

Alexander Hamilton's campaign to ensure that Thomas Jefferson, and not Aaron Burr, became President in 1801.)

Electors are not bound to vote for either Bush or Gore, but may cast their votes for any person who meets the Constitutional qualifications to be President.

*The Second Point*—Jan. 3-6, 2001: The new Congress is sworn in on Jan. 3. On Jan. 6 (or perhaps Jan. 5, since Jan. 6, 2001 falls on a Saturday), the House and Senate meet in joint session to unseal, and tally, the Electoral votes transmitted by each state. If no candidate for President has obtained a majority of the votes cast, the House then selects a President from among the top three. There is no requirement that any of these must have been on the ballot, or a candidate in the November general elections, only that these are the top three, as the Electors have voted for them. So, the top three could be any who received votes from the Electors in the states.

More important, members of Congress (one Senator and one Representative) have the right to object to any Electoral vote, on the grounds that a vote has not been "regularly given." This clearly could include fraud or irregularities, or any other factor which has contaminated the vote. There is no definition or limitation in the statute, so it is open-ended. In the first instance, such objections are to be taken up immediately by the separate Houses of Congress, before any further business is conducted.

This is a procedure, which is entirely left to the discretion of the Congress. The courts are not likely to get involved, any more than they did during the recent impeachment. The only authority binding the Congress, is the authority of the United States Constitution.

One mechanism by which evidence of fraud, irregularity, or other contamination can be examined, is the creation of a special National Electoral Commission, such as was established in 1877 to investigate allegations of fraud, and to resolve the issues of competing Electoral slates, arising out of the 1876 Hayes-Tilden race.

*The Third Point*—Jan. 20, 2001: If no President has been selected by the date for the inauguration of a new President, then the new Vice President would become the acting President. If there is no Vice President selected, then Congress may itself declare who shall become the acting President—with no Constitutional restriction as to who this may be, except the general qualifications for President as specified in Article II of the Constitution. Congress could follow the order of succession, which is defined not by the Constitution, but by statute, and which begins with the Speaker of the House, but it need not do so.

6. In sum, it is clear that the Electoral College mechanism, as set forth in the Constitution, and supplemented by legislation and precedent, provides a number of paths out of the current impasse, in which the country is otherwise presented with a situation in which a corrupt election campaign, has left the nation with two candidates, neither of whom is qualified to be President under conditions of financial and strategic crisis.

# How Gore Destroyed The Democratic Party To Get the Nomination

by Debra Hanania-Freeman

The most corrupt election in America's history began to unfold during the summer of 1998.

Remember, that in the aftermath of the so-called Asian financial crisis of 1997-98, the short-lived Russian government of Sergei Kiriyenko was forced, in effect, into sovereign debt default on Aug. 17, 1998. At that moment, the unravelling of the global financial system accelerated.

This culminated in Alan Greenspan's Federal Reserve arrangement on Sept. 23 for a massive bailout of the bankrupt Long Term Capital Management (LTCM) hedge fund, which had placed roughly \$1 trillion of derivatives bets with only \$4.8 billion of core capital. The President of the New York Fed admitted in Congressional testimony, that the Federal Reserve Board had feared that the failure of LTCM would lead to an immediate global systemic collapse.

It was in the midst of this chaos, that U.S. President William Jefferson Clinton took an important step in the direction of Lyndon LaRouche's call for a New Bretton Woods. Clinton called the financial crisis "the worst in 50 years," and called for an emergency meeting of representatives of both advanced and developing sector nations, to discuss a "new architecture" for the world financial system.

That was the financial establishment's worst nightmare, and they responded with a vengeance. During this time frame, the scandals against Clinton were escalated with incredible ferocity.

The impeachment was soon accompanied by frantic efforts by Vice President Gore and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to launch new wars, in the Middle East, and in the Balkans.

Supporters of Lyndon LaRouche and a group of Democratic state legislators formed Americans to Save the Presidency, and catalyzed support for the President at a very critical moment. That support grew, and the President decisively defeated his accusers in the Senate. But something else happened as well.

