

## Bush to be hooverized, but Democrats no alternative

by Mel Klenetsky

Increasingly, the issue before the American population and the world is the worsening depression. Every time George Bush goes for too long a period without some bloody foreign policy extravaganza, his support starts to drop precipitously. Speculation about New York Gov. Mario Cuomo entering the presidential race has risen as Bush's troubles increase, driven by his domestic policy failures. Yet, while Cuomo and other Democratic presidential candidates find their salivary glands working overtime as Bush's domestic woes increase, only one presidential candidate, Lyndon H. LaRouche, has the program dramatic and radical enough to make a difference.

LaRouche, an economist in the tradition of the "American System" of Alexander Hamilton, is the only presidential candidate who advocates an industrial recovery policy, based on investment in infrastructure and technologies at the forefront of science. His program for a European "Productive Triangle" would enable the relatively healthier economies of continental Europe to jumpstart the moribund U.S. economy.

Bush's veto of the extension of unemployment benefits for 3 million Americans, on the other hand, is an example of the brutality which is dominating political decisions on every level of government today. Look at New York City Mayor David Dinkins' bulldozing over the homeless shanty towns in the city's Thompkins Square Park. Some 60,000 are homeless in New York City and there are cardboard shanty towns in the middle of Manhattan, where families live and even hook up their electric hot plates to the street lamps. Some children have been electrocuted.

Maryland Gov. Donald Schaeffer has proposed state budget cuts that will slash the state police force, cut back on life-saving emergency hospital helicopter airlift programs, eliminate drug rehabilitation programs, and cut back on state assistance for life support systems for the needy. In Michigan and Massachusetts, 90,000 and 14,000 welfare recipients,

respectively, have been knocked off the rolls due to budget cuts. Mayors and governors throughout the country have been implementing budget cuts, and are being correctly blamed for the suffering this causes. But in the mind of the public, the person increasingly responsible for the economic mess is George "Herbert Hoover" Bush.

A recent *Washington Post* poll, for what it's worth, showed Bush's approval ratings on the economy go from 45% in January to 49% in March, the height of Desert Storm, to 37% in October. Of those most recently polled, 51% say the nation needs new policies, compared to 44% who say they will go with Bush. Absent some new "Thyroid Storm" foreign adventure, this is some indication that Americans are starting to reflect upon the obvious condition of the U.S. economy.

This October, the multibillion-dollar quarterly losses of the "Big Three" auto companies have become the lead item of the nightly news. Some analysts say that Citibank's quarterly losses are actually \$5 billion, not \$885 million, if the proper losses for real estate values were actually taken into account.

The Census Bureau report in September told of 33,600,000 Americans who live below the absurdly low official poverty line of \$13,359 for a family of four. Nevertheless, the numbers explain why we have shanty towns in America's cities.

Here are some depression statistics from around the country: California lost 240,000 jobs from July 1990 to May 1991. California state unemployment rose from 5.9% in 1990 to 7.7% as of this September. Boeing in Seattle reports they expect 2,500 defense-related jobs to be lost. Westinghouse reports third quarter losses of \$1.5 billion and expects 4,000 layoffs. Protests abound in Maryland, Connecticut, and elsewhere. In Connecticut, a rally of 75,000 protested the new 4.5% personal income tax.

Surcharge taxes are regressive. Pittsburgh has implemented a \$1 per month phone surcharge, and New York City

and Minneapolis car rentals get a \$2.50 per day and \$7 per rental surcharge. In Rhode Island, there is a \$220 million payout plan for the depositors of 9 out of 13 closed banks and credit unions. Depositors would get 10% of frozen funds and \$2,500, if eligible. Someone with savings of \$50,000 would get \$7,500, in other words.

Each of these situations represents a human tragedy. When the Marriott Hotel opened up in Norfolk, Virginia, 6,000 people turned up to apply for 250 jobs. Nearby Hampton Roads has unemployment figures of 41,000, up 30% from last year.

