

SAXBE COVERS FOR FBI POST-ELECTION HARASSMENT AGAINST LABOR PARTY

Nov. 18 (IPS)--While the Federal Bureau of Investigation continues the most intense harassment against working-class organizing in 20 years, Attorney General William Saxbe today said that an FBI counterintelligence program directed at "the new left, black extremists, white hate groups, the Socialist Workers Party, and the Communist Party" was discontinued in 1971.

An FBI harassment campaign is now underway to stop supporters of the U.S. Labor Party from filing affidavits attesting to vote fraud in the recent elections, in which an estimated 250,000 votes cast for the Labor Party were stolen from U.S. workers.

In recent months, as detailed in IPS, FBI-paid informers Vernon Higgins and William Rini were sent in separate operations to infiltrate the Labor Party's Detroit regional organization, area of greatest Labor Party penetration nationally. At least 150,000 Labor Party votes were stolen in the Midwest industrial belt in the Nov. 5 elections.

The Attorney General's cover-story, given wide play in the New York Times and other papers affiliated to the Rockefellers, comes at this time to camouflage the FBI's ongoing massive effort to harass and keep under surveillance workers across the country who are joining the Labor Party political machine. The Labor Party has widely exposed FBI implication in the attempts of the Rockefeller-controlled leadership of the United Auto Workers union to prevent industrial workers from reading New Solidarity.

If the FBI has abandoned its attention to the fascist Socialist Workers Party and other CIA-run "left" groups, it is to concentrate full-time against the Labor Party, the mass-based party of the American working class.

LABOR PARTY DEMANDS CONGRESSIONAL PROBE OF VOTE FRAUD

Nov. 18 (IPS)--In the wake of a new wave of post-election harassment, the Labor Party is pressing a demand for Congressional investigation of vote fraud, election fixing, and harassment against U.S. Labor Party voters and organizers. The necessity for such action has become clear as efforts to obtain affidavits from Labor Party voters have been hampered by further intimidation and harassment.

The same CIA-FBI-LEAA machine that stole over a quarter of a million votes from the Labor Party in the first place has again been activated to stop local lawsuits against various Boards of

Elections. While formal complaints are being filed with the U.S. Attorney in a number of jurisdictions, the fact that the FBI is the agency assigned to investigate such complaints raises severe doubts about the results of any such investigation.

Labor Party organizers conducting polls and canvassing for affidavits have found that workers are generally hesitant to bring themselves and their families to the attention of the FBI and the LEAA by signing an affidavit.

One party supporter in New York's South Bronx ghetto reported that after he had agreed to sign an affidavit for the Labor Party he was visited by two young men, probably LEAA-controlled gang youth. They told him that it would be "worth his while" not to sign the affidavit. When, despite this, he went to get his statement notarized, the neighborhood notary public apparently had also been pressured; he was so terrified that he refused to sign it.

Although this Labor Party voter thumbed his nose at the LEAA and has begun to organize with the Labor Party network in his neighborhood, two women who live in the same building reneged on previous pledges to sign statements alleging vote fraud. Their sudden terror indicated that they were also subjected to harassment.

Building the Machine

Nonetheless, Labor Party organizing around the election results and vote stealing has pushed forward the consolidation of the Labor Party machinery in key areas of the country.

Organizing in New York and the Detroit area around the collections of affidavits has pulled old contacts into active organizing and uncovered large numbers of new supporters. Labor Party organizers in New York who went door-to-door through the housing projects in Coop City, canvassing for Labor Party voters and selling New Solidarity, discovered that scores of people had not voted the Labor Party line only because they had not heard about it. These new contacts are holding an organizing forum on Rockefeller's Mideast war in their building Nov. 21, when a new Labor Party chapter will be formed.

In Flint, Michigan, one worker greeted Labor Party organizers at a Chevy plant with "So how do you join the Labor Party?" He took New Solidarity's to sell to co-workers. A married couple, furious that their votes for the Labor Party and those of their friends had "mysteriously" disappeared, are writing up affidavits and getting their friends to do the same. New Solidarity sales have increased as much as two-and-a-half times in Flint, where the scope of Labor Party support is indicated by the total disappearance of 20 per cent of the vote.