

LaRouche supporters canvass 10th Congressional District in Virginia

In northern Virginia's 10th Congressional District, incumbent Republican Congressman Frank Wolf is being challenged by Independent Democrat Lyndon LaRouche in the Nov. 6 mid-term elections. The race is an unusual one.

Wolf is a multi-term incumbent in his post, who in recent electoral contests has faced no serious opposition. LaRouche is the internationally known economist and former presidential candidate, who was imprisoned in January 1989 after a shocking trial had railroaded him and six associates deemed dangerous to the U.S. Establishment to prison, on the basis of false "conspiracy" charges.

He has campaigned for office from prison, and now his campaign workers are informing voters about recent court rulings that show the government acted fraudulently in a 1987 bankruptcy action against three firms run by associates of LaRouche. This could reopen the whole case and soon lead to his release—perhaps even in time to take office with the 102nd Congress.

Events of recent weeks have fully vindicated the predictions of economic and strategic crisis, made over the past years, that made LaRouche such a target for his powerful political enemies. On Oct. 29, LaRouche sent a radio message to the voters, taped from his federal prison cell in Rochester, Minnesota: "If you want to send a signal to Washington, and if you really want to turn the country upside down, which is what is desperately needed at this time, then vote for me and my friends. We'll rebuild the Democratic Party, and we'll rebuild the nation."

The campaign has attracted nationwide support, both in terms of financial contributions by many individuals, and in terms of endorsements. On Oct. 24, three close associates of the late Dr. Martin Luther King released a statement signed by 100 ministers and civil rights leaders endorsing the congressional candidacy of Lyndon LaRouche. They cited LaRouche's policies to end the problems of hunger, homelessness, unemployment, AIDS, and drug addiction as the reason for their choice.

Between July 5 and Oct. 15, LaRouche campaign workers distributed 1.4 million pieces of literature in the 10th C.D., approximately five pieces of information for every registered voter. New road signs went up during the last week

of the campaign at strategic intersections.

Three prime-time half-hour television broadcasts on the economy and German reunification were being beamed to the district in the week before the election. Door-to-door campaign organizers have now walked 80 of the 160 precincts in the district, and have recruited hundreds of voters to distribute campaign literature to their friends and co-workers.

European visitor's report

Christine Bierre, from *EIR*'s bureau in Paris, France, spent some days with the campaign in October and filed the following report on Oct. 19:

"Some 40 LaRouche supporters from the entire country have taken Virginia's 10th Congressional District by storm, organizing for Lyndon LaRouche's candidacy for Congress. Campaign volunteers ranging in age from 20 to 70 have come from the West Coast, from the Midwest, the South, and even the Canadian border to participate in this campaign, with the aim of getting LaRouche elected and creating the conditions for the reopening of his case.

"LaRouche campaign organizers are beginning to intersect an intense rage building around the country against the incompetence of Bush's economic policies in particular. 'Why don't you help us furlough Bush?' is one of the favorite slogans of campaign organizers eliciting, laughing responses from large sections of the population. 'Furloughing' is the term used by the administration for a 'forced' unpaid vacation of 22 days which federal government employees have been threatened with by the government, if the government and Congress don't come up with a solution to the present budget crisis. From everywhere in the country there is reported not only a growing rage against George Bush but a wave of anti-established politicians sentiment which will be favouring independent candidates 'who don't mince their words and who tell things straight' like LaRouche himself as well as his associates.

"The situation is all but easy for the LaRouche campaign in this particular 10th district. The state of Virginia, where the offices of the LaRouche movement are located, has been particularly targeted for years by the black propaganda of the government and the CIA against LaRouche. Tons of slanderous articles have appeared in local press against the

movement, heavily conditioning the outlook of the citizens. Adding to that difficulty, we ought to mention as well the fact that a large section of the population voting in the district is made up of federal government employees, who would be inclined to fear for their jobs if they were caught supporting LaRouche. Also absent from this district are some of the more natural constituents of the LaRouche movement, labor and farmers.

