

Republicans had written to Speaker Pelosi, demanding that Rangel step down as Ways and Means chair while the Ethics Committee investigated. Boehner, according to *The Hill*, also announced that he would offer another resolution to censure Rangel, and threatened Republicans in a closed door meeting Sept. 9: “Anyone who votes against debating one of my resolutions ... you just won’t have a committee assignment.”

On Sept. 4, the announcement by male model Craig Schley that he had collected 6,000 signatures for ballot status in November as an Independent to challenge Rangel—who seldom has an opponent—received “electric” page 1 coverage in Murdoch’s *New York Post*.

Rangel Speaks Out

On Sept. 10, Rangel held a 90-minute press conference in the Capitol Hill press gallery, making clear that he intends to stay in office, and as head of the Ways and Means Committee. The establishment’s reporters came to snipe, but despite their hostility, many laughed as Rangel gave detailed accounts of the actual events that happened. Rangel told the press, “I have felt embarrassed for my friend John Boehner for believing that he has to do this politically.”

Rangel explained how he bought a promise of a built cottage in 1988 for \$82,000, with a a \$50,000 mortgage provided by the hotel building the vacation

cottages, which the hotel would rent out 41 weeks a year. To keep investors from pulling out while the cottages were built, the hotel offered *everyone* interest-free mortgages. The rental income was shared evenly within the pool, and applied directly to reduce mortgages. Rangel said he will amend his Federal, state, and local tax returns for 2004-06. He said he would have earned no income, because depreciation and local taxes would have resulted in a “wash,” but for the fact that he sold his New York home to move to a Harlem apartment, and the resulting capital gain cancelled his ability to use the Dominican tax as a credit. He believes his Federal and local tax liability is between \$5,000-10,000, for that reason only.

Near the end of the press conference, Rangel said, “With all the issues that our nation is facing, in terms of life and death, war and peace, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, adjust this tax system, health, education, welfare, and the elections, I’m surprised that—really surprised, that this issue has reached the front page of so many newspapers.”

But the chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee is a high-stakes job. Two previous Democratic chairmen of the committee have been removed through scandals: Rep. Wilbur Mills (1957-74), via a set up affair with stripper Fanne Foxe; and Rep. Dan Rostenkowski (1981-94) railroaded out in the House Post Office scandal.

LaRouche: Nancy Pelosi Should Be Thrown Out

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi should be thrown out of the leadership of the House of Representatives for her immoral role in the attacks against Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.), the first African American Congressman to hold the chairmanship of the House Ways and Means Committee, Lyndon LaRouche said Sept. 12.

“Pelosi should be thrown out,” said LaRouche. “Her behavior in the Rangel case is typical of the immorality that she has exhibited as House Speaker. As a result of her policies, Democrats will face massive defeat in the 2008 Congressional elections; she should be thrown out before it gets even worse.”

Representative Rangel has been targetted by the

media empire of fascist Rupert Murdoch, and Republicans in Congress, but well-informed sources report that the Republicans couldn’t get away with their attacks if it were not for the knowledge that Pelosi and her leadership gang want Rangel either out, or brought into line with Wall Street policies.

The *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* editorial board joined Pelosi et al., with a lead editorial Sept. 12, entitled, “Rangel Should Step Down Pending Review,” demanding that the New York Congressman be ousted as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. “House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and her leadership should insist that U.S. Rep. Charles Rangel give up the chair of the House Ways and Means Committee ... while colleagues get to the bottom of Rangel’s ethics problems,” the signed editorial by Ken Foskett said.

LaRouche retorted that the *Journal-Constitution* itself should be suspended “pending review” of its ethics.