

# National News

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## LaRouche candidates get big votes

LaRouche candidates for congressional and state legislative offices in Missouri and Michigan polled high votes in the first round of post-Democratic convention primaries Aug. 2.

Both states have been hard hit by industrial collapse and drought.

Missouri corn and livestock farmer John Gallagher, running in the 6th C.D., which includes the city of St. Joseph, one 31% of the vote in a race for the Democratic congressional nomination. Gallagher campaigned "for a space-age industrial revolution," and emphasized that the LaRouche platform represents a solution to the AIDS danger, and a policy for building up America's defense, economy, and national credit policy. In 1986, Gallagher received only 4.5% of the vote in a state senate race, including about 2% in the 6th C.D. Thus, in two years, his vote rose 29%, reflecting the vast growth in LaRouche's own support nationally.

In Michigan, legislative candidate Jim Green, running in the 84th C.D. as a "LaRouche Democrat," polled 42% of the vote.

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## Reagan to ask Soviets to destroy radar

President Reagan has decided not to declare the Soviets' massive phased-array radar installation at Krasnoyarsk a "material breach" of the 1972 ABM Treaty, but instead will ask Moscow once again to raze the facilities, when the two countries begin their review of the ABM Treaty at the end of August.

How to handle the Krasnoyarsk issue has been a hotly debated issue within the administration, with some quarters, reportedly the National Security Council staff and Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci, urging the President to declare it a "material breach."

Under international law, such a declaration would permit the United States to ab-

rogate part of the pact, and perhaps expand its testing of Strategic Defense Initiative technologies, or withdraw from the treaty altogether.

Secretary of State George Shultz is known to be opposed to any such action.

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## Dukakis might keep Koop on

The AIDS virus will continue to spread among and kill Americans under a Dukakis administration, with the full protection of civil rights laws, if aides to the Democratic presidential nominee have their way.

They are advocating that Dukakis announce that he will keep Surgeon General C. Everett Koop at his post. Koop's lies about "clean needles and condoms" have covered for the Establishment's policy of doing nothing to stop the spread of the killer virus.

Dukakis has said that he would not make any personnel decisions until after he were elected in November, but aides said that retaining Koop could send a signal that their candidate will reward "competence and compassion."

Sen. Edward Kennedy is also said to favor Koop's retention in the Surgeon General's job, and he is quoted in the Aug. 15 edition of *U.S. News & World Report* saying that his vote against Koop's confirmation was a "mistake."

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## Condom study loses funding

A California study on the effectiveness of condom use in preventing the spread of AIDS will have its federal funding terminated, because federal health officials fear that, in fact, the condoms won't be effective in areas with high infection rates.

The rate of AIDS infection among male homosexuals in Los Angeles is considered so high that no study participants could be

assured of protection through use of condoms in acts of anal sex.

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, which released the story after obtaining documents under the Freedom of Information Act and in interviews, the action "appears to represent a major shift in the federal government's attitude toward the use of condoms in preventing AIDS among gay men. In the past, federal health officials have repeatedly described condoms as the single best way, aside from celibacy, to reduce the spread of AIDS. But now, federal officials say effectiveness of condoms in blocking the spread of AIDS through anal sex has been seriously compromised in five U.S. cities with high infection rates—Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, Miami, and Washington."

The newspaper cited Dr. Jeffrey Perlman of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, saying that the risk of condom failure combined with high infection rates made chances of transmitting the virus unacceptably great.

The study was being conducted by the University of California at Los Angeles, on a \$2.6 million federal grant.

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## Governors endorse new amendment procedure

New Hampshire Gov. John H. Sununu (R), a strong supporter of George Bush and 1987-88 chairman of the National Governors Association (NGA), successfully maneuvered that organization into going on record in favor of a new way to amend the U.S. Constitution, at the organization's August meeting in Cincinnati.

Currently, the Constitution authorizes the calling of a constitutional convention to consider an amendment on petition of two-thirds of the states. This has been sought by supporters of a balanced-budget amendment. But the procedure has never been used, because of fears that a "runaway" convention would virtually rewrite the nation's founding document, whatever the original purpose of the convention.

## Briefly

Under Sununu's proposed scheme, two-thirds of the states would petition Congress for a specific amendment. Unless the House and Senate rejected the amendment by a two-thirds vote within two years, it would go back to the states, who could place it in the Constitution if three-fourths of state legislatures voted to do so.