"In spite of all these drawbacks, it is remarkable to see many citizens interested in LaRouche's ideas come around discreetly to booktables to pick up literature and get a briefing update. 'Is he still in jail?' 'Do you think he's got a chance?' 'I'm for LaRouche no matter what anybody says,' are some of the questions and remarks one might get at walking tours, or in downtown deployments. Often reactions look like this: **LaRouche campaign worker:** 'Mr. LaRouche is the only politician campaigning against a Gulf war, what do you think about that?' 'Oh, I agree with that, but that's like apple pie, who doesn't?' **Campaign worker:** 'What about his anti-drug policies?' 'I agree with that too.' **Campaign worker:** What about his proposals for a public health policy on AIDS?' 'I agree with that too. . . . but he's still a lunatic!'

"There is marked interest in LaRouche on the campuses, too, with students coming around picking up his books on economics, on [German "Poet of Freedom" Friedrich] Schiller, on education, or on the Moon-Mars colonization project. And as the popular rage grows against established politicians and against George Bush in particular, more and more people will remember some of the large billboards taken out by the LaRouche campaign, which one can see around the 10th district. They have slogans on them which make some young girls blush, like 'Eat It, George,' showing a sprig of broccoli which Bush has declared he hates, or 'President Bush, Read My Finger,' a reference to the famous campaign promise of Bush, 'Read my lips—no new taxes,' a promise which of course Bush has broken. They will become more and more popular as the full economic and strategic catastrophe of the Bush presidency is unveiled."

The report went on: "Beyond organizing this section of the Virginia electorate, the campaign has also been an example of republican education for the citizenry. Every evening campaign workers as well as contacts and LaRouche sympathizers have been involved in an intense process of education, dealing with the most advanced conceptions developed in the history of mankind. This process includes classes on LaRouche's economics, geometry, strategy, as well as musical and choral training once a week. It was particularly moving to see some 50 persons of all ages and strata of society discussing the properties of the cycloid curve within the context of a broader presentation concerning the coherence of the human creative mind and the governing laws of the universe, in a country undergoing a process of decay similar to that of the Roman Empire and becoming more and more of a juridical fascist state. There was much brain twisting and

work to comprehend how a point traveling on a cycloid can travel faster or slower according to the place where the point is located on the wheel, with the wheel maintaining the same speed.

"One high point of the campaign will be the tour of the Lebanese Professor Bassam El Hachem, who has come to the United States to denounce U.S. support for Syrian dictator Hafez al-Assad in the elimination of the peaceful nation of Lebanon and to campaign for the only U.S. politician who has systematically opposed these policies: Lyndon LaRouche. Speaking to a large crowd just days after the U.S. backed Syrian bombardments against Beirut which forced Lebanese Prime Minister General Aoun to seek refuge in the French embassy, Bassam El Hachem made a dramatic call upon those present to rid the United States of the colonial policies of George Bush and Henry Kissinger, and to take it upon themselves to reestablish the greatness of the American nation."

The Spannaus campaign

Nancy Spannaus, an Independent Democratic associate of LaRouche, is the *only* challenger to incumbent Republican Sen. John Warner in Virginia. She has traveled over 1,000 miles each week to inform voters that economic development offers the road to peace. Her support is quite strong among black voters. Also, in the closing weeks of the campaign, she received warm receptions from groups that six months ago complained she was a non-mainstream candidate.

One factor in the shift is certainly the fear of a new Vietnam War in the Middle East. Senator Warner is backing President's Mideast actions and his unpopular tax policies. Growing apprehension about Bush's actions is reflected even in the size of the anti-war sentiment in Congress. On Oct. 9, only 33 Democrats signed a letter to Bush expressing fear that the President might go to war with congressional approval. By Oct. 28, there were 81 Democratic congressman who signed a statement declaring themselves "emphatically opposed to any military action."

The all-news radio station in Washington, D.C., WTOP, has run many LaRouche ads throughout the months of the campaign—with so much impact that the station management began running a disclaimer distancing themselves from LaRouche's hard-hitting comments. The week before the vote, WTOP broadcast a feature story on the anti-incumbent sentiment sweeping the United States. On Oct. 29 they interviewed political analyst Larry Sabato from the University of Virginia. He said yes, there is anti-incumbent sentiment, but this means people won't come out to vote. He said he hoped that this is how it will manifest itself, because it could be dangerous if people voted in Virginia. In the Virginia Senate race, Sen. John Warner, the incumbent Republican, voted against the civil rights bill. If people wanted to express anti-incumbent sentiment, it would be to vote for LaRouche and for Nancy Spannaus, fretted Sabato.