We don't know what threats were levelled against President Clinton, or who levelled them. But he dropped his drive for financial reorganization and a "new financial architecture." In doing so, he also did something that those closest to him said he was very reluctant to do: He threw his full backing behind Vice President Al Gore's designs on the Democratic

Party's Presidential nomination. Wall Street celebrated. Clearly, they believed that "the fix was in."

### **Clinton Flinches, LaRouche Vows to Fight**

Lyndon LaRouche disagreed. He launched his own candidacy for the Democratic nomination in January 1999, with the issuance of a book, *The Road to Recovery*. In the opening paragraphs, LaRouche argued, "It is time to rebuild that Democratic Party of core constituencies, which President Franklin Roosevelt forged under the crisis conditions of the earlier Great Depression." He warned fellow Democrats not to embrace the "poisonous rumor that the unelectable Vice President Al Gore will be the one to carry the party's banner and political platform" into the general election.

LaRouche based his argument on the fact that, in the midst of the Great Depression, FDR's leadership saved the nation by forging a coalition, a Democratic Party based on those whom FDR called the "forgotten man." It was a social force that gave him the power to do what had to be done: take on the "economic royalists" and break the back of Wall Street.

Al Gore had made clear that he had a very different idea. A self-identified "Third Way" Democrat, Gore argued that the key to the Presidential election would be whether or not the Democratic Party could appeal to Republicans and Independents. He said that the traditional core constituencies would vote Democrat, simply because they had nowhere else to go. He promised to morph the Democratic Party into the party that ruled suburbia and the new titans of the Nasdaq economy.

Strange strategy? Not really. Here is how it was to work: From the beginning, it was the intent of the financial establishment that the Year 2000 election cycle would be an election in name only. Gore and Bush had already been selected as the pre-ordained and anointed nominees of the two parties.

True, the selections did leave many observers rather perplexed. Bush was widely acknowledged to be a political and economic imbecile, but he had hundreds of millions of campaign dollars in the Bush family "pipeline" to crush any challenger. Gore, on top of his advocacy of policies that had already alienated the vast majority of would-be Democratic voters, was a man with absolutely no personal appeal. In fact, the last time he had sought the Democratic Presidential nomination, in 1988, he had captured less than 10% of the Democratic vote!

### **Establishment Wants a Fool As President**

The rules of both parties — especially those governing the manner in which the primaries would be conducted and convention delegates selected — had been largely rewritten. Both parties were determined to ensure that no insurgent or "outsider" could ever repeat what Jesse Jackson did in 1988, when he won Democratic primaries in five states, and threatened a floor fight at the Democratic National Convention. This year, the primary season would be *extremely* short. The idea was

to allow the Iowa caucuses to occur, but then to move almost immediately to a very early (Feb. 1) New Hampshire primary. The next major round of primaries was to occur on "Super Tuesday," March 7, and a large number of states were coerced into moving their own primaries up to that date. They were told that if they wanted to "count" at all, they had better do it.

"Super Tuesday" is one of clearest signs of the domination of the Southern Strategy, introduced first by Nixon's Republicans in the 1960s, and then grabbing the Democratic Party with Jimmy Carter in the 1970s. It was consolidated, by 1988, as a bloc of largely southern primaries, all held in early March, which would swing nomination momentum to whatever Presidential candidates had southern populist/Christian fundamentalist backing. In fact, in 1988, it was supposed to give the Democratic nomination to Al Gore, Jimmy Carter's heir. But Gore was so unelectable, that in 1988 he couldn't even win the southern primaries.

The plan for 2000, was that both Gore and Bush would garner more than enough delegates by the evening of "Super Tuesday," to win their respective nominations on the first ballot, thus rendering any primary that occurred later nothing more than a beauty contest. The timing placed extraordinary pressure on any potential challenger. The sums of money alone that would be required to conduct the requisite media blitz in so many states at once, was intended to be prohibitive enough to shut out any challenger to the two men who were now being described as "Dumb and Dumber." But, LaRouche came in, and threatened to upset the apple cart.

### **LaRouche Breaks Wall Street's 'Fix'**

By January 2000, with a small army of determined volunteers, LaRouche had already achieved ballot status in about 30 states, and seemed likely to add 15 more states to the tally. He engaged in a relentless assault on the "rigged election" scenario.

