

## Congressional Closeup by Bill Jones

### Roll Call: LaRouche foes face tough races

The March 13 issue of *Roll Call*, dubbed the "newspaper of Congress," warns of heavy opposition in the Democratic congressional primary races in Illinois on March 15. The article goes on to list the congressional seats up for grabs. Congressman Gus Savage (D-Ill.), who has had heavy competition in the primaries since he was elected in 1980, is facing four opponents this time, including LaRouche supporter Ernest Washington.

Rep. Martin Russo in Chicago's 3rd District is being opposed by LaRouche Democrat Maurice Johnson. Russo is hysterically calling on Democrats statewide to keep LaRouche Democrats off the general election ballot. In the 4th District, George Sangmeister is facing off against LaRouche Democrat George Lawrence. Sangmeister had run for lieutenant governor in the Democratic primary in 1986 and was beaten by LaRouche Democrat Mark Fairchild in an upset that reverberated around the nation.

Fairchild is now running against Rep. Frank Annunzio, who was fired from his first political job by the late Democratic presidential candidate Adlai Stevenson, Jr. Adlai Stevenson III, the Democratic candidate for governor of Illinois in 1986, became a synonym for "wimp" when he quit the Democrats and formed his own party in order not to run with Fairchild—assuring a Republican victory in the Illinois elections.

In the 13th District, the Democrats are hard-pressed to meet what *Roll Call* depicts as the "vigorous campaign" of LaRouche Democrat Dominick Jeffreys. In order to try to stave off what could be an easy victory for Jeffreys in his district, Evelyn Craig, the ex-

ecutive director of a shelter for battered women, was persuaded by the party apparatus to run against Jeffreys.

### Contra aid maneuvers by House 'Mussolini' foiled

Speaker Jim Wright (D-Tex.), dubbed the "Mussolini of the House" by colleague Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) because of his manipulative methods of influencing votes, again tried to pull a fast one—but this time his clever moves backfired.

Wright, who had promised the Republican minority that the House would vote on their proposal for Contra aid (which provided some "nonlethal" logistical support for the Contra rebels), then turned around to establish ground rules that forced the House to vote first on a Democratic Contra aid plan, which limited itself to humanitarian aid. Only if the Democratic plan was defeated would the House have an opportunity to vote on the Republican plan.

The Republicans, already furious at Wright's machinations during the 1987 session, voted against the Democratic bill as insufficient, and were joined by some liberal Democrats who were opposed to all aid to the Contras. The bill was defeated 216-208.

This leaves the Contras high and dry, as their aid had run out on the previous Tuesday. The vote itself was a slap in the face to Speaker Wright, who has attempted to conduct his own foreign policy operations in Central America, and reconfirms what was already apparent during the budget debate in December—that this Congress is totally deadlocked in dealing with the most important questions facing this nation.

### INF treaty still faces obstacles

Everything is being geared up to to push the INF treaty through the Senate with a minimum of amendments and provisos. In agreements reached between Majority Leader Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.), Armed Services Committee chairman Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), Sen. David Boren (D-Okla.) of the Select Committee on Intelligence, and Foreign Relations Committee chairman Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.), it was decided that only one amendment would be added to the treaty, thus barring anything but minor provisos being added in the floor debate.

The agreement was made in order to prevent the addition of any "killer" amendments, which would force the treaty to be sent back for renegotiation. Which particular amendment will be appended is still the subject of negotiations, although there seems to a consensus to attach some form of amendment barring any future reinterpretation of the treaty without consent of the Senate, and restricting the United States to the Soviets' "narrow interpretation" of the ABM treaty.

Such an amendment would, of course, raise an immediate outcry from Republican senators, and would threaten to set against the treaty even senators who have committed themselves to voting for it. Senator Byrd feels that if such an amendment were taken up on the floor rather than in committee, he would be able to steamroll it through.

