

# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. Index	Index for binder (2 pages)	n.d.	P5 1004 <sup>✓</sup>
002. report	Re: Overview (2 pages)	n.d.	P5 1005 <sup>✓</sup>
003. report	Re: Who's Behind All This? (1 page)	n.d.	P5 1006
004. report	Re: Sources (7 pages)	n.d.	P5 1007

**COLLECTION:**

Clinton Presidential Records  
 Counsel's Office  
 Jane Sherburne  
 OA/Box Number: CF 426]

**FOLDER TITLE:**

[Binder] Communication Conspiracy [1]

Rhonda Young  
 2007-0080-F  
 ry1273

**RESTRICTION CODES**

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

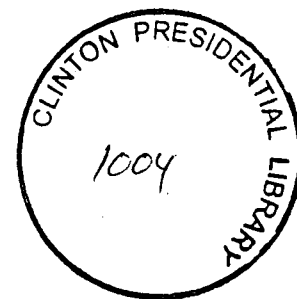
C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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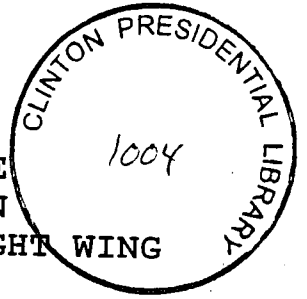


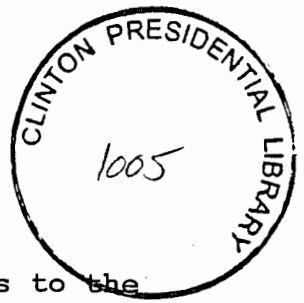
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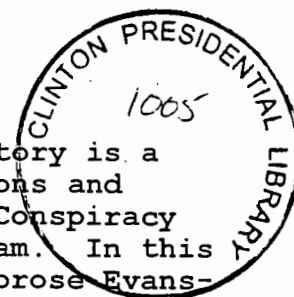
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5. SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE ARTICLE
6. WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE





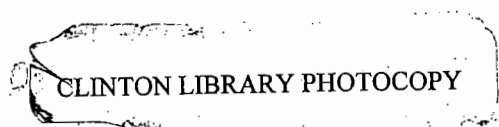
## OVERVIEW

- COMMUNICATION STREAM OF CONSPIRACY COMMERCE: The Communication Stream of Conspiracy Commerce refers to the mode of communication employed by the right wing to convey their fringe stories into legitimate subjects of coverage by the mainstream media. This is how the stream works. First, well funded right wing think tanks and individuals underwrite conservative newsletters and newspapers such as the Western Journalism Center, the American Spectator and the Pittsburgh Tribune Review. Next, the stories are reprinted on the internet where they are bounced all over the world. From the internet, the stories are bounced into the mainstream media through one of two ways: 1) The story will be picked up by the British tabloids and covered as a major story, from which the American right-of-center mainstream media (i.e. the Wall Street Journal, Washington Times and New York Post) will then pick the story up; or 2) The story will be bounced directly from the internet to the right-of-center mainstream American media. After the mainstream right-of-center American media covers the story, Congressional committees will look into the story. After Congress looks into the story, the story now has the legitimacy to be covered by the remainder of the American mainstream press as a "real" story.
- BACKGROUND READING: The emergence of conservative think tanks and their effectiveness at conveying conservative ideas has been discussed by a number of publications. The think tanks serve as the ideas mill for today's Republican Party. The think tanks define and shape the idea's agenda for the party and serve as the training ground for this new generation of conservatives. In many ways, these Republican think tanks are to today's media age of political organizations what the Democratic big city party machines were to the New Deal era of political organizations.
- RICHARD MELLON SCAIFE: Richard Mellon Scaife is in the vanguard of this aforementioned form of this media age political organizing. Scaife uses the \$800 million Mellon fortune which he inherited to fund a virtual empire of right wing newspapers and foundations. These newspapers and foundations, in turn, propagate Scaife's extremist views. Scaife along with a handful of other wealthy individuals and foundations use their power to control the Republican Party's agenda and viewpoints. Scaife, in particular, is one of the major backers of Newt Gingrich. Interestingly enough, Gingrich's views on Vince Foster seemed to dovetail with Scaife's following Scaife's pumping of thousands of dollars into Gingrich's GOPAC's coffers.