A poll of Democrats at the NGA convention indicated that Sununu did not have the two-thirds vote needed to make this NGA policy, but when he presented the resolution, no debate was called for, and when he ruled that it had been approved by voice vote, no one demanded a roll call.

### Judge says LaRouche can be retried

Although finding that there was "institutional and systematic prosecutorial misconduct" in the first trial of Lyndon LaRouche and six associates, a federal judge has ruled that a retrial of LaRouche and the other defendants is not barred on constitutional grounds of double jeopardy.

In 120 pages of opinions issued in Boston Aug. 11, U.S. District Judge Robert E. Keeton denied defense motions for a dismissal of charges of conspiracy to obstruct justice and credit card fraud.

Keeton blamed the government misconduct on the complexity of the case and the zealotry of defense lawyers, rather than on the prosecutors assigned to the case. He called the prosecutors' failure to disclose materials in their possession to the defense "negligent misrepresentation," not an intentional violation of the law, and said it had come about because the government had not assigned enough resources to the case.

Keeton astounded legal observers by concluding: "The appropriate remedy for this transgression . . . is to pare the trial down to a scope that the government can reasonably support given the resources it sees fit to assign to this case. . . . This is a remedy 'narrowly tailored' to deter the kind of institutional and systematic prosecutorial misconduct that occurred during the first trial."

Reached for comment, the attorney for presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche blasted the judge's ruling, saying that the misconduct of the prosecutors was not a mistake or "negligent," but deliberate. "This case was run from the highest levels of the Justice Department," said Odin P. Anderson. "Nothing was a mistake. It is ludicrous to say that the prosecutors did not have sufficient backup. . . ." Anderson said that the government has accomplished what it intended with the mistrial, which is a drop-by-drop financial bleeding of the political movement associated with LaRouche.

### Thornburgh grilled at Senate hearing

Richard Thornburgh, the former Pennsylvania governor who is President Reagan's Attorney General nominee to replace Edwin Meese, was grilled extensively at Senate hearings Aug. 5 on his involvement in the decision 12 years ago not to inform the Congress of a report dealing with alleged Panamanian involvement in drug-running.

The issue was discussed at a meeting between Thornburgh, then head of the Criminal Division, then-Attorney General Edward Levi, and two other top officials from the Department of Justice. The *Wall Street Journal* published a report on the meeting the same day that the hearings were held.

The documents included a report on a plot to assassinate Panama's Gen. Manuel Noriega.

Thornburgh initially claimed that the matters discussed were still the subject of a criminal investigation at the time the decision was made. When this story was contradicted by Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio), who said that the criminal investigations had been concluded at that time, Thornburgh said that his memory was not so clear about an incident which happened 12 years ago, and that, although he had been at the meeting, it was Attorney General Levi who had made the final decision for non-disclosure.

● **LLOYD BENTSEN**, the Texas senator and Democratic vice presidential nominee, has resigned from three private clubs, at least two of which have no black members, and at least one of which has no female members. Officials of the clubs, Houston's River Oaks Country Club and Ramada Club, and the Middleburg Tennis Club in Virginia, say they do not exclude anyone from membership. Still, Bentsen "just thought it was the appropriate thing to do," said a spokesman.

● **COLORADO** recently banned the use of woodstoves and fireplaces on grounds of the pollution they produce. According to Environmental Protection Agency figures, the residential burning of wood in 1986 accounted for more particulate emissions into the atmosphere than all electric utilities, railroads, aircraft, and water vessels combined, and an amount equal to all highway vehicles.

● **NEW JERSEY** funeral directors will be notified when they are dealing with AIDS victims, under a law passed by the state legislature and signed into law by Gov. Thomas Kean Aug. 8. Thomas Leach, a lobbyist for the New Jersey Funeral Directors Association, said that some doctors have been "covering up AIDS cases," especially in "well-to-do families." The law would levy fines up to \$1,000 for failure to comply.

● **EDUCATION** Secretary William Bennett announced Aug. 9 that he plans to resign, effective Sept. 20, and President Reagan announced his intention to nominate Texas Tech University President Lauro F. Cavazos as his replacement. The sudden Bennett resignation fueled speculation that he was being seriously considered as the GOP vice presidential nominee.