

Elephants & Donkeys by Kathleen Klenetsky

Trilaterals hit a rough spot

Mario Cuomo's decision to bow out of the Democratic presidential contest, along with Georgia Sen. Sam Nunn's decision not to enter the race at this time, are the latest signs that the Democratic Party is suffering acute disarray.

According to reliable sources, the party's kingmakers—Bob Strauss, Pam Harriman, et al.—cannot settle upon a viable candidate, and are bickering over whom to put forward. Reality is finally catching up with them. AIDS is sweeping the country, the international monetary system is about to blow—and not one of the so-called major candidates, nor the backroom boys, knows what to do.

The Democratic Party establishment remains wedded to policies associated with the Trilateral Commission, and these policies are becoming increasingly identified as the source of the economic and other problems swamping the United States.

Even some of the party's centrist leaders are making this point. Sen. Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.), a Democratic presidential candidate in 1984, attacked the "big banks" and the "Trilaterals" by name as responsible for the state of the U.S. economy, in remarks broadcast on C-Span television Feb. 18. America's economic problems do not stem from Japanese competition, Hollings said, noting that the Japanese have just adopted the policy favoring exports we used to follow. The problem is that the big banks of the East and West Coasts are extend-

ing multinational loans that cannot be paid back, and squeezing potential U.S. markets. This Hollings labeled the "Trilateral" policy.

Mario goes to Moscow, Nunn stays home

Although Cuomo's departure from the field was treated by pundits as a dramatic surprise, it was obvious that he hadn't a prayer of winning. As *EIR* has previously reported, there are enough scandals in Mafia Mario's background to make Geraldine Ferraro seem a paragon of virtue.

Included in that background is Congressional testimony that mafiosi contributed to Cuomo's campaigns. Such connections finished off Ferraro politically, and would have done the same for Cuomo.

Rather than face the American electorate, Cuomo has decided to take a series of trips abroad, including one to the Soviet Union this spring, where he will lecture at the University of Moscow.

Sam Nunn's decision to stay out of the race appears to be purely tactical. Both he and his alter ego, former Virginia Gov. Chuck Robb, stress that Nunn is keeping his options completely open. Sources say that the Georgia Democrat and his backers don't think there's any reason for him to risk getting dirtied at this point, and can afford to sit back and wait while other, weaker, candidates knock each other out before making his grand entrance next fall.

Nunn, a fourth cousin of the despised Jimmy Carter, is finding his "pro-defense" veneer, which he was counting on to win votes from conservative Democrats, is wearing thin. His proposal to pull out troops from Western Europe, together with his recent threat to slash SDI funding if Reagan adopts the "broad interpretation" of

the ABM Treaty, have shown him to be a total fraud.

The LaRouche problem

Both Nunn and Cuomo were closely associated with the Trilateralist outlook—as is nearly every other present and potential candidate of both parties. The one notable exception is Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche—a fact which is causing no end of trouble for party bigwigs.

The fact that the other Democratic hopefuls have no answers to the major crises facing the country becomes even more apparent when contrasted to LaRouche, whose proposals for dealing with the AIDS pandemic and resolving the Third World debt crisis are drawing international attention.

Although LaRouche formally declared his candidacy in fall 1985, the major media has been trying to pretend he doesn't exist as a candidate. Press reporting of the internationally renowned economist has been limited to smears, with no coverage afforded to his policies.

This little game reached the height of absurdity when Rep. Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.), formally declared his candidacy in late February—and was promptly hailed by the media as the "first" announced Democratic candidate.

EIR has learned that Democratic National Committee chief Paul Kirk, unable to rally party bigwigs behind any one candidate, is trying to unite them *against* one—LaRouche.

Kirk should reflect on an interview with LaRouche in the Feb. 6 edition of the French magazine *Nouvel Observateur*. There, he said: "I destroyed Mondale in 1984, I will destroy Mario Cuomo, Sam Nunn, and Gary Hart." Now Cuomo is out of the race, and Nunn has decided to sit it out for a while. Who's next?