

Editorial

Cleaning Up U.S. Politics Without DeLay

As we go to press this week, there's good news on the U.S. political front. Two of the major bullies for the Shultz-fascist crowd in the Republican Party are in big, very visible trouble.

Best known is the case of House Majority Leader Tom DeLay (R-Tex.), who has been hit with a scandal a week in the major national press over the last period. DeLay is under investigation in Congress and by a grand jury, and is apparently so nervous about his reputation that he's even started campaigning in his local district. While some of his cohorts in the religious-right mafia are mobilizing money and ads to defend him, there is little question but that numerous Republican Congressmen are getting a bit "concerned" about whether Dick can weather the exposure.

But as bad as Tom DeLay's troubles are, those of Hitler-loving California Governor Arnie Schwarzenegger could be even worse.

Governor Schwarzenegger surprised reporters at a press conference on April 7 in Sacramento, when he announced his decision to drop plans to petition to place an initiative on the November 2005 ballot, to privatize the state public employees' pension plan. "Let's pull it back," he said, "and do it better." The initiative was the centerpiece of his plans to "reform" state government through a series of ballot initiatives, allegedly to save the near-bankrupt state money. In reality, it was a thinly veiled plan to place the state's \$360 billion pension fund into the hands of the banker friends of George Shultz, Schwarzenegger's controller and chief economic "advisor." And it was also a bellwether for the national Social Security privatization plan, which Shultz has foisted on the Bush Administration.

Although Arnie the Tummy-nator argued that he did not make this decision based on growing opposition to his plan, this is just another example of his lying. The latest poll released the same day from the Survey and Policy Research Institute of San Jose State University showed that his popularity has plummeted; of those polled, 43% approve of the job he is doing, and 43% disapprove. Large crowds have appeared at each

of his recent fund-raising events, with policemen and firefighters joining nurses and teachers, in opposition to his drive to dismantle state government. Police and firefighters joined the opposition when they learned that his plan to privatize their pensions, turning the CalPERS fund into individual 401(k) plans, would remove the death and disability benefits their families receive under CalPERS.

The California press is playing this as a defeat for Arnie, which it most definitely is. The Governor has been the target of a relentless organizing drive by the LaRouche Youth Movement, which has distributed hundreds of thousands of pamphlets identifying him as a puppet of Shultz, and his so-called pension reform as looting, modeled on the thievery of Chile's public retirement funds by another puppet of Shultz, former Chilean military dictator Gen. Augusto Pinochet.

It is also quite likely, in Lyndon LaRouche's view, that Schwarzenegger was "encouraged" to make this tactical retreat by the Kennedy clan, of which he is a prominent member, through his marriage to Maria Shriver. The Kennedys were not interested in seeing their "asset" Arnie be destroyed, as President Bush is being destroyed, by clinging to the increasingly unpopular pension theft issue.

In his April 7 international webcast, Lyndon LaRouche said that he expected that, with the reality of the economic crisis hitting, and the mobilization he is leading to defeat George Pratt Shultz, that he expects to see a "Pratt-fall" soon. You might say that, with Schwarzenegger being forced to retreat from his plan to steal the public pension funds of California, Shultz has taken a hit in his soft underbelly!

Of course, Schwarzenegger, like DeLay, and the Cheney-Bush team itself, is not going down without a fight. They have not accepted their fates. But the LaRouche campaign to expose their evil fascist plans, has set them up but good, and they are exceedingly vulnerable. If all the Democrats, and Republicans, who understand what dangerous fascists these guys are, would join LaRouche's campaign, they could be cleaned up—without DeLay.