

# **INTERNATIONAL MONITORS AN AFFRONT TO AMERICAN SOVEREIGNTY**

**By Don Feder**

One thinks of international monitors in connection with elections in the Third World – where ballot boxes are stolen, voters are shot at to discourage participation, and military coups follow disputed contests.

But now – thanks to a gang of Democratic congressmen and their stooges in Colin Powell’s State Department -- for the first time in our history, America will have foreigners monitoring our elections.

The Gang of 13 – including such stalwart leftists as Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-Texas), Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), and Barbara Lee (D-CA.) – first tried to get the United Nations involved. They thought it was a swell idea to have our election audited by the body that kicked the US off its Human Rights Commission, while including such champions of freedom as Libya, Syria and Sudan.

When that didn’t work, a compliant State Department invited The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to send monitors. Besides Britain and Italy, OSCE members include Saddam sympathizers (France and Germany), nations whose democracies are shaky at best (Russia and Albania) and states that think the Koran is the last word on how a society should be governed (Azerbaijan, Bosnia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, etc.)

Isn’t it comforting to know our presidential election will be evaluated by these pillars of good government and human rights?

Rep. Johnson “applauded” this affront to our sovereignty. “The American public has been recently reminded by Michael Moore’s *Fahrenheit 9/11* that the 2000 presidential election was rife with fraud and deception,” the congresswoman intoned.

The U.S. State Department is taking its cue from a lady who takes her cue from anti-American whack-job Michael Moore. Beam me up, Scotty.

Not everyone shared Lee's elation. Tom Kilgannon, president of the Freedom Alliance, commented: "Obviously, someone at Foggy Bottom misread the Constitution. According to our Founding Fathers, it is the 'States' – not the 'State Department' – which are in charge of overseeing federal elections."

America is the gold standard of representative government. We were the world's first modern democracy. When most of humanity was governed by absolute monarchies, we had popular sovereignty. We were the first nation with a Bill of Rights, and the first to make the executive, legislative and judicial branches independent of each other.

In 1917-1918, American intervention saved Western Europe from German militarism. Had it not been for America in 1941-45, and during the Cold War, the world would have been plunged into a totalitarian nightmare. We are both pioneers of democracy and its guardians.

Today, emerging nations the world over look to our Constitution as the model of republican government. They come here to study our institutions. They import American experts to help them establish a democratic framework and run their elections.

But, thanks to the Gang of 13 and its State Department flunkies, America is going to get the same treatment as Haiti or Belarus -- all to further the Democrats' big lie: that Bush stole the presidency in 2000. When Lee speaks of our last election being "rife with fraud and deception," you know what she's referring to.

Almost 4 years after Bush was officially certified the winner, leftist ideologues like Lee and her mentor Moore are still spreading compost about the "stolen" presidential election.

It takes massive historical amnesia, or a stubborn refusal to confront reality, to parrot this line.

At no point, in any of the interminable recounts, was Bush behind in Florida (the state that determined the outcome of the election). When the US Supreme Court finally ended the farce, which Gore and his legal pit bulls inflicted on the nation (with an assist from the Democratic Florida Supreme Court), Bush was ahead by 537 votes.

A survey conducted by USA Today and The Miami Herald showed that had the recount ordered by the Florida court continued, Bush would have carried the state by 1,665 votes. Both papers had endorsed Gore.

Still, sore losers on the left endlessly repeat the stolen-election mantra: votes went uncounted, minorities were prevented from voting, mass confusion, hanging chads, dimpled chads and the like.

They conveniently forget the hundreds of overseas military ballots thrown out in Democrat-controlled Florida counties. While some illegal aliens got to vote, some of the men and women guarding us overseas didn't. That's Dem-ocracy for you.

Those notorious butterfly ballots (designed by Democrats, by the way) really weren't confusing. Even your average Democratic voter should have been able to figure them out – without the support of international monitors.

An idiot-proof method of voting has yet to be devised. Still, the Democrats drag idiots to the polls, then whine when their voters screw up ballots Democrats designed.

Despite the popular mythology of Jesse Jackson and friends, blacks and Hispanics weren't turned away from the polls in droves. Some who showed up on election day weren't registered. Who's fault is that?

In Florida, and elsewhere – including middle-class suburbs -- there were long lines at polling places. Some first-time voters got discouraged and went home. (Again, is the system to blame?) \

People have fought and died for the right to vote. Is it really too much to ask voters – who go to the polls at busy times – to stand in line 45 minutes to exercise a precious franchise?

Almost every precinct in America has poll watchers from both parties. This nation has the freest, most energetic, media in the world. Watchdog groups abound. The only purpose of international observers is to make a propaganda point.

Rep. Johnson said foreign interference will help to “ensure free and fair elections” on November 2. But, the principal obstacle to clean elections is the party of Landslide Lyndon, big-city machines, rolling out the graveyard vote, vote-often-and-early, and let every vote be counted (as many times as necessary) – in short, the party of Johnson and Lee.

The Democratic Party believes it has an inalienable right to lie, cheat and steal in pursuit of elective office. It wrote the book on election chicanery.

Consider the following:

- In 2000, Gore campaign workers in Milwaukee were caught on camera giving packs of cigarettes to homeless people they’d lured to the polls.
- In 1995-1996, then-Vice President Gore ordered the INS to expedite citizenship applications for 1.2 million aliens. The agency was told not to be too particular about criminal background checks. New voters were needed for Clinton’s re-election.
- In 2002, Democratic county officials in Arizona helped illegal aliens to vote.
- Same year, workers for Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle (a Democrat, naturally) gave pastries, soft drinks and quarters to the mentally disabled at bingo games, then directed them to absentee ballots in the next room.
- Also in 1992, the NAACP (virtually an auxiliary of the Democratic party) tried to register felons at the Duvall County, Fla. jail – in violation of state law. In Maryland, workers at a federally funded adult daycare center told elderly clients to vote Democratic, because Republicans wanted to take away their Social Security. In a heavily Democratic county in Arkansas, party workers registered names in the phone book – some deceased, on the grounds that those who are vertically challenged shouldn’t be denied the right to vote.
- In 2001, Republicans turned over to the Justice Department the names of 3,273 individuals who apparently voted more than once in the 2000 election. Sen. Chris Dodd (D-Conn.) called this challenge to election fraud a partisan effort “that could make it harder for law-abiding citizens to vote on election day.”

The Democrats bring the unregistered (often minorities), illegal aliens and those who've already voted to the polls. When challenged, they beat their breasts about Republicans employing intimidation tactics or disenfranchising minorities. Basically, it's let them get away with fraud, or get called a racist or worse.

The international-monitors scam is an assault on American sovereignty. Not that the Gang of 13 care. They're internationalists who long for the day when Americans are ruled by the United Nations.

After OSCE monitors, what's next? Will disputed elections be decided by the World Court (which recently ruled it's a violation of international law for Israel to protect itself against suicide bombers with a security fence)? Perhaps NATO will determine voter eligibility.

That the Democrats would abet this lunacy is predictable. That a Republican administration would go along with it is inexplicable.

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