

# Sumner sore loser as Hoffman certified

by Stephen Pepper

The victory of Art Hoffman in the Democratic primary in California's 40th C.D. was certified by the Orange County Board of Registrar on June 17. Judge Bruce Sumner, the loser, immediately moved for a recount, and threatened to go to court to ask for an entirely new election.

Political observers are amazed and aghast at the lengths that Sumner, the Orange County Democratic Party chairman, is committing the Democratic Party to go in fighting a losing cause. Basically, he is asking for relief because he can not stand the idea of a LaRouche Democrat, Hoffman, winning, and, like Adlai Stevenson in Illinois, he will disenfranchise an important portion of the electorate to carry out his vendetta.

Lyndon LaRouche himself has written a major policy statement endorsing Hoffman, which puts the entire affair in perspective. In passing, he mentions that Sumner is connected to organized-crime networks (more on that below), but LaRouche concentrates on the issues which shape his endorsement.

LaRouche calls on Hoffman's opponent, incumbent Rep. Robert Badham, to join with Hoffman in using the election to force a debate on the crises the nation is actually facing. Among them, he lists the strategic crisis and related foreign-policy crises in which the United States is losing its worldwide position to the Soviet Union, and in which our own State Department is abetting the Soviets. LaRouche identifies the problem of the real collapse of the economy, in contrast to the general belief among Republicans that we are in a recovery. Finally, he places great emphasis on AIDS as an issue which will play a much larger role in political debate come the general election than currently.

But, above all, LaRouche urges Badham to follow the course of debating the issues, and avoid the path chosen by Sumner of retailing the garbage produced by drug-pusher Dennis King, to focus on the so-called "LaRouche factor." He reminds Badham that, as the case of Sumner merely exemplifies, where electoral opponents of LaRouche candidates have turned their campaign into an exclusively "Stop LaRouche" effort, voters have increasingly voted in favor of the LaRouche candidates.

## The Korshak connection

There is little doubt that Sumner chose almost exclusively to attack LaRouche under orders from organized-crime-linked elements within the Democratic Party, with whom Sumner

is personally associated. His principal connection in this regard is to long-time fixer Sidney Korshak, who operated as the go-between for Jackie Presser and the Teamster Pension Fund and crime bosses in Las Vegas.

Korshak's son is a member of the law firm of which Sumner is a partner, and most of the senior partners of that firm have been directly engaged in business deals with Korshak.

This really should come as no surprise, since the pattern of crime-family and, what is almost the same thing, ADL (Anti-Defamation League) connections to the official Democratic Party leadership is a widespread pattern. At present, investigative reporters for this publication and *EIR's* bi-weekly law-enforcement publication, *Investigative Leads*, have turned up such combinations in New York, Chicago, and Pittsburgh. In each case, a prominent Democrat has taken the lead in mouthing the most outrageous attacks on LaRouche. Most notably, Mario Cuomo, governor of New York, has issued vituperative statements against LaRouche Democrats, and, along with New York

Gov. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, is instigating dirty tricks to block LaRouche Democrats' access to the ballot on any and all possible grounds they can dream up—the law and the voters be damned.

The exact same pattern appears in the case of Vince Demuzio, the current chairman of the Democratic Party in Illinois. Demuzio has gone so far as to risk a contempt-of-court citation to block the LaRouche-backed, elected Democratic nominee for lieutenant-governor of Illinois, Mark Fairchild, from merely attending the Democratic State Convention that was held on the weekend of June 12-13.

So, it is the lengths to which he will go to disrupt the candidacy of LaRouche Democrat Art Hoffman that most clearly indicts Judge Sumner. Normal political warfare—even bitterly fought—would not produce the kind of "Magenot-line" mentality exhibited by Sumner. He is pushed to it because the dirty networks in the Democratic Party will absolutely not countenance, in any degree, the validation of the LaRouche movement, irrespective of the voters.

At this writing, the recount has been begun, and has already produced a very explosive atmosphere.

Hoffman's attorneys are seeking to have a handwriting expert examine the evidence of forged signatures in two precincts. Visual evidence suggests that many were signed by the same individual.

Sumner became hysterical at this suggestion. He demanded that it be made clear that "those people" could not be allowed to change these ballots during the recount, as if the recount was exclusively for the purpose of improving his count.

Then, Judge Sumner pointed his finger at Hoffman's attorney and shouted in front of the entire room: "Your publications accuse me of being organized crime. . . ."

Whereupon, Sumner's attorney jumped up to ask for a recess.