

Amelia Robinson Takes Voting Rights Fight to

During the course of a two-day visit to Warsaw, Poland at the end of May, American Civil Rights leader and Schiller Institute vice-chairman, Amelia Boynton Robinson gave audiences a first-hand report on the election rigging in the U.S. Presidential campaign.

Mrs. Robinson's first appearance was as guest speaker at a seminar at the Lech Walesa Institute, named for the former leader of Solidarnosc and the first post-communist Polish President. Her report to an audience of individuals who do business with the U.S., focussed on the elimination of the Voting Rights Act in the U.S. Presidential election campaign, and a description of her own decades-long struggle for voting rights in Alabama.

While in Warsaw, Mrs. Robinson gave interviews to three newspapers, and did an hour-long radio interview. In these, she developed the key issues in the U.S. campaign: the Democratic Party's trashing of voting rights in its attempt to prevent Lyndon LaRouche



EIRNS/Anna Wei

Schiller Institute vice-chairman Amelia Boynton Robinson in Warsaw.

from challenging Al Gore's nomination; LaRouche's proposal for a New Bretton Woods monetary system to reorganize the disintegrating world economy; and LaRouche's campaign "in

the footsteps of Martin Luther King."

Questions About Dr. King

Mrs. Robinson also met one of Poland's leading bishops. An admirer of Martin

Italian Senators Probe Abuses of U.S. Voting Rights Act,

On June 14, a group of Italian Senators from across the political spectrum presented an inquiry in the Senate, asking the Italian Foreign Minister to comment on the violations of the 1965 Voting Rights Act in the United States. The initiative had been discussed with Amelia Boynton Robinson during her visit to Rome. What follows is the text of the inquiry, and a list of its sponsors.

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Inquiry requesting a written answer to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Rome, Italy

WHEREAS:

Mrs. Amelia Boynton Robinson, collaborator of Martin Luther King in the movement for the right to vote of African-Americans in the 1960's, and

recipient of the Martin Luther King Medal for Freedom in 1990, informed members of the Parliament and government representatives of the incredible decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, abolishing the Voting Rights Act, which since 1965 has guaranteed the right of each American citizen to participate in the election process, both as a voter and as a delegate [for a Presidential candidate], declaring it "unconstitutional," and upholding an earlier decision taken in the same vein by a local court;

The Italian Parliament was already aware of a decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, a decision equally racist and profoundly unjust, regarding the death penalty, inclusively in cases of doubt concerning the inno-

cence of the condemned person;

Following the decision by the Supreme Court which nullifies, unbeknownst to the public, 35 years of advancement by the movement for Civil Rights in the U.S.A., there have been a number of cases of violations of the right to vote, and of the respect for the right to vote, against some American Presidential candidates, among them Democratic candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, as documented by Mrs. Robinson, as official observer in the Democratic Party primary in the State of Michigan, and as brought to the attention of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights [of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (O.S.C.E.)] in Warsaw, due to the fact that they vio-

Poland

Luther King and John Kennedy, the bishop asked Mrs. Robinson, who worked closely with Dr. King in Selma and Montgomery, many questions about King and the Civil Rights struggle.

A meeting at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (O.S.C.E.) Department for Human Rights and Democracy was next on the agenda. A week before, O.S.C.E. representatives had told a Schiller Institute delegation that the U.S. vote-rigging was an internal affair of the Democratic Party. Now, Mrs. Robinson debunked that by presenting the history of the fight for the Voting Rights Act.

At a Schiller Institute event in downtown Warsaw, Mrs. Robinson focussed her attention on the young people, challenging them to become involved in politics to fight for justice. In response to a question, she said the secret of building a successful social movement is the principle "unity means strength." One person compared her to the Polish missionary priest Tokarski, and called her "a treasure of love for all of us."

Arkansas Democrats Bar Elected LaRouche Delegates

On May 23, Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche won 22 percent of the vote in the Arkansas Democratic Presidential primary, to Al Gore's 78 percent. Since LaRouche had won 16-25 percent in each of the state's four Congressional Districts, he was eligible for seven to ten of the 48 delegates Arkansas would send to the National Democratic Convention in Los Angeles Aug. 14-17.