THE HELEN DICKEY EXAMPLE: The Helen Dickey story is a classic example of how these right wing foundations and newsletters can use the Communication Stream of Conspiracy Commerce to get a fringe story into the mainstream. In this case, the right wing British tabloid reporter Ambrose Evans-Pritchard reported in London's Sunday Telegraph that an Arkansas State Trooper, Roger Perry, had talked with White House staffer Helen Dickey about the fact that Vince Foster's death hours before his death was suppose to have become known. From Pritchard, the story received major coverage by the Scaife funded Western Journalism Center and the Scaife owned Pittsburgh Tribune-Review. From these fringe, right wing publications the story went on the internet, which reproduced the story for a far wider audience. From the internet, right-of-center mainstream papers, including the Washington Times and New York Post, covered the Dickey story as a legitimate news item. Once these papers covered the story, Congressional staffers from Alfonse D'Amato's staff had the needed justification to investigate the issue. In turn, the investigation of the issue gave the story further credibility and allowed other members of the mainstream media to cover the story.

- RIGHT WING PUBLICATIONS: Right wing publications are produced in a prolific manner.
- THE INTERNET: The internet has become one of the major and most dynamic modes of communication. The internet can link people, groups and organizations together instantly. Moreover, it allows an extraordinary amount of unregulated data and information to be located in one area and available to all. The right wing has seized upon the internet as a means of communicating its ideas to people. Moreover, evidence exists that Republican staffers surf the internet, interacting with extremists in order to exchange ideas and information.





## Who's Behind All This?

In order to fully understand the Whitewater story, it is important to understand how conservative groups are, and have been, able to generate a media frenzy over the Whitewater story.

### The "Media Food Chain"

The media food chain is the system by which right-wing activists feed conspiracy theories and innuendo from the fringes into the mainstream media. The "food chain" starts with activists such as Willie Horton creator Floyd Brown, Sheffield Nelson and Larry Nichols. These activists feed the partisan conservative press, publications such as the *American Spectator*, the *Washington Times* and the editorial page of the *Wall Street Journal*. The mainstream press then picks up on these reports.

### The "Blow-Back" Strategy

One specific "food chain" strategy is the "blow-back." The blow-back starts with conservative groups feeding material to the British tabloids, such as the *Sunday Telegraph*. Conservative American tabloids and mainstream American media then report on the British reports.

For example, recently the *Washington Times* reprinted Ambrose Evans-Pritchard's *Sunday Telegraph* response to a *Washington Post* article on Vince Foster conspiracy theorists. Pritchard, who took offense to being lumped in with conspiracy theorists, has been a leading reporter of various conspiracies – most recently accusing Vince Foster of secretly being a spy. (*Washington Times*, 7/10/95 and *Washington Post*, 7/4/95)

### The Richard Scaife Connection

In addition to use of the media food chain and blow-back strategies, conservatives have another tie – their source of funds. A number of groups that have been peddling conspiracy theories (mainly questioning the suicide of Deputy White House Counsel Vince Foster) are funded by Richard M. Scaife.

Richard Scaife is an heir to the Mellon fortune with an estimated net worth of \$750 million. In addition to his financial support of purveyors of Vince Foster conspiracy theories, Scaife also is a Newt Gingrich insider – backing many of the groups that support and defend Newt Gingrich, including contributing \$60,000 to GOPAC and \$450,000 to the Landmark Legal Foundation.

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1007

**SOURCES WITHOUT CREDIBILITY**  
**PUSHING STORIES INTO MAINSTREAM PRESS**

Whitewater is one of many issues originating with sources without credibility. There is a discernible pattern in which Willie Horton creator Floyd Brown and tabloid "news" organizations have forced stories into the mainstream press. Most interesting is the "blowback" strategy in which stories are planted in the British tabloids and then those stories are reported on in the U.S. press.

**WHITEWATER; FROM FLOYD BROWN TO WALL STREET JOURNAL**

**The Wall Street Journal Serves as a Mouthpiece for Floyd Brown's Research:**

2/94      **From Brown:** Members of The Wall Street Journal's editorial board met with Floyd Brown, the Conservative Republican who produced the 1988 Willie Horton ad.

3/4/94      **To the Journal's editorial page:** After the meeting, the Journal devoted nearly half of its editorial page to reprinting documents it had obtained from Brown in the meeting.

The Journal reprinted a series of letters between David Hale and Paula Casey they obtained from Brown, which it entitled, "Poison, Then Recuse" and "Bargaining in Little Rock." [Chicago Trib., 3/27/94; Wall St. Journal, 3/4/94]

3/9/94      **From Brown:** Brown's "Clinton Watch" published a "Whitewater" Fax Bulletin entitled, Special Counsel Robert Fiske subpoenaed Clinton administration officials and associates but he missed one -- Patsy Thomasson.

This Bulletin spoke of Thomasson's relationship with Dan Lasater and the fact that she searched Vince Foster's office after his death. [Clinton Watch, 3/9/94]

3/10/94      **To the Journal's editorial page:** The next day, The Wall Street Journal ran an editorial entitled, "Who Is Patsy Thomasson?"

