1976 Virginia Vote Fraud Proven In U.S. Labor Party Study

Incontrovertible evidence of vote fraud during the 1976 presidential elections has been demonstrated by a recently completed analysis of the official returns from the state of Virginia. A conservative projection from votes in areas of lowest U.S. Labor Party influence in the state show that the actual vote for U.S. Labor Party presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche must have minimally exceeded 50,000 votes, or 3 percent of the total presidential vote in the state.

The analysis shows, first, that LaRouche's highest attributed vote in the state was in the areas of lowest USLP presence and organization, and second, that a comparison of official results from Shoup and AVM voting machines yields patterns that could not possibly have occurred through any way other than fraud and machine tampering.

When the official vote totals for LaRouche and Socialist Workers Party candidates Peter Camejo were compared, LaRouche tallied about twice as many votes as Camejo in areas where Shoup and R.F. Shoup machines

were used. In AVM jurisdictions, Camejo's votes were, by contrast, almost four times those of LaRouche.

Vote totals for Camejo — who had no visible campaign in Virginia — officially were placed over 1 percent in 53 counties and cities. AVM machines were used in 52 of these 53 jurisdictions, although AVMs are only used in 60 percent of the state. (Perhaps some ingenious election official will argue that voters in these 52 counties — having purchased machines from the Institute for Policy Studies-connected AVM Corporation — then logically expressed their preference for the Institute's candidate, Camejo.)

In a Richmond press conference Oct. 27, Allen Ogden, the 1977 USLP candidate for governor of Virginia released a complete statistical analysis, demanded an official investigation, and put state election officials on notice against permitting a repetition of the 1976 pattern in the upcoming Nov. 8 Virginia elections.

One part of the package released by Ogden was the following study by Dr. Steven Bardwell, a statistical expert.

Statistical Analysis of Virginia Presidential Vote

The returns from the 1976 Presidential vote in the State of Virginia show a striking variation dependent on the kind of voting machine which recorded the votes. In particular, the percentage which the candidate of the U.S. Labor Party, Lyndon LaRouche, and the percentage which the Socialist Workers Party candidate, Peter Camejo, received, differ by a factor of four on the two major types of machines used in the Virginia elections. One pattern is especially consistent: On one type of machine (Automatic Voting Machine) Camejo consistently received many times the vote received by LaRouche, while on the other type of machine (Shoup), the ratio is reversed, with LaRouche receiving more than Camejo.

To test this initial observation rigorously, I conducted a standard statistical analysis of these election returns, to measure the probability that the votes for LaRouche versus Camejo could have been obtained on an unbiased voting machine. Stated more precisely, the hypothesis to be tested statistically was:

Could the difference in the votes received by

LaRouche and Camejo, on each kind of voting machine, be due to chance alone?

In testing a hypothesis such as this, it is essential to account for all the effects which might affect the vote for the two candidates on each kind of machine. The statistical analysis should give us assurance that the observed difference in the LaRouche and Camejo votes is due *only* to the kind of voting machine. Is it possible, for example, that the reason LaRouche consistently received fewer votes than Camejo on AVM machines was because the counties that bought AVM machines were politically inclined towards Camejo rather than LaRouche?

To take into account the main factors which could have affected the results of the LaRouche versus Camejo vote, two factors were analyzed:

1) Brand of voting machine: Since each jurisdiction purchases its own voting machines, voting in each jurisdiction is done on only one kind of machine. Thus, the election returns as tabulated by the Virginia Board of Elections directly show the data of vote by kind of voting machine.

2) Political preference: This qualitative factor had to be measured in a way which would not itself be tainted by any irregularities which might have occurred in the Presidential election under consideration. Therefore, I chose the state-wide election which was closest in time to the 1976 Presidential election. The 1973 gubernatorial race was used to provide a measure of the political preference of the jurisdictions. The jurisdictions were divided into five groups depending on the percentage vote received by Mills Godwin, Jr., the Republican candidate for governor in the 1973 election. These five categories give a breakdown of the jurisdictions in Virginia by political preference which can then be tested along with the kind of voting machine. These categories are called, "1," "2," "3," "4," and "5" in the accompanying tables.

Table 1 shows the critical data in the election results analysis. It contains for each category of political preference and type of voting machine, the weighted average of the ratio of the LaRouche vote to the combined LaRouche and Camejo vote. The table shows that on Shoup machines, LaRouche consistently got 70 percent of the combined LaRouche-Camejo vote, without regard to the political preference of the jurisdiction, while on AVM machines, the ratio was reversed, with

Table 1. Weighted average of votes:

LaRouche
LaRouche plus Camejo

Type	"Political Preference"				
Voting Machine	1	2	3	4	5
Shoup	.7297	.6904	.6412	.7202	.7233
AVM	.1664	.2117	.2473	.2722	.2535

Table 2. Ratio tests for data in Table 1.

Source	Degrees of Freedom	Mean Square	"F"-Statistic
Machines	1	4.77448	19.825681
Pol. Pref1973	3 4	.011845	0.049185501
Interaction	4	.01048	0.043517438E-02
Error	104	.240823	

Camejo consistently receiving over 75 percent of this vote.

A standard statistical test was performed to determine if the observed difference in Table 1 could have occurred by chance. A test called "analysis of variance" was used to remove the effects of political preference (which even so, seem to be small) and to isolate the effect of the type of voting machine on the result. This method of statistical analysis can test whether the variation in the results due only to the type of voting machine used is, in fact, statistically significant.

This statistical test* showed that the differences in the LaRouche vote on the two brands of voting machine could have been due to chance less than one time in a thousand. This means that the observed difference in the votes is statistically very significant and that there is considerable assurance that the election machines had a substantial effect on the outcome of these votes. Stated differently, there is less than one chance in a thousand that the observed effect of voting machine type on the election returns could have been due to chance alone.

*The statistical test used was the F-Test applied to the variance ratios calculated for a two-way analysis with unequal numbers of observations in each cell. The variance ratios are reproduced in Table 2.

Appendix

This appendix contains the data used to analyze the election returns. All figures were taken from the official election results published by the Virginia State Board of Elections.

		le A-1. Numbe n each catego	•		
Type		"Political Pr	eference''		
Voting Machine	1	2	3	4	5
Shoup AVM	1 1	7 11	22 34	7 21	5 5

		le A-2. Total each categ			
Type Voting Machine	"Political Preference" 1 2 3 4				5
Shoup AVM	36246 70402	37614 184154	291406 394651	42458 159524	60012 125610

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