In early December, beginning with an historic appearance before the prestigious National Black Caucus of State Legislators Annual Convention, LaRouche engaged in a continuous dialogue with traditional Democratic constituencies across the nation, hitting them with the full truth of the scale of the current crisis, and offering them a way out.

With this crack in the controlled environment, John McCain's campaign to challenge Bush on the Republican side, and Bill Bradley's drive against Gore, suddenly emerged as real campaigns. Bush and Gore were actually forced to campaign.

On Jan. 7, a fight broke out during a Republican candidates' debate, over the flying of the Confederate flag over the state capitol of South Carolina. George W. Bush defended it as a states' rights issue, but McCain criticized Bush sharply, and called Confederate the flag "a symbol of racism and slavery."

On Jan. 12, Bill Bradley followed suit, and opened up the question of Gore's well-known racist record, by raising



*South Carolina State Sen. Theo Mitchell mobilized Democratic and Civil Rights activists, to attempt to stop the nullification of the 1965 Voting Rights Act by the Democratic National Committee — part of the enforcement of “no choice but Gore and Bush.”*

Gore’s use of the Willie Horton case against Michael Dukakis in 1988. That case was picked up later by George Bush, who then used it as an openly racist appeal in television ads during the general election. Bradley’s assault carried greater bite for what went unmentioned: Gore, in an attempt to block LaRouche from garnering delegates to the Democratic National Convention, was involved, along with the leadership of the DNC, in a bitter effort to nullify the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Then, New Hampshire voters disrupted the rigged game. At the time, LaRouche said that the outcome created a visible potential for the campaign to be broken open. He said:

“The bottom line is, that the Democratic and Republican Parties’ political machines were battered by both the margin of the McCain victory and the extent of the rallying to Bradley, despite the massive Democratic Party-machine muscle deployed top-down into New Hampshire.

“Behind it all: The Forgotten Men and Women of America are expressing their growing hostility against the efforts of both party machines and the leading news media to play the ‘Third Way’ game against the lower 80-percentile of the citizenry.”

### **The Post-New Hampshire Panic**

The 500 or so leading Democrats, led South Carolina senior State Senator and civil rights leader Theo Mitchell, who had publicly opposed the DNC’s attempts to exclude LaRouche and his supporters from the Presidential race, were clearly representative of an even larger group. But the top pro-Gore bureaucracy unleashed a campaign of lies to defend their racist actions.

Even worse, some, including DNC General Counsel Joseph Sandler, moved to urge state party officials to break state

laws, and deny both LaRouche, and Democrats seeking to run as LaRouche delegates, access to the ballot. Officials in Utah, South Carolina, Michigan, and Arizona attempted to obstruct LaRouche’s access to their states’ primary ballots, admitting that they were acting on instructions from Sandler.

Other Democratic officials, some at the very highest level, were persuaded to tolerate the racist actions against LaRouche and his supporters, even though they found the actions to be reprehensible, for “the good of the Party.”

The argument was always the same: “We were all united behind Gore until LaRouche attacked him. Now Gore and Bradley are running neck and neck, and no one knows who will get the nomination. If we don’t know who the nominee is by Super Tuesday, we will be smashed in November. Right now, the race is so close, that if LaRouche is allowed to run, even if he only wins a small number of delegates, it could be enough to tie things up and force an open convention. If that happens, we’re dead.”

Prior to the New Hampshire primary, when the AFL-CIO was planning its Annual Convention in Los Angeles, almost everyone agreed that to endorse a candidate so early would actually undermine the labor movement’s ability to influence the platform and policy positions of the Presidential contenders. Furthermore, although it was clear that AFL-CIO head Sweeney was leaning toward Gore, that was emphatically not the case with either the Teamsters or the United Auto Workers (UAW). The United Mine Workers (UMW) also had a major problem with Gore, as did many Federal workers.

But, Gore’s campaign was floundering. His fundraising effort had ground to a virtual standstill. During a series of meetings held with top AFL-CIO officials at different locations across the country, Gore operatives, and soon Gore himself, pleaded with the AFL-CIO leadership for an early en-

dorsement. The argument made was that without the endorsement, Gore might be drummed out of the race altogether, and that the responsibility would lie with the AFL-CIO.