The article stated that there had been a delay in getting a White House pass for her and said, "We suspect that [the delay] had something or other to do with her past association with another Arkansas FOB, bond trader and drug convict Dan Lasater." [Wall Street Journal, 3/10/94]

**Other Mainstream Press Have Been Influenced By Brown:**

1994      **From Brown to other mainstream media:** Floyd Brown and his associate David Bossie claim that "dozens" of members of the mainstream press including Time and Money Magazines, NBC and the London Times have used them for information or interviews. [Chicago Tribune, 3/27/94]

2/94      **From Brown to other mainstream media:** Bossie and NBC television producer Ira Silverman were seen together while attempting to interview Arkansas S&L regulator, Beverly Bassett Schaffer. [Chicago Tribune, 3/27/94]



## GENNIFER FLOWERS: THE "BLOWBACK" STRATEGY

*A search of an electronic database revealed that five out of the first seven newspaper articles about Gennifer Flowers' allegations of an extramarital affair with Bill Clinton were found in British newspapers. The Star tabloid broke their story on January 23, 1992. There were 29 stories about the Flowers allegations the next day in the mainstream press.*

### British Tabloids Pushed the Flowers Story:

- 1/17/92 From British tabloids: "Bush rival in beauty queen scandal; (1)Democrat faces axe over 'affairs' (2)Girls and the Governor (3)TV beauty 'paid for by state cash' (4)Scandal erupts over all the would-be President's women." [Daily Mail]
- 1/18/92 "Caught in the Honey Trap; Why Democrat Hope Clinton May Be the Latest American Politician to Grab the Girl and Lose the Glory." [Daily Mail]
- 1/19/92 "Wild Bill dogged by the affairs of state." [The Times Newspapers]
- 1/19/92 "Wild Bill puts his sins behind him." [Sunday Telegraph]

### Then The Star Broke The Flowers Story In the U.S.:

- 1/23/92 To the American tabloids: "My 12-Year Affair With Bill Clinton'; Dems' Front-Runner Lied to America, Says His Former Lover. Plus The Secret Tapes That Prove It! Mistress Tells All; 'We Were Lovers From 1977 to 1989.'" [The Star, 2/4/92 issue]

### The Mainstream Press Followed This Lead:

- 1/24/92 To mainstream U.S. media: On January 24, 1992, there were 29 stories about Bill Clinton and Gennifer Flowers including stories in The Washington Post, The New York Times, The Washington Times, The Los Angeles Times, USA Today, AP, UPI, and Reuters.

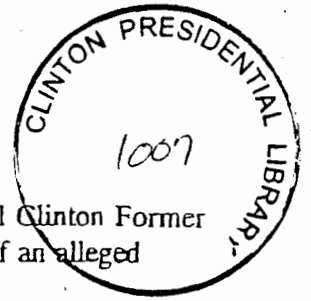
## SALLY PERDUE: BLOWBACK FROM BRITISH TABLOIDS TO WASHINGTON TIMES TO ???

*In January of 1994, the British press tried to resurrect the story of Sally Perdue and the Washington Times followed suit.*

### In 1992 American Tabloids Turned Sally Perdue Down:

- 7/26/92 The National Enquirer which pays hundreds of thousands of dollars for stories about the private lives of political figures rejected Perdue's story because it was "largely unprovable" according to Enquirer editor, Dan Schwartz. [Washington Post, 7/26/92]
- 7/17/92 Sally Perdue appeared on the Sally Jessy Raphael program one day after the Democratic Convention. Earlier, Carmina Marcia, a spokeswoman for the program said, "We didn't feel at the end we had enough information to prove she was telling the truth, especially during the convention." [Atlanta Journal & Constitution, 7/15/92]





**In 1994 The British Press Recycled Sally Perdue:**

- 1/23/94 **From British Tabloids:** "The threats that followed my fling with Bill Clinton Former Arkansas beauty queen Sally Perdue tells Ambrose Evans-Pritchard of an alleged attempt to buy her silence." [Sunday Telegraph]
- 1/23/94 "I was threatened after Clinton affair' Ex-beauty queen fuels presidential scandal." [Sunday Telegraph, Page 1]
- 1/24/94 "Pressure on Clinton as sex scandal grows." [The Daily Telegraph]
- 1/24/94 "Clinton 'mistress' demands inquiry into his sex trysts." [Daily Mail]
- 1/24/94 "Clinton talks of economic gains amid new sex tales." [The Times]

