

U.S. presidential election is completely up for grabs

by Warren J. Hamerman

Dramatic developments have thrown both the Republican and Democratic 1988 presidential nomination races into complete turmoil.

On the Republican side, just as George Bush had visions of strutting unchallenged to the podium for his acceptance speech, "Mr. Unelectable" stumbled on both of his long-known two Achilles' heels at once—Walsh's Irangate indictments and the rumblings of a potential economic blowout in the form of the Texas banking crisis.

With the national media displaying Edwin Meese's Wedtech dirty laundry on the front pages every day, George Bush has been vice president in the administration which out-corrupted Richard Nixon's second term. Then came the March 16 indictments by Independent Counsel Lawrence Walsh, which zeroed right in on the Project Democracy dirty operations which were run by the ex-CIA director, Bush. Walsh unveiled Irangate criminal indictments with 45 counts against four Irangate players—Oliver North, Richard Secord, John Poindexter, and Albert Hakim—who worked directly under the vice president's command and control through the Special Situations Group (SSG) and his other crisis management task forces.

The criminal charges range from conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government to wire fraud, theft, and obstruction of justice, and carry sentences of up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine for each count. The indictment also mentions unnamed "others" who were involved in the conspiracy.

Walsh has implied that these "others" may be indicted in the future. Through the opening of Swiss banking connections and former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane's plea arrangement (on March 12, he was permitted to plead guilty to four misdemeanor counts of withholding information from Congress, in return for a pledge to cooperate in the investigation), Walsh may well be on his way to

getting beneath the wall of "plausible denial" which has been erected around the vice president to protect his presidential campaign. McFarlane will play the role of the "Indian guide" who knows where all the secret trails lead and what goes on inside the chief's tepee.

While President Reagan shuffled his cue cards, watched his old grade "F" movies, and ignored the world, Bush was no innocent bystander, but the chief executive on all special operations in the administration.

In 1982, Vice President Bush was given the explicit line authority over the Special Situations Group by National Security Decision Directive 3, Crisis Management. Subsequently, another NSC directive created a "Standing Crisis Pre-Planning Group (CPPG)" which expanded the Vice President's oversight of intelligence operations. It was through these groups that Bush coordinated the staff operations of the now-indicted Ollie North and Poindexter with their infamous "private" cutouts such as Richard Secord, Felix Rodriguez, and Ted Shackley.

It was none other than Donald Gregg, Bush's personal adviser on national security affairs, who "tasked" much of these operations from Bush's own office.

Thus, George Bush was "mother" to the entire activities of North, Poindexter, Secord, and Hakim. The vast global operations which were run by this network involved millions of dollars of funds which were dipped in and out of special Swiss bank accounts. Therefore, it is extremely significant that Walsh's indictments were followed by his granting of immunity to Willard I. Zucker, the director of the Robert Vesco-linked Swiss Compagnie de Services Fiduciaires, S.A. and a shady American financial laundering expert in Switzerland who knows precisely to which accounts, and by whose orders all of the money was transferred back and forth during the entire Irangate or Contragate affair.

The Democrats—all donkeys and no riders

Given the unprecedented scandals of the Republicans one would have thought that the Democrats would be having a field day. That they are not is explained by the fact that the Bush campaign is being “engineered for power” by the same CIA and “dirty ops” bozos who run coups and destabilization in foreign nations.

On the Democratic side, an unprecedented amount of money and time has been wasted proving that a group of the most unpopular, synthetic, incompetent, and irrelevant politicians in American history decided to run for President simultaneously. Michael Dukakis, Jesse Jackson, Richard Gephardt, and Paul Simon aren't any more “electable” than George Bush.

In the context of such turmoil and “unpredictability,” some of the traditional Democratic bosses fear that power could be grabbed by a non-controllable anti-establishment figure. Thus, the traditional bosses want to stuff the loose ends of the process back into the box. Democratic Party chairman Paul Kirk of the Kennedy machine and New York's Gov. Mario Cuomo decided to float a fallback scenario to try to prevent an open convention at all costs.