### **It's Bush versus LaRouche**

The announced Democratic candidates, with the exception of LaRouche, represent some combination of Bush's austerity policies and Jimmy Carter de-industrial, malthusian programs (i.e., fascism with a liberal face). Since the Kennedy assassination, the post-industrial programs, from Lyndon Johnson on, have contributed to placing this country at the point of irreparable economic implosion. We have no steel industry, no machine tool industry, and our farms are going under by the minute.

Bush's solution is the free trade policies found in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. These free trade policies have wrecked the economies of the Third World, Poland, Britain, and the United States. All one need do to be convinced of this is to look at the effect of deregulation on the trucking, airline, rail, and telecommunications industries.

### **The seven dwarves, again?**

The Democrats running are either moderate-centrist Democrats who have made a point of being more like Bush and the Republicans, or of the liberal Mondale-Carter stripe. All are malthusians and environmentalists who are opposed to the large-scale infrastructure programs that LaRouche has championed, such as the North American Water and Power Alliance (Nawapa). Additionally, they are mostly under the thumb of spokesmen and apologists for organized crime, Meyer Lansky's mouthpiece, the Anti-Defamation League. Their attacks on the economies of Germany and Japan doom these Democrats from a true industrial development perspective, since the U.S. today cannot recover on its own, but will need those allies' help.

Here's a quick sketch of three Democratic candidates, Jerry Brown, Paul Tsongas, and the about-to-announce Mario Cuomo.

Jerry Brown, the latest to enter the race, was California governor from 1975-83, after which he entered a Buddhist monastery for six years. He supported Proposition 13, which prohibited states from running a deficit, setting the stage for the collapse of the state education system and infrastructure (the San Francisco highway was not earthquake proofed, for

example). He was big on austerity and the "small is beautiful" concept of radical environmentalist E.F. Schumacher.

Brown pushed windmill power, and the inefficient, dysfunctional, now abandoned windmills can be seen strewn over the state. Brown started Solar California, helped delay the Diablo nuclear power plant, and kill the Sun Desert nuclear plant. Because of his environmentalist beliefs, he opposed the spraying of the Medfly until the federal government forced him to; he then diluted the spraying to the point that it was ineffective. His delays cost the fruit industry billions. The Medfly has cropped up again this year, having now become endemic in California due to Brown's incompetence. Brown's radical environmentalist proclivities did not stop him from changing the state requirement for sulfur levels on imported oil. This allowed Pertamina oil from Indonesia, in which the Brown family had a large stake, to be imported.

### **Raving malthusians all**

Paul Tsongas is a former senator from Massachusetts. An ultra-liberal who had a Damascus Road transformation, he is now calling himself "the best friend Wall Street ever had." Tsongas has written a platform entitled "A Call to Economic Arms: Forging a New American Mandate." In it, he calls for cutting domestic consumption and slashing entitlement programs, leading with Social Security. He calls for trade war against Japan and Europe; stabilizing world population as a new moral imperative; returning to the "stewardship of nature" concept of Teddy Roosevelt, and proclaiming a goal of "global equilibrium" for resource consumption; and demanding burden sharing from other major countries to forge the new world order. Tsongas supports the NAFTA fast track.

Mario Cuomo, the best-known Democrat nationally, is considering a bid, given Bush's difficulties. Cuomo was supposedly a pro-labor, pro-minority Kennedy-style liberal, but his budget-cutting policies as governor have pitted him against both labor and minorities. Last February, State Deputy Assembly Speaker Arthur Eve, at an annual dinner of the Black and Puerto Rican legislators, angrily attacked Cuomo for his budget cuts, saying there was no difference between Reaganomics and Cuomonomics. This year, Cuomo threatened New York City Mayor Dinkins with placing the city under Emergency Finance Control Board receivership if Dinkins did not break the municipal unions' demands. As governor, Cuomo has presided over shutting down the Buffalo steel industry, collapsing the state's dairy industry, closing down the Shoreham nuclear plant, and raising tuition for the City University system. There have been big demonstrations against him by both state and municipal employees.

Other announced Democrats, such as Sens. Tom Harkin (Iowa) and Robert Kerrey (Neb.), Virginia Gov. L. Douglas Wilder, and former Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton, have similar policies. They are malthusian budget cutters who don't have LaRouche's vision to change the country.