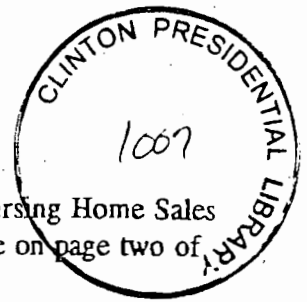
**Washington Times Followed British Press:**

- 1/26/94 **To The Washington Times:** Richard Grenier wrote an op-ed piece in The Washington Times, which cited the headline from London's Sunday Telegraph ("I Was Threatened After Clinton Affair") and described Sally Perdue's story. [Washington Times]
- 1/28/94 The "Inside The Beltway" section of The Washington Times gave details of Perdue's story and quoted liberally from the Sunday Telegraph article. [Washington Times]
- 2/1/94 Wesley Pruden mentioned the Sally Perdue story again in his "Pruden on Politics" column in The Washington Times. [Washington Times]

**BRITISH TABLOIDS BLOWBACK REHASHED BEVERLY STORY**

*A Washington Times story from September 1993 was successfully resurrected in the British tabloids in 1994.*

- 9/29/93 **From The Washington Times:** Jerry Seper of reported on the Rose Law firm's involvement in a 1989 Iowa nursing home deal with Beverly Enterprises. The article was entitled, "Hubbell implicated in profiteering; Helped 'excessive' nursing home deal." [Washington Times, 9/29/93]
- 2/13/94 **Resurrected by the British Tabloids:** In an article entitled "Big Trouble At Little Rock", The Sunday Times of London reported that Hillary Clinton profited from a 1989 deal that artificially inflated the value of 45 Iowa retirement homes. They alleged that Mrs. Clinton gained \$15,000 from the deal, which netted the Rose Law Firm \$500,000 and that William Kennedy "engineered" the deal which "raised the cost of caring for many of the elderly in the retirement homes by 14%" [The Sunday Times]
- 2/13/94 **To The Daily News:** The New York Daily News reported this story on the same day. [Hotline, 2/13/94]



- 2/14/94 To The New York Post: In an article entitled, "Hillary Named In Nursing Home Sales 'Scandal,'" The New York Post reported on The Sunday Times article on page two of the paper. [New York Post]
- 2/15/94 To The Washington Times: The Washington Times reprinted portions of The Sunday Times article and called it "The Four Musketeers" but omitted the portion about the Rose Law firm's involvement with Beverly Enterprises. [Washington Times]
- 3/28/94 To Forbes Magazine: In an article entitled, "Profiteers," Forbes reviewed these charges against Hillary and The Rose Law Firm. [Forbes]

**PAULA JONES: BLOWBACK – FROM BRITISH TABLOIDS TO MAINSTREAM MEDIA**

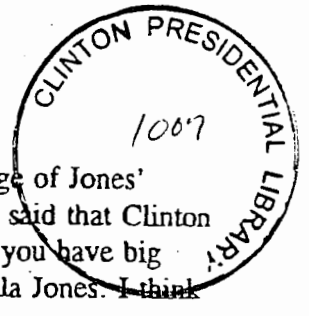
*The March headlines in the British press were a sign of things to come.*

**Paula Jones Originally Appeared With Cliff Jackson at CPAC Conference:**

- 2/11/94 From Cliff Jackson: Paula Jones appeared at a press conference organized by Clinton antagonist Cliff Jackson at the Conservative Political Action Committee conference.
- 2/12/94 To The Washington Times: Among the 11 stories in the mainstream press the next day was a Washington Times article entitled, "Woman accuses Clinton of sexual advances in '91." [Washington Times]

**The British Tabloids Resurrected "The Paula Jones Story":**

- 3/28/94 To The British Tabloids: "Clinton faces court over 'sex trap' in hotel." [Daily Mail]
- 3/27/94 "Clinton accused of 'grotesque' sex harassment." [Sunday Telegraph]
- 3/25/94 To Mainstream Media?: The Washington Times reported that the Washington Post was working on a story about Paula Jones. [Washington Times, 3/25/94]
- 4/4/94 To Right-Wing "Accuracy In Media": Right-wing media watch group "Accuracy In Media" printed an ad in the Washington Post entitled "Who is Paula Jones and Why is the Post Suppressing Her Charge of Sexual Harassment?" The advertisement charged that the Washington Post was suppressing reporter Michael Isikoff's story on Jones' allegations. On April 6, 1994 Paula Jones appeared with AIM's Reed Irvine on National Empowerment Television. [Washington Post, 4/4/94; NET, 4/6/94]
- 4/15/94 To Robertson's "700 Club": On April 15, 1994, Paula Jones was interviewed by Dale Hurd on Pat Robertson's "700 Club" Program. [CBN "700 Club", 4/15/94]
- 4/94 To Jerry Falwell: Falwell began using his "Old Time Gospel Hour" program to sell a \$40 videotape entitled "The Clintons' Circle of Power." On he aired charges by Paula and Steve Jones regarding the sexual harassment charges against Bill Clinton. ["Old Time Gospel Hour, 94]



