

Bush, ADL thwarted at NAACP convention

by Harley Schlanger

It is a most profound irony that George Bush, who throughout his public career has promoted racist policies, intends to be the one who recruits minorities to the Republican Party. His most recent target was the national convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), which opened July 7 in Houston, to which he deployed the forces of the Department of Justice and the FBI, along with their collaborators in the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), hoping they could convince members of America's oldest and most prestigious civil rights organization to link their hopes for the future to the White House.

In spite of this heavy deployment by the Bush forces, the result was a miserable failure. As *EIR* has recently documented, Bush has been a long-time supporter of policies promoting discrimination, and even genocide, against non-whites. Some highlights of his record include:

- In his 1964 campaign for the U.S. Senate from Texas, Bush repeatedly denounced the landmark civil rights bill passed that year; his tantrums against current efforts to pass a civil rights bill show that he has not changed.
- Bush, a most enthusiastic adherent of population-reduction policies while a U.S. Representative from Texas in the late 1960s, was known among congressional staffers as "Rubbers" Bush.
- In Congress, he promoted the racist views of the discredited eugenicists Arthur Jensen and William Shockley, who argued that Blacks are genetically inferior to Caucasians.
- By featuring the "Willie Horton" ad in his 1988 presidential campaign, Bush played upon fears among white voters of crimes committed by blacks.

Bush deploys the FBI

Immediately prior to the NAACP convention, FBI Director William Sessions spoke to the NAACP chapter presidents. Ignoring the long history of FBI activities to discredit and defeat the civil rights movement—which includes J. Edgar Hoover's operations against Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and a pattern of assassinations of leaders and subsequent coverups (some of which included the active involvement of ADL officials and ADL-paid provocateurs)—Sessions spoke of the mutual commitment of the NAACP and the FBI to equal rights. He appealed to the members of the NAACP to work with the FBI to monitor and combat "hate crimes."

This cynical ploy was exposed at his press conference

when he was asked by an *EIR* reporter to explain the FBI policy of targeting black elected officials. This policy, known as "Fruhmenschen" ("primitives"), was brought to light in an affidavit released by Rep. Mervyn Dymally (D-Calif.) in 1988, and is based on the assumption that black leaders are incapable of conducting government business and are therefore susceptible to corruption. A study shows that, through application of this policy, more than 60% of black elected officials either have been put under investigation, indicted, or in jail.

Sessions answered that he is unaware of Dymally's charges and said such a program would be "inconsistent" with FBI procedures.

The attempt to gain the support of delegates through the ruse of collaboration against "hate crimes" was ripped apart in a leaflet distributed by supporters of Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouché. The leaflet described a hate crime as "what the FBI has practiced against the civil rights movement since its inception," further unmasking the hypocrisy in Sessions's and Bush's appeal to the NAACP.

Amelia Boynton Robinson's autobiography

An additional factor undermining the Bush strategy was the presence at the convention of Amelia Boynton Robinson, one of the legendary figures of the civil rights movement, and a close friend and collaborator of Lyndon and Helga LaRouche. Robinson, whose involvement in civil rights began in the 1930s in Alabama and continues to the present day, was at the conference to release a new edition of her autobiography, *Bridge Across Jordan*. The book has been warmly endorsed by Coretta Scott King, Andrew Young, and Mrs. LaRouche, and was printed by the Schiller Institute, founded by Mrs. LaRouche.

Robinson captured the attention of delegates, old and young, as she epitomized the theme of the convention, "Preparing a New Generation for the Struggle." While ADL and Justice Department operatives were trying to round up delegates to discuss "The FBI and its Civil Rights Program," Robinson was challenging them to address the crises which confront all Americans.

For example, in district caucuses, she demanded action against Bush's intention to continue sanctions against Iraq, which threatens the lives of hundreds of thousands of Iraqi children. She said she had seen such cruelty before, when she saw children hungry and sick from malnutrition in the South in the 1930s. "For a child to be sick like that," she said, "it takes a deliberate act."

There was no support for the Bush-FBI agenda at the convention. Despite a major organizing push by the Justice Department, only 20 people attended their workshop. Instead, delegates focused on reality: the horrors of depression, budget cuts, drugs, gangs, and AIDS. With the exception of the LaRouche forces present, there was no one with answers to these problems.