

Plot Thickens Against Angela Merkel

The ouster of Bavarian Governor Stoiber is intended to turn Germany into a bastion of Anglo-Dutch Liberalism.

Hardly had Chancellor Angela Merkel left Germany for her Jan. 4 talks with President George W. Bush, than the campaign, simmering for a couple of weeks at the end of 2006, to oust Bavarian State Governor Edmund Stoiber from office, blew into the open. To be precise, it was blown into the open by the establishment media, most of all the notoriously pro-British publications based in Hamburg, *Stern* and *Spiegel*. Their newly discovered hero against Stoiber is Gabriele Pauli, a district politician in Fürth, who has kept up an Internet-based protest action against Stoiber's intent to run for re-election in September 2008.

The first assault on Stoiber, timed with the traditional early-January conclave of the leaders of the Bavarian Christian Social Union (CSU), Stoiber's party, in Bad Kreuth, resulted in the CSU leadership stating full support for the Governor, on Jan. 16. The mood at the party base and among traditional CSU voters may be quite different, however, as indicated by an opinion poll published by *Stern* magazine on Jan. 15, reporting that 69% of Bavarians, and even 64% of CSU members, were opposed to Stoiber's re-election.

Right after the conference, on Jan. 18, Stoiber announced that by September he would resign as party chairman of the CSU and as Governor.

This might seem to be simply a local Bavarian affair, but it isn't, because Stoiber, who ran as the Chancellor candidate of the German Christian Democrats against incumbent Chan-

cellor Gerhard Schröder (Social Democrat), in September 2002, and lost by only a few thousand votes, is a powerful rival to Christian Democratic Chancellor Merkel. A serious rival only, however, if there is a prospect of Merkel resigning or being overthrown—and indeed, circles inside Germany that are closely interwoven with the global fascists of the U.S.-based Federalist Society (see last week's *EIR*), are already involved in activities that could collapse Merkel's government.

One potential detonator for that, is Merkel's proposed, disastrous "health reform" package, which would install a German variant of the U.S. HMOs. But a report Jan. 8, in *Der Spiegel*, indicated that Friedrich Merz, one of the most prominent German liaisons of the Federalist Society, could defeat the reform—and thereby, Merkel—by slyly pointing to its anti-constitutionality. Merz, a longtime rival and critic of Merkel's, who soon after her inauguration as Chancellor in November 2005 said publicly that he wished her rule to last no longer than a year, could sabotage her in his function as the person charged with coordinating the Christian Democratic parliamentary group's activities on the health issue. And indeed, Merz and another rival of Merkel's, Hesse State Governor Roland Koch, harshly criticized the reform over the weekend of Jan. 13-14, calling it "socialist" (!), and Koch threatened his state government's veto against it.

If Stoiber, whose Bavarian CSU is affiliated with the national Christian

Democratic Union (CDU), is removed from the second echelon of the Christian Democracy from which a likely successor to Merkel would come, the next in line to replace her would be—Roland Koch. Apart from having good connections to the Frankfurt-based center of banking in Germany, and to the traditionally pro-British nobility of the Rhine-Main region, Koch has excellent connections to the neo-cons in the Bush Administration as well. A few years ago, Koch introduced a German variant of the brutal "work-to-welfare" policy of former Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson (R). Koch himself became the number one of the Hesse state section of the Christian Democrats in the wake of an intense inner-party and media campaign similar to that which has haunted Stoiber, and which made him Governor of Hesse in February 1999.

Less than a year later, Koch almost became a victim of the Hesse CDU's "black money scandal," an illegal funding scheme run by a prominent member of the local nobility, Kasimir Prince of Sayn-Wittgenstein. He used a number of slush funds in Liechtenstein—a haven for financial transactions that cannot even be run through the oligarchical banks of neighboring Switzerland. Some 17 million German marks had been pumped into Liechtenstein over the years, escaping the German tax and party-funding laws, re-entering Germany then as alleged "donations from dowries of deceased Jews."

Designed as a "politically correct" lie that nobody in Germany would contest, the trick failed. Finally a deal was struck which took the scandal off the front pages of the newspapers. Rumor has it that the deal was arranged by the powerful House of Nassau, a noble family originating in Hesse, which made it to world prominence in the 16th century.