- 5/3/94 **To Rush Limbaugh:** On May 3, 1994, Rush Limbaugh showed footage of Jones' February 11, 1994 press conference on his television show. Limbaugh said that Clinton had hired Bob Bennett and that, "You don't go hire Uncle Bob unless you have big booty heading down the track. This... and I don't think it stops at Paula Jones. I think that... there's something here." ["Rush", 5/3/94]
- 5/4/94 **To Floyd Brown:** On May 4, 1994, Floyd Brown's *ClintonWatch* put out a fax entitled, "We Interrupt Whitewater For A Special Report Fornigate Report; Paula Jones Will File A Lawsuit Thursday Against Bill Clinton For Sexual Harassment." [*ClintonWatch*, 5/4/94]
- 5/6/94 **To The Mainstream Media:** Paula Jones filed her suit against Bill Clinton and it was widely covered in the mainstream media.

### **SPECTATOR GIVES "SCOOP" TO BRITISH TABLOID**

*The right-wing American Spectator magazine gave a special "scoop" to its ally in the British tabloid press, Ambrose Evans-Pritchard of the Telegraph. Evans-Pritchard, the Telegraph's Washington correspondent is typically the first British reporter called in on the "blowback".*

#### **British Tabloid Given Scoop on Spectator Story**

- 4/10/94 **From the Spectator:** The American Spectator's May edition included an article entitled "Love and Hate in Arkansas" in which Arkansas state trooper L.D. Brown made further allegations against President Clinton. [The American Spectator, April/May 1994]
- 4/10/94 **To the British Tabloids:** "Trooper 'Solicited Hundred Girls for Clinton'". The Sunday Telegraph ran an article about the Spectator's piece before the American magazine was released. [Sunday Telegraph]

#### **Washington Post Runs Piece the Following Day**

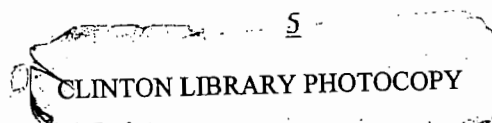
- 4/11/94 **To the Washington Post:** "Decade-Old Allegation Against Clinton Reported". On April 11, the Washington Post's Michael Isikoff wrote a piece on the Spectator's article. [Washington Post]

### **DENNIS PATRICK - BLOWBACK FROM TABLOIDS TO WASHINGTON TIMES TO WSJ**

*The British tabloids focused on an Economist story about a man named Dennis Patrick which eventually found its way into The Wall Street Journal by way of The Washington Times and Pat Robertson's "700 Club".*

#### **The Economist Broke The Dennis Patrick Story**

- 5/7/94 **From The Economist:** The Economist reported that an associate at Dan Lasater's bond firm had opened an account in Dennis Patrick's name in 1985. In 1987 Patrick claimed that the account was set up without his permission and that trades in the account allegedly exceeded \$12 million but Lasater later billed Patrick for \$86,625. Patrick also





claimed that there were three attempts on his life after his dispute with Lasater & Co. [The Economist]

5/8/94

**To the British Tabloids:** The next day, Ambrose Evans-Pritchard of The Sunday Telegraph wrote an article that largely parroted the *Economist* story. Pritchard reported that Patrick has allegedly been in hiding with his wife and children in Kentucky for the past seven years because of his involvement with Lasater. Pritchard wrote, "Congressional investigators are beginning to ask whether Hillary Clinton and Foster were involved in an attempt to draw a veil over Lasater's role in the whole S&L scandal." [The Sunday Telegraph]

5/12/94

**More British Tabloids:** William Rees of The Times of London, wrote an article that repeated *The Economist's* charges and stated, "Dan Lasater was a major contributor to Clinton election funds. Lasater, Bill Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Roger Clinton, Vincent Foster and Patsy Thomasson were all in the same Little Rock network, and undoubtedly worked together to advance their interests... Patsy Thomasson still works at the White House, the link between Lasater and Clinton remains in place." [The Times]

5/13/94

**To The Washington Times:** R. Emmett Tyrrell of *The American Spectator* wrote, "Last weekend the British press was again alive with 'More Arkansas Scandals.' That is how the venerable *Economist* of London put it in a front-page headline. The *Economist* has discovered a man whose dealings in the 1980s with the Arkansas investment banking firm of Lasater & Co. cost him his fortune and three attempts on his life, so he says. *The Economist* seems to believe him, as does London's Sunday Telegraph, which published a similar story." [Washington Times]

