

# The Mass Strike Lashes Out; Obama's Incumbents Trounced

by EIR Staff

May 21—The mass strike upsurge that began to assert itself across the nation in last Summer's Congressional town meetings reached a crescendo in the May 18 primary elections, as incumbents went down in state after state. This was not, as the purveyors of punditry would have us believe, a blind rage against "Washington," but, in fact, a deep sense of outrage and betrayal at what the Obama Administration and its Congressional allies have done to destroy the U.S. economy and Americans' futures.

The results in Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and Arkansas represent a clear repudiation of the London-directed policies that have overtaken Pennsylvania Avenue and Capitol Hill. They follow the previous week's election outcome in Utah and West Virginia, where two veteran legislators were summarily turned out of office: Three-term Republican Sen. Bob Bennett was routed in Utah, while 14-term Democratic Rep. Alan Mollohan went down in West Virginia.

On May 18, Pennsylvania's venerable Sen. Arlen Specter (D) was trounced because of his association with Obama. Specter, a former Republican, who has served in the Senate for 30 years, was wooed by the President to switch parties in 2009, and was promised White House support for his re-election. His challenger, Rep. Joe Sestak, after going public with the charge that the Obama White House had offered to bribe him with a plum job, if he would drop his challenge to Specter, won 54% to 46%. When late polls showed Specter losing to Sestak, Obama backpedaled, and declined to campaign for the Senator, even though the President

was in nearby Youngstown, Ohio over the weekend. Meanwhile, according to the *Washington Post*, Specter turned down an offer from Vice President Joe Biden to campaign in person for him.

In western Pennsylvania's 12th C.D., the late Rep. John Murtha's (D) director of economic development, Mark Critz, handily won the special election to complete Murtha's term, by campaigning *against* Obamacare, the cap-and-trade bills, and playing down an Obama endorsement. Demonstrating that this was not a vote for "new faces," Critz fended off a well-funded challenge from Republican millionaire businessman Tim Burns, who campaigned against "big government," while Critz fully associated himself with Murtha's much-maligned policy of creating industrial jobs through earmarks for this once-depressed area.

Obama had suffered a massive primary loss in Pennsylvania to Hillary Clinton in April 2008, by 54.6% to 45.4%. And in western Pennsylvania, Clinton took 62% of the vote. Obama even failed to carry the 12th C.D. in the 2008 general election, though it went for John Kerry in 2004.

## A Plague on Both Your Houses

Since the mass strike began in the U.S. last August, there have not been two parties opposed to each other, but two factions: One is fighting for an FDR-style commitment to the general welfare; while the other is owned by the London-Wall Street financiers. The electorate has directed its disgust at both political parties, favoring neither Democrats nor Republicans, with the clear mes-



YouTube videograb

*The results of the primary elections May 13 demonstrated, once again, the clout of the mass strike, especially in Pennsylvania, where 30-year Senate veteran and Obama ally Arlen Specter (above), lost his seat to Rep. Joe Sestak (above, right); and Mark Critz, a longtime ally of the late Rep. John Murtha, won a special election for Murtha's seat.*

sage being: "A plague on both your houses."

In the Arkansas Democratic primary, three-term Sen. Blanche Lincoln came out on top in a three-way race with 45% of the vote. Lt. Gov. Bill Halter was second, with 43%. The third candidate, playing a spoiler role, has forced Lincoln into a run-off against Halter, scheduled for June 8. Halter was recruited to run against Lincoln by the George Soros-financed SEIU (Service Employees International Union), and its president emeritus, Obama confidant Andy Stern. Obama has just appointed Stern to his Debt Commission, whose mandate is to enforce deficit cuts demanded by Wall Street, outside the control of Congress.

Lincoln, chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee, had been four points down from Halter several days before the election. But she came back to beat him, by campaigning hard on the fact that she had proposed an amendment to the Wall Street-backed Financial Reform bill, which just passed the Senate, to ban any federally insured bank from trading in derivatives. The SEIU-led union coalition spent \$57 million to defeat Lincoln, publicly boasting that it would punish her for waffling on the Obama deathcare bill.

The Kentucky Republican Senate primary also reflects the determination of the voters to support those who go against the Wall Street establishment. There

Rand Paul, son of Rep. Ron Paul, swept the primary with 59%, leaving Trey Grayson in the dust. Grayson had been endorsed by Republican establishment figures, such as Senate GOP leader Mitch McConnell and former Vice President Dick Cheney. Paul's popularity leaned heavily upon that of his father, who is best known for his crusade against the Federal Reserve System, including his wildly popular bill to audit that unconstitutional body.

The elections since November 2009 show that an Obama endorsement is the kiss of death. Specter's loss is the fourth defeat of a high-profile Obama-backed candidate in the last six months. In November 2009, Obama-sanctioned Democrats lost the Virginia governorship and lieutenant governorship. The term-limited incumbent, Gov. Tim Kaine, was an early Obama supporter and confidant, and Obama's hand-picked chair of the Democratic National Committee. In heavily Democratic New Jersey, Obama-backed incumbent Democrat, Gov. Jon Corzine, was thrown out. And, on Jan. 19, Republican Scott Brown's decisive victory in Massachusetts over Obama Democrat Martha Coakley for the late Ted Kennedy's Senate seat, sent shock waves throughout the political establishment.

With numerous primaries still to come, and the November elections just over the horizon, the Obama-London gang should be quaking in their boots.