured momentum" by winning the Republican primaries in Virginia, North Dakota, and Washington state. For months, the Gore apparatus has been working to cancel Democratic primaries wherever possible—which they accomplished in Virginia, South Carolina, Arizona, Puerto Rico, and Kansas. The Gore forces also have a pre-rigged deal with Bush, to herd independent voters into the McCain column in order to keep them from voting for Bradley or LaRouche, with the assurance that the Bush camp has devastating exposé material against McCain which will eliminate him from the race, once Gore has presumably secured the Democratic nomination.

Real politics needed

With this corrupt deal in full force, the Feb. 29 primaries sunk to septic-tank levels, with Pat Robertson forces accusing McCain of kissing up to gay rights groups, and of religious bigotry when he attacked the so-called "religious right" as hypocrites. For his part, McCain, trying to maintain the image of "insurgent reformer" against big-bucks Bush, attempted to "expose" Bush for holding a campaign rally at the right-wing Bob Jones University in South Carolina, which condemns interracial dating, and whose head, Bob Jones, refers to Pope John Paul II and the Roman Catholic Church, as being in league with the Devil. But, after McCain's campaign made the error of falsely stating it had had "nothing" to do with telephone calls denouncing Bush for the Bob Jones University appearance, McCain was roasted for "dirty tactics" and a cover-up. But, the fact is, that McCain has failed to attack Bush for his real horrors—like his dirty Texas deals which enriched him, and his maltreatment of the poor and hungry.

On the Democratic side, one day before the Washington state primary, an avalanche of false reports went out that Bradley was dropping out of the race. On Feb. 29, election day, Bradley spokesman Eric Hauser had to call a press conference to deny the rumors, and told reporters that maybe the rumors were "wishful thinking" on the part of Gore. Bradley purchased five minutes of national television air time on March 2, to address the American voters directly.

In Harris County, Texas, Houston Democrats are worried about the "LaRouche factor," according to the "Politics" column in the Feb. 27 Houston Chronicle. Headlined "Republicans, Democrats Worry about Primary Party Crashers," local leaders of both parties are quoted expressing dismay about voters crossing over to vote in the other party's primary. Though not mentioned in the column, the *Chronicle* carried a commentary the week before by local Democratic Party leaders David Jones and Mike Charlton, in which they called for Democrats to vote in the Republican primary. In response, two Houston area Democratic clubs drafted a "manifesto" to explain to Democrats why they should vote in the Democratic primary, which the "Politics" column summarized as follows: "They noted that ducking the primary perpetuates a bad cycle that results in fewer Democrats running for office, and portends the party's takeover by fringe groups such as supporters of Lyndon LaRouche."

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