



how this all looks in the court of public opinion among white Americans as he is in winning in the court.”

Purging the Voter Rolls

Even as Gore was turning his back on minority voters, evidence was surfacing that the Bush campaign had engaged in a proactive drive to disenfranchise African-Americans. On Dec. 7, *Salon* magazine reported that Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris had hired a private firm, ChoicePoint, to purge the Florida voter rolls of undesirables. ChoicePoint targeted minority precincts. As a result, an unknown number of African-American voters were turned away from the voting booths on Nov. 7, because their names had been removed from the registration lists—illegally. ChoicePoint was so sloppy, or zealous, or both, that those knocked off the voter rolls included election supervisors and judges, in some cases.

Gore’s lack of enthusiasm for defending the rights of minority voters is but one manifestation of the revival of racism in the upper echelons of the Democratic Party, that surfaced during the DNC chairmanship of Fowler, a well-known South Carolina advocate of the “Southern Strategy.”

As early as 1966, Fowler was on record, in an article in the August issue of *University of South Carolina Governmental Review*, arguing for a Democratic strategy aimed at undermining the just-passed Voting Rights Act. “The socio-educational circumstances in which most Negroes find themselves are as great deterrents to active, effective political participation as were the legal obstacles and informal intimidations to which they have been subjected for decades,” Fowler wrote. “There is little or no evidence that Negroes vote as a bloc except when their interests as Negroes are clearly at stake. When the interests of Negroes per se are at stake, many whites feel that their interests are also at stake in opposition. Most cases which pit the two conflicting interests against each other

result in defeat for the candidate with the Negroes’ interest at heart.”

A Confederate Unity Government

With the outcome of the Presidential election still up in the air, a chorus of Wall Street Establishment voices is demanding a “national unity government,” regardless of whether Bush, Gore, or someone else becomes the next President. Given the common “Southern Strategy” embrace of Bush and Gore, such a government would, in reality, be an un-American replica of the Civil War-era alliance of Wall Street bankers, Boston Anglophiles, and Southern plantation slaveholders—an alliance that sought to destroy the Republic through secession and the imposition of European-model parliamentary rule.

The earliest post-election call for such a bipartisan unity regime came from the heart of Bush’s apparatus. On Nov. 29, the Forum for International Policy, a Washington think-tank popu-

lated by veterans of the George Bush Administration, called for the next President to select a foreign policy cabinet dominated by Establishment figures, regardless of their party affiliation. “The next President will assume office with a contested mandate. . . . The Congress will be finely divided. . . . Bipartisan support will be harder than ever to achieve.” Therefore, the President must “go out of his way to seek the best, most qualified people for the key foreign affairs posts. America does not have the luxury of having our foreign policy held hostage to partisan wrangling for the next four years.” A more blunt public official in Washington described the prospect of such a national unity alliance as “a united front of Nazis.”

In Remembrance of Henry B. Gonzalez

I met Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez personally, at some length, but once, in a meeting he arranged on Capitol Hill premises. However, I dealt with him in his official capacity numerous times before and after that meeting, until he retired from office. My respect for him was a deeply personal one, in addition to and beyond my admiration for his role as an elected official. To say that he will be missed, would beggar the powers of understatement; we shall not find one like him easily. Perhaps the simplest way I could express my sense of his distinction is: He was real, and remains so even now. We keep on losing those precious ones, and it is so hard to find their like.—Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.