

as, and the growing fears of millions that they face losing their jobs, their homes, and access to medical care, the Clinton campaign showed that “hope” is not just a word, but depends on a fight against the corporate cartels which have been looting the nation. Evoking the image of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who said he would represent the “forgotten man” in his campaign for President at the peak of the Depression in 1932, Clinton said she would be a voice for the “voiceless,” in fighting for their rights.

This point was reiterated forcefully on the eve of the March 4 primaries by senior Clinton campaign advisor Harold Ickes, on PBS’s “Charlie Rose” show. In making the case that Clinton should stay in the race, Ickes pointed out that with eight months to go before the November election, economic problems will, more and more, be in the forefront of the debate. Therefore, nobody should “rush to judgment.”

The image of Hillary Clinton as a fighter, who would not back down, or quit in the face of enormous pressure, rallied many voters who were undecided until the last minute, to vote for her. Polls show that she won nearly two-thirds of the votes cast by those who made up their minds in the last four days before March 4.

There were two other factors at play, as part of the reality that shaped the environment leading to March 4. First, there was the weak response of Senator Obama to the pummeling, which has just begun, regarding the case of indicted Chicago businessman Tony Rezko, whose trial on corruption charges opened on March 3. LaRouche had pointed to the Rezko case,

which is quickly becoming the “Obama case,” as an example of how Bloomberg’s London-based backers intend to dispose of Obama, after the Illinois Senator has knocked Clinton out of the race.

Obama, who was used to basking in the adulation of the press, was suddenly placed on the hot seat, and he handled it poorly. He awkwardly fled from reporters during a press conference in San Antonio, when he was confronted with contradictions between leaks about his relations with Rezko, which had appeared in the British press, and his efforts to deny any substantive ties to Rezko.

The other factor is that Bloomberg, despite his prominent denial, in a Feb. 28 op-ed in the *New York Times*, that he is running for President, *is* still a candidate—if not for President, then for Vice President. Backers of the would-be Mussolini have inserted his name in lists of potential Vice Presidential candidates for both parties; and the same pundits who are trashing Clinton have been promoting Bloomberg. As LaRouche had forecast last November, the Bloomberg option would be activated after Rudy Giuliani was dumped, which LaRouche accurately predicted; and, then, after Obama had defeated Clinton, he, too, would be cast aside, clearing the way for Bloomberg.

### **LYM Takes on the Bloomberg Option**

That Hillary Clinton has acted defiantly in the face of this scenario, to counter it in a manner which was unexpected by

## **Did Texas Republicans Outfox Themselves?**

Howls have been heard coming from GOP quarters in Houston, as the party’s unofficial strategy—i.e., urging Republicans voters to cast ballots in the Democratic primary to aid the weaker of the two Democrats—seems to be backfiring, as the GOP “strategists” are increasingly confused as to which candidate that would be!

The idea, which some attribute to Karl Rove, was to throw enough votes to the Democratic candidate (Texas allows “crossover” voting) who would be easier to beat in the November general election. More astute Democratic analysts see this as part of the ongoing Bloomberg campaign, to wreak havoc on the Democratic Party in the months leading up to the nominating convention.

Working from earlier poll numbers, they thought Obama would be easier to defeat, so some Republicans voted early for Obama; others who voted for Obama were driven by long-term hostility toward the Clintons, hoping

they could finish off those pesky Clintons in Texas; still others, like right-wing windbag Rush Limbaugh, have been urging Republicans to vote for Hillary, to defeat Obama. Reports from precincts in solidly Republican areas show a highly disproportionate number voting in the Democratic primary.

As voters went to the polls on March 4, leading Republicans began to realize that this strategy was backfiring. It seems that these oh-so-clever Republicans were unable to figure out which Democrat was the weaker candidate! There are credible reports that some dismayed Party leaders spent the weekend trying to figure out how to convince Republicans to vote in the GOP primary, without spilling the beans about their sly plan to disrupt the Democrats. Rank-and-file GOP voters called local right-wing radio talk shows on the morning of the voting to complain that, after voting for Obama (or Hillary) in the Democratic primary, they discovered they could not vote for Republican candidates in the other races on the Republican primary ballot.

Exit polls showed that 9% of the votes cast in the Texas Democratic primary were cast by self-identified Republicans. Of these, 52% voted for Obama.

—Harley Schlanger