The INF fight, however, is by no means over. Sen. Steven Symms (R-Ida.) is calling for a closed session of the Senate to establish exactly how many SS-20s the Soviets really have, as there are serious discrepancies between U.S. intelligence estimates and the numbers the Soviets have given as

the basis of the treaty agreements.

Another issue which could at least delay the ratification procedure is Senator Byrd's threat that he would not call up the treaty until he was satisfied that the administration was not in the process of selling the Afghans down the river in agreements with the Soviets.

But the real factor which could knock the whole INF treaty off the track is the growing threat to Mr. Gorbachov's power in the wake of the ethnic turmoil in the Soviet Union. As even one of the more pessimistic opponents to the treaty admitted to the author, "If Gorby goes, it's an entirely new ball game."

## **NAM makes a bid to repeal Glass-Steagall**

In a full-page ad in the latest issue of *Roll Call* newspaper, the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) called for the repeal of the Glass-Steagall Act of 1933. Glass-Steagall, passed in the wake of the crash of 1929, made a clear demarcation between commercial and investment banking in order to shield the commercial banking system from the fluctuations of a volatile stock market.

Now, with "Black Monday" just behind us and the stock market again beginning to fluctuate in a crisis mode NAM pleads for deregulation. However, if the commercial banks are intertwined with investment banking, they will be the feel the direct impact of the next Wall Street crash—which is not far off. Next time around, it won't simply be a question of some downhearted investors licking their wounds and ex-stockbrokers looking for a job. If commercial banks are per-

mitted to deal on the stock markets, then the next big blow-out on Wall Street could very well send your local savings account down the tubes.

## **FBI's 'Buck' Revell on congressional hot seat**

After several days of interrogation by the Select Committee on Intelligence, Oliver "Buck" Revell of the FBI is being placed under scrutiny for various dirty Cointelpro operations conducted by the FBI against groups which were opposed to the Reagan administration's support for the Contra rebels. The description given by Rep. Don Edwards (D-Calif.) of the *modus operandi* of the FBI operations sounds quite similar to the type of shenanigans practiced by the Bureau against Lyndon LaRouche, which are now coming to light in the Boston trial against LaRouche and his associates (see page 61).

Congressman Edwards describes how the FBI accumulates millions of allegations against targeted groups in order to frame them up for some crime or another, for purely political reasons. "None of the information," continues Edwards, "can be assumed to be true, as the FBI would be the first to admit. . . . Much of it is uncorroborated. Some of it comes from parties seeking to advance their own interests. Some of it was fabricated by the source in order to hurt someone. Some of it is just plain rumor and gossip.

"If the FBI says that an individual or group is suspected of terrorist or other criminal activity, that individual or group is forever so labeled. The FBI thereby becomes investigator, prosecutor, judge, and jury." Edwards found

it "deeply disturbing" when he read the public testimony of Buck Revell, who "tried to justify the nationwide scope of investigation, which involved surveillance of legitimate political activity by unions, campus groups, churches, and others" by revealing totally unsubstantiated file information.

## **Liberals hawk trade war on Mexico**

Kennedy minion Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) and his liberal colleague Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio) have joined with Republican Senators Jay Rockefeller (W.Va.), John Heinz (Pa.), and Arlen Specter (Pa.) to beat the protectionist drums against Mexico. In response to the announcement of a \$400 million World Bank loan to Mexico—ostensibly earmarked for the steel industry—the honorable senators plunged into battle against a country that would dare to try to develop a steel industry while steel workers in the United States are jobless. These gentlemen, of course, have not lifted a finger to modernize the U.S. steel industry in the last 20 years.

The record was set straight by Sen. Chris Dodd (D-Conn.), who explained that the World Bank loan was a *quid pro quo* for the Mexicans to open up their industries to foreign competition and eliminate the restrictive tariffs which have been protecting their fledgling industries. In fact, the senator went on, the loan is not at all designed to increase Mexico's steel output.

After all, World Bank loans never increase anything but the misery of the recipients.