5/13/94

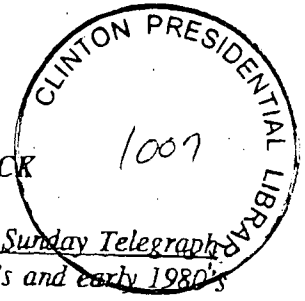
**To Al D'Amato:** Tyrrell wrote that Al D'Amato would investigate Lasater's bond business and whether there were "kickbacks to the political campaigns of a powerful politician..." [Washington Times, 5/13/94]

6/6/94

**To "The 700 Club":** Pat Robertson's "700 Club" focused on this story and interviewed Dennis Patrick. Patrick claimed, "I never once said trade an account. He just called me and said I traded it." He also said, "I know that no one ever threatened my life, that I'm aware of no man has ever been hired to come and murder me, until this situation occurred." The story concluded when CBN correspondent Gary Lane said, "Dennis Patrick was in town here in Washington and he was doing some interviews this week I believe with Gannett and some others. So this is just the beginning." ["700 Club"]

6/21/94

**To The Wall Street Journal:** Mike Frisby wrote an article about Patsy Thomasson's ties to Dan Lasater in which he detailed portions of the Dennis Patrick story. [Wall Street Journal]



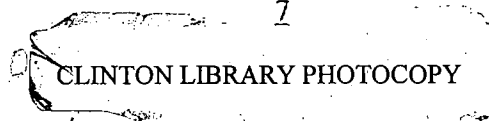
**BRITISH TABLOID TELEGRAPHS THE NEXT ATTACK**

On July 17, 1994, Ambrose Evans Pritchard of the British tabloid, The Sunday Telegraph, wrote an article alleging a pattern of drug use by Bill Clinton during the 1970's and early 1980's under the headline, "Clinton 'Took Cocaine While In Office.'"

**Ambrose Evans Pritchard Makes Wild New Allegations in British Tabloid**

7/17/94

From The Sunday Telegraph to ????: Pritchard's article said that President Clinton "faces potentially devastating allegations that he engaged in regular use of cocaine and marijuana during his rise to political prominence in Arkansas." The article then details charges of drug use by Bill Clinton when he was Governor of Arkansas. [Sunday Telegraph]



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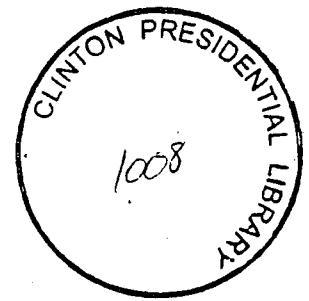
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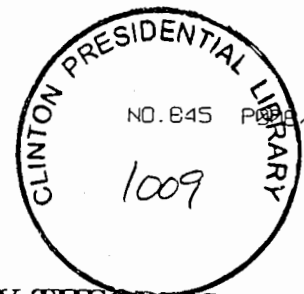
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CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY



## OVERVIEW

- The controversy surrounding the death of Vince Foster has been, in large part, the product of a well-financed right-wing conspiracy industry operation. The "Wizard of Oz" figure orchestrating the machinations of the conspiracy industry is a little-known recluse, Richard Mellon Scaife. Scaife uses his \$800 million dollar inherited Mellon fortune to underwrite the Foster conspiracy industry. Scaife promotes the industry through his ownership of a small Pittsburgh newspaper, the Tribune-Review. Scaife's paper, under the direction of reporter Chris Ruddy, continually publishes stories regarding Foster's death. The articles are then reprinted in major newspapers all over the country in the form of paid advertisements. The Western Journalism Center (WJC), a nonprofit conservative think tank, places the stories in these newspapers. The WJC receives much of its financial backing from Scaife.
- Scaife is in the vanguard of a new form of political organizing. Wealthy right wing foundations and individuals finance conservative think tanks and non-profits. The think tanks and non-profits promote their benefactor's agendas and viewpoints. The think tanks and non-profits are able to spin their backer's agenda and viewpoints back into the mainstream and control the agenda of the Republican Party.
- Scaife uses his financing of the fringe, right wing publications and non-profits to create a communications stream of conspiracy commerce. The stream effectively conveys the rantings of the fringe into legitimate subjects of coverage by the mainstream media. Here is how Scaife does it: 1) The right wing publications he owns or helps finance such as the Tribune-Review or American Spectator will do a Foster conspiracy story; 2) The story will then be picked up on the internet; 3) From the internet the story will bounce back into the mainstream media; and 4) From the mainstream media, a Congressional investigatory committee will follow up on the story which, in turn, gives the story even more undeserved legitimacy.
- Scaife is a Newt Gingrich insider. Through his various foundations, Scaife has helped underwrite the Gingrich empire and entities that support Gingrich's agenda. Scaife is a key Gingrich insider. Gingrich has said of Scaife, "Dick Scaife is a remarkable citizen who has spent many years as a key force in sustaining conservative ideas and who has played a major, major role on the Heritage Foundation's board and he's been a good friend and a good ally for a very long time..."