Recognizing that no candidate may have 40%, let alone a majority, of the delegates going into the convention, they proposed an official “backroom deal” weeks before the convention in Atlanta so as to avoid an uncontrolled multi-ballot open convention fight.

The powers-that-be favor brokering as long as it is under their control. Depending upon which political laundromat one walks into to monitor the latest hot tips and gossip, one hears that the smart guys are going to swing behind one of the following “sure winners” at the last minute—Robert Strauss, Sam Nunn, Bill Bradley, Mario Cuomo, Ted Kennedy and, yes, even Jimmy Carter.

Nonlinear politics

Thus, based upon linear present trends, both the Republicans and the Democrats may nominate equally unelectable candidates.

However, the political process is sitting on top of a volcano long past due to erupt through the firestorm of an economic blowout, a foreign policy debacle, or a social explosion on the question of AIDS policy. These are not normal times, and contemporary history will be determined by nonlinear political processes.

There are two and only two real nonlinear political forces currently set into motion, and world history for decades to come will be determined by which wins out. Ironically, they are both on the Democratic side and have been bitterly opposed to each other for two decades. One is the campaign of Lyndon LaRouche. The other force is composed of the Democratic allies of George Bush, “Social Democratic fascists” who are now openly organizing to prevent an open vote at the Democratic convention; the game of these Social Democrats is brutal austerity and totalitarianism.

Invoking every means of social control, these thugs are prepared to throw every democratic procedure out of the Democratic Party and transform it into a Mussolini-style totalitarian instrument—a battering ram against the collapsing institutions of a failed superpower. The Establishment realizes that “root canal” economics may not be able to be implemented under a democratic system, and may well be prepared to bring home to the United States the kind of strongarm tactics against national sovereignty that have been used against such allies as the Philippines and Panama.

The LaRouche alternative

At such unique moments in history, when all is won or lost, populations seek out great political figures with far-ranging solutions to the otherwise unsolvable crises of the day. Such is the political dynamic which is driving the presidential bid of Lyndon LaRouche. The long-shot campaign of Lyndon LaRouche has recently turned heads by winning the following surprising victories against all odds:

1) On Super Tuesday, March 8, LaRouche Democrat Claude Jones won the chairmanship of the Harris County Democratic Party, the third largest Democratic voting base in the country. The same day, LaRouche himself captured 3% of the vote in the Maryland Democratic primary, demonstrating a pattern of solid statewide support through a nearly uniform 3% in every county in the state.

2) The LaRouche campaign beat back a threatened challenge to his ballot status in the crucial April 19 New York primary. LaRouche has positioned himself for a series of pre-convention upsets, leading up to the June 7 primary in California where the anti-AIDS referendum sponsored by LaRouche associates and nearly identical to last year's Proposition 64, has gained ballot status.

3) In the March 15 primary, Illinois voters again demonstrated strong support for LaRouche Democrats despite two years of unprecedented warnings and harassment after Janice Hart and Mark Fairchild had won upset victories in the Democratic primaries. Sheila Jones, the leader of LaRouche's political forces in the Midwest, received over 116,000 votes in her campaign for city office in Chicago. Simultaneously, in the Illinois congressional primaries, LaRouche-Democrat candidates won 26% in the 4th C.D., 38% in the 6th C.D., and 25% in the 13th C.D.

Endless as the presidential campaign of 1988 has seemed to date, the distance yet to traverse to this summer's Democratic and Republican conventions is far longer than the distance yet covered. No one can yet predict the outcome, except to say that the unexpected and seemingly impossible could happen since none of the “probable” scenarios fits the reality of these chaotic times.

Those who have “rigged” the 1988 presidential campaign of George Bush, have to contend with the fact that he is now sailing in a high wind between the Scylla of Iran-Contra indictments and the Charybdis of imminent financial blow-out.