Within one week of having filed as National Convention delegates pledged to LaRouche, the Arkansas Democrats who filed received letters signed by state Democratic Party chair Vaughn McQuary, informing them that they would not be seated at the June 24 state convention, nor permitted to attend the National Convention as delegates pledged to LaRouche. Attached was a letter from Democratic National Committee chairman Joe Andrew, in which he ordered state party chairs to "disregard any votes that might be cast for LaRouche," because LaRouche is not a

"bona fide" Democrat. In other words: total disenfranchisement of 53,000 Arkansans who had voted for LaRouche.

On June 20, a lawsuit was filed in Pulaski County Circuit Court on behalf of LaRouche and nine Arkansas Democrats seeking to represent him at the Los Angeles Democratic Convention. The lawsuit asked the court to order the Democratic Party to seat LaRouche's duly elected delegates to the state convention, and to allocate LaRouche his rightful delegates to the National Convention.

On June 23, Pulaski Circuit Court Judge John Ward ruled that the state Democratic Party could proceed with its convention, denying duly elected LaRouche delegates their delegate seats, and giving those seats, instead, to unelected Gore delegates. The LaRouche delegates attempted to attend the June 24 Arkansas state convention, but were denied admittance by the Credentials Committee.

LaRouche

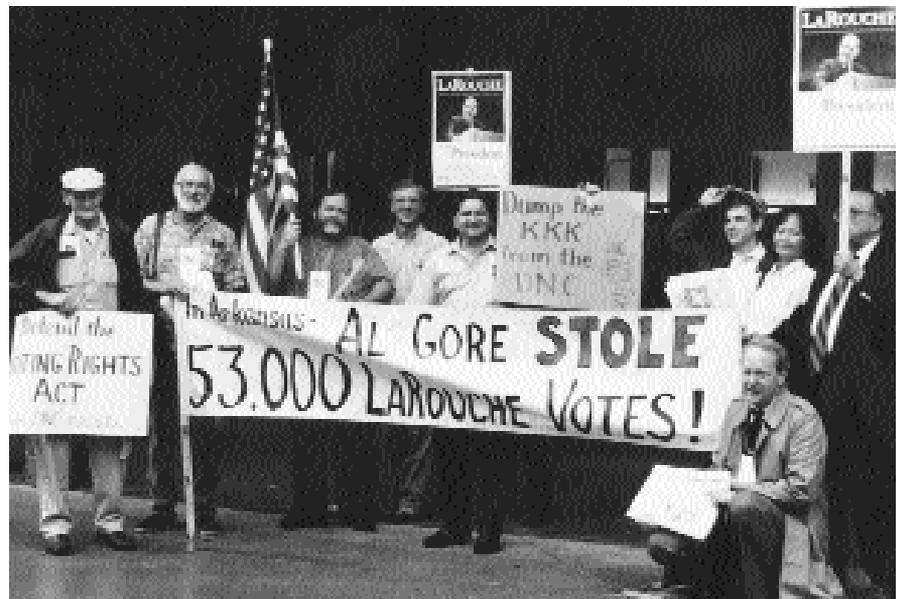
late the fundamental principles of democratic right as stated in the O.S.C.E. Conference on the Human Dimension of 1990.

WE ASK:

Whether or not the government is informed of the extremely grave decision to abolish the right to vote for those Americans who are deemed undesirable by the leaderships of the parties, and what the Italian government thinks regarding this?

—Rome, June 12, 2000

Signed: Sen. Giovanni Russo Spena, Sen. Ersilia Salvato, Sen. Fausto Cò, Sen. Aurelio Crippa, Sen. Antonio Carcarino, Sen. Francesca Scopelliti, Sen. Athos De Luca.



LaRouche Democrats rally at Texas State Democratic Convention against theft of Arkansas LaRouche vote, Fort Worth, June 9.