## RICHARD M. SCAIFE: GINGRICH INSIDER FEEDING FOSTER CONSPIRACY THEORIES

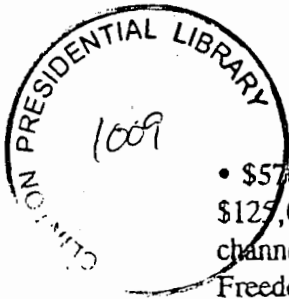
Richard Mellon Scaife, an heir to the Mellon fortune with an estimated net worth of \$750 million, is a Newt Gingrich insider who is now taking an active role in spreading conspiracy theories about White House deputy counsel Vincent Foster's suicide. Through his three Pennsylvania-based private foundations -- the Carthage, Sarah Mellon Scaife and Allegheny Foundations -- Scaife has funded several parts of Gingrich's empire. Now, Scaife has turned his attention to organizations promoting theories about the death of Vince Foster. Scaife, himself, is publisher of a newspaper that employs Chris Ruddy, a reporter who is a key purveyor of conspiracy theories regarding Foster. Here is a look at Scaife and his support of Gingrich and Foster conspiracy theorists.

### ***RICHARD SCAIFE: GINGRICH FUNDER***

- ◆ Richard Scaife has funded several organizations that are part of Newt Gingrich's empire -- making him a key Gingrich insider. Scaife's support of the Gingrich empire includes:
  - **\$60,000 to GOPAC from 1989-95.** GOPAC is the political action committee chaired by Gingrich. GOPAC is the subject of a lawsuit by the Federal Election Commission as well as charges against Gingrich with the House Ethics Committee. [GOPAC donor list and FEC report]

Gingrich's **Progress and Freedom Foundation** received over \$182,000 from seven anonymous contributors in 1994. It is not clear if any were Scaife foundations.
- ◆ Scaife also funds groups that defend or promote Gingrich, including:
  - **\$5,326,000 to the Free Congress Foundation from 1988-93.** Paul Weyrich and his Free Congress Foundation (FCF), founded National Empowerment Television (NET). NET airs "Renewing American Civilization," ("RAC") the controversial course taught by Gingrich. Another NET program is "Progress Report" which is produced by the Gingrich-inspired Progress and Freedom Foundation (PFF) and hosted by Gingrich. PFF oversees the distribution of "RAC" from which NET raises money -- by selling ads for the Gingrich course. Scaife also paid \$50,000 for his associate Richard Larry and his wife to attend a February 8, 1995 Washington dinner featuring Gingrich that benefitted NET. A lobbyist in attendance told The Times-Picayune that, "Gingrich also gets what amounts to a direct benefit since the cause, the network, is really Newt." [Sarah Scaife Foundation, 1993 Annual Report; Times Picayune, 2/5/95].
  - **\$450,000 to the Landmark Legal Foundation from 1988-93.** Landmark has focused on ethics charges against Democrats who have questioned Newt Gingrich's ethics. Mark Levin, the head of legal policy, and Landmark have filed two ethics complaints -- both quickly dismissed -- against Democratic Whip David Bonior and have sharply criticized Representative Pat Schroeder and Bonior for their ethics allegations against Newt Gingrich. [Washington Times, 5/19/95, 3/3/95]
  - **\$1,209,000 to the American Spectator from 1988-93.** The cover story of the April 1995 edition American Spectator was headlined "REVOLTING LOSERS: Newt-haters Ben Jones and David Bonior." According to the story, "Jones has launched an obsessive vendetta against House Speaker Newt Gingrich. And in Democratic whip Rep. David Bonior, he's found a PAC-pampered ally."

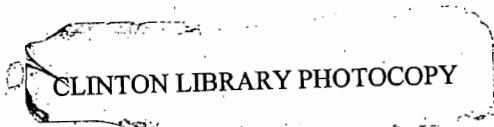


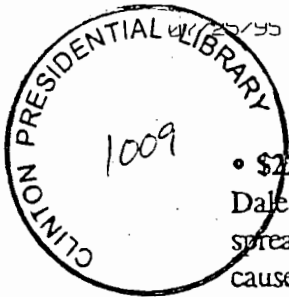


• \$570,000 to Accuracy in Media from 1988-93. AIM is one of eight groups that pays \$125,000 a year to broadcast National Empowerment Television, the conservative right wing channel that airs two shows featuring Newt Gingrich. AIM, along with the Progress and Freedom Foundation, are Associate Broadcasters of the channel. [Washington Post, 2/10/94]