Sweeney was reluctant, seeing no way to bring the big industrial unions behind Gore, whose policies, from NAFTA, to welfare reform, to his obsession with Mother Earth, were seen as *anti-labor*. When pleading failed, Gore and his goons moved into a heavy strong-arm mode. Gore's considerable assets inside the Department of Justice's corrupt permanent bureaucracy were brought in. Intimidation-by-criminal-investigation was brought to bear against leaders inside both the Teamsters and the Laborers' unions (later, AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer Richard Trumka and the UMW, which he had headed, would be similarly targeted).

By the time of the Los Angeles convention, the leadership of the opposing unions put on a good show, and orchestrated something of a floor fight. But, in fact, little was done to actually block a Gore endorsement. It was no surprise. The top leadership of the Laborers' were facing critical court appearances within days of the convention's scheduled adjournment, and it had been clear to them that the outcome of the endorsement vote would carry heavy weight in determining what would occur.

## The Michigan Primary

Nevertheless, the arguments worked on many. Gore pulled his name off the ballot of the Feb. 22 Michigan Democratic primary. Then, in a move that seemed suicidal, Bill Bradley caved in to pressure from the party bureaucracy to do the same, leaving LaRouche the sole Democrat on the ballot. Bradley's decision came on the heels of a massive attack by Gore at the California State Democratic Convention. There, Gore had personally attacked Bradley and his supporters as non-Democrats, because they dared to raise the reality of the economic decline for the poor and uninsured during the Clinton-Gore Administration. Then Gore's goons physically prevented Bradley supporters from putting up signs, and blocked a few hundred Bradley supporters from even attending the convention.

The Michigan Democratic Party and the Democratic National Committee first tried lying to Michigan Democrats that there was no Democratic primary in Michigan and that voters should stay home.

That plan was disrupted when LaRouche began making personal appearances, and launched a media blitz urging people to come out and vote. In an attempt to regroup, the DNC caused a major scandal when they were caught exhorting Michigan Democrats to vote for Republican John McCain on Primary Day (Michigan has an "open" primary).

Further, Michigan Democrats were threatened that if they came out and voted as Democrats for Lyndon LaRouche, instead of crossing over to vote Republican, they would be barred from participating in the March 11 Democratic cau-



*AFL-CIO President John Sweeney. Though resistance to the Gore candidacy among the federation's member unions was strong, external pressures were brought to bear, including clear threats from the U.S. Department of Justice.*

uses where delegates were to be actually selected.

But, the intimidation drive failed. Thousands of Michigan Democrats defied the party bureaucracy and came out to cast votes for LaRouche. Thousands more, who weren't yet prepared to declare their support for LaRouche, still refused to toe the party line, and cast their votes as "uncommitted."

The howls could be heard across the nation. A drive began to *cancel primaries*. First, local officials in Puerto Rico and Kansas were coerced into announcing that they were cancelling previously scheduled primary elections. Others soon followed suit. Finally, within a few days after the Super Tuesday primaries, both Bradley and McCain "suspended" their campaigns. Bradley continued to amass significant votes, as well as significant numbers of delegates, even though he had suspended campaigning. The "Dump Gore" movement continued to grow. When LaRouche won 22% of the Democratic vote in the May 23 Arkansas primary, entitling him to a chunk of Arkansas's delegates, Gore's national apparatus swooped into the state, and within hours, votes that had been cast for LaRouche, and counted and certified as such, were simply given to Gore, who claimed all the state's delegates. The blatant theft was upheld by a state court that leaned on the Supreme Court decision declaring the Democratic Party "a private club," that could set its own rules, no matter how unfair, racist, illegal, or arbitrary they might be.

## The Party Platform Fight

As the Democratic Convention drew closer, the party's core constituency leadership was growing more and more disgusted with this apparatus. They had virtually shut down the primaries, arguing it was necessary for a win in November; yet, by June, they had failed to produce a Party Platform, and had yet to schedule a single Platform Hearing—a crucial

process by which the core constituencies are usually mobilized.

