Recall An Election

On October 7th, far fewer Californians will go to the polls than they did just eleven months ago. Then, 7,476,311 Californians voted for governor. Now, experts predict fewer than 4.5 million Californians will vote.

Take away three million votes and the sore losers of 2002 become the instant winners of 2003. And that's the real reason for the California recall.

Conservative activists were unwilling to accept the results of an election, an election they lost by 363,689 votes. They refused to wait four years. From day one, they plotted to deny the validity of the votes cast and overturn the results.

Those conservative activists are not Republicans, at least not Abraham Lincoln Republicans. In his first weeks in office, Honest Abe experienced first hand what it meant when losers deny the validity of an election, when losers cannot abide by majority rule.

The American Civil War did not start with the bombardment of Fort Sumner. It started when conservative activists in thirteen southern states decided to secede from the union *because* Abraham Lincoln had been elected President of the United States.

The 1860 election wasn't even close. Abe Lincoln out-polled his closest competitor by over a million votes. But it mattered not.

To those conservative activists, the ballots were invalid. The mere election of Abraham Lincoln was anathema to them. So the bullets flew. And the casualties eventually totaled 1,094,453 Americans – 76,000 more that Lincoln's margin of victory.

So, in the weeks ahead, let us recall the election of 1860.