Again, LaRouche moved into the vacuum, facilitating Ad Hoc Democratic Platform Hearings that occurred in Washington, D.C. on June 22. A dozen Democratic legislators from across the nation were joined by former U.S. Senator and Democratic Presidential nominee Eugene McCarthy to take testimony from those whom the DNC had refused to hear. The testimony was so compelling that LaRouche committed his campaign to producing and circulating 1 million copies of the complete proceedings prior to the August convention.

The Gore apparatus was embarrassed into a hurried attempt to conduct some sort of hearings themselves, and finally, the official Democratic Platform Committee met in Cleveland, for a poorly publicized and tightly controlled “platform hearing.”

Despite their efforts, a dramatic and open revolt against the Gore-dictated Platform, and against its explicit rejection of the traditional constituencies that comprise the base of the party, burst into the public arena. Prominent Democratic elected officials, including several members of Congress, local elected officials, including Cleveland’s Mayor and City Council, a powerful delegation from California, led by State Sen. Tom Hayden, and labor leaders representing some of the nation’s largest unions, announced they had formed a “Progressive Democratic Caucus,” which represented, they said, “the democratic wing of the Democratic Party.” The Gore thugs moved ruthlessly to quash the dissenters.

Ultimately, the Gore-dominated Platform Committee produced a platform that they boasted meant the official death of the Democratic Party as the Party of FDR and JFK. Gore’s chief campaign policy adviser Elaine Karmarck bragged that they had drafted a platform “that will attract Independents and Republicans.” Unfortunately, it didn’t attract Democrats. As Democrats travelled to Los Angeles for the National Convention, they learned that for the first time in Democratic Party history, there would be no open microphone on the Convention floor; the DNC had issued a decree banning floor demonstrations; there was no debate to be conducted on the floor on any issue, including on the Democratic Platform. The convention was held in an area that was cordoned off and could only be accessed by bus. Every delegate bus had two Los Angeles sheriff’s deputies on board. Hotels housing convention delegates were told they had to sign a contract with the DNC to rent no meeting rooms during the Convention period without prior approval by the DNC.

The scripting of the nomination of Al Gore was something between a Nazi Party Nuremberg rally and a bizarre coronation that would turn the Democratic Party of FDR into a second Republican Party. And, although the author has less direct knowledge of the Republicans’ gathering, the public coverage of the event would attest to the fact that it was pretty much the same routine.

# Primaries Were Rigged Against LaRouche

by Bruce Director

Nothing demonstrates more clearly the corruption of the Presidential election of 2000, than the all-out effort by the political establishment, to obstruct and suppress Lyndon H. LaRouche’s campaign for the Democratic nomination. By taking every conceivable measure to block LaRouche’s campaign, the establishment ensured that no serious issues were ever discussed, and that no alternative to Al Gore emerged in the Democratic Party. Many foreign observers were struck by the fact that Bush and Gore, the anointed unelectables, were able never to mention the global economic and financial crisis under way — a crisis which neither of them is competent to understand or deal with.

The measures taken against LaRouche were extensive, and included: orchestration of a systematic media blackout of LaRouche’s campaign; the disregarding of votes cast for LaRouche in Democratic primary elections; and a concerted effort by Gore campaign partisans to obstruct LaRouche’s access to the ballot in many states.

## Media Blackout

Despite the fact that LaRouche was the only candidate for the Democratic nomination, besides Vice President Gore and Sen. Bill Bradley, to qualify for Federal matching funds, the national news media gave LaRouche virtually no national news coverage. Editors, reporters, and other representatives of the major news organizations told LaRouche campaign officials, that the official policy of their organizations is “not to cover LaRouche.” Typical was a recent conversation between a *Los Angeles Times* executive and a visiting German journalist. The *Times* executive told the journalist, who was looking for news coverage of LaRouche’s campaign, “You should be in an insane asylum.” This media blackout was crucial in *blacking out the real economy as an issue for debate in the election* — as Americans are now realizing to their dismay, with inflation raging and markets cracking up.

With Gore and Bradley both lying about the “unprecedented economic prosperity,” the traditional base of the Democratic Party was, in effect, left with no voice, leading to the lowest primary-election voter turnout in history.

The top-down coordination of the media blackout is demonstrated clearly by the exclusion of LaRouche from the televised debates. All the Gore-Bradley debates were sponsored by major news organizations which had full control over who was allowed to participate. By any objective criteria,