### **SCAIFE FEEDS VINCE FOSTER CONSPIRACIES**

- ◆ Through his Carthage and Sarah Scaife Foundations, Richard Scaife subsidizes a number of groups that attack President Clinton for his Whitewater investment and promote conspiracy theories that question whether White House deputy counsel Vincent Foster committed suicide. In addition, Scaife is publisher of the conservative Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, a newspaper that pushes the Vince Foster conspiracy theories. Scaife donations to Clinton-attack groups include:
  - Large donations to the Western Journalism Center (WJC). Founded by Joseph Farah (the former editor of Scaife's now-defunct Sacramento Union newspaper) the WJC is a non-profit organization that was dormant until last year. Last August, the Center reprinted criticisms of independent counsel Robert Fiske's investigation into the Foster suicide written by former New York Post reporter Chris Ruddy in full-page ads headlined "Vince Foster's Death: Was It a Suicide?" in the New York Times, the Washington Post and other large newspapers. After that WJC began sponsoring the efforts of Chris Ruddy, the only daily reporter known to be working full-time on the Foster suicide. Ruddy is currently employed by Scaife's Pittsburgh Tribune-Review. On August 31, 1994, U.S. Park Police Officer Kevin Fornhill filed a \$2 million libel suit against Chris Ruddy, the WJC, and NTU's James Dale Davidson (see below) for writing and distributing the Ruddy report that alleged a cover-up involving Foster's suicide. The WJC's other Foster-related activities include: reprinting Ruddy articles in full-page Washington Times ads, distribution of the "Unanswered: The Death of Vincent Foster" video, and release of a study into the Foster suicide at an April 27, 1995 Washington D.C. press conference. The press conference was also attended by AIM's Reed Irvine and James Dale Davidson. The WJC advisory board includes Arianna Huffington and Marvin Olasky, both senior fellows at Newt Gingrich's Progress and Freedom Foundation. Exact totals of Scaife foundation contributions to the WJC will be disclosed later this year. [The Wall Street Journal, 3/23/95; Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 4/30/95; AP, 8/31/95]
  - \$570,000 to Accuracy in Media (AIM) from 1988-93. AIM's chairman, Reed Irvine, is a leading Clinton critic and Vince Foster conspiracy theorist. Irvine has written numerous op-eds, including three in the Washington Times. Irvine's editorials suggest that Foster's death was not a suicide and that the White House did not want a thorough investigation into the death because the Clintons had documents they wanted to conceal. In addition, Irvine represented AIM at the April 27, 1995 press conference held with the WJC and James Dale Davidson, at which AIM released a report "The Trial of Vince Foster" which raised questions about the Foster suicide. AIM also produces a television show, "The Other Side of the Story." The show, hosted by Irvine, appears on National Empowerment Television and often focuses on the Foster suicide. Irvine helps lead the crusade against the so-called "liberal media." [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 4/30/95; The Nation, 3/30/85; Washington Times, 12/11/93, 1/26/94, 1/31/94]

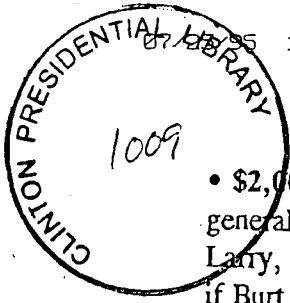




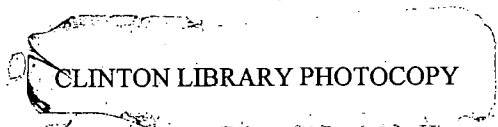
- **\$225,000** to the **National Taxpayers Union (NTU)** from 1988-93. NTU Chairman James Dale Davidson also publishes a newsletter "Strategic Investments," which has engaged in spreading rumors about Foster and a supposedly devastating Whitewater scandal that would cause the Clintons to be "eliminated from the political scene, hopelessly and totally discredited." Davidson attended the April 27, 1995 press conference and produced the video "Unanswered: The Death of Vincent Foster," that was distributed by the WJC. In addition, Davidson was named in the libel lawsuit by a U.S. park policeman after publishing a Chris Ruddy article in his "Strategic Investment" newsletter alleging that U.S. Park Police lied about Foster's death. ["Strategic Investment," 4/25/94; WSJ, 3/23/95; AP, 8/31/94]
- **\$1,209,000** to the **American Spectator** from 1988-93. The American Spectator has been a leading critic of President Clinton, going much further than other news organs in trying to link the president to sex scandals and in digging up dirt on Whitewater. And while the magazine has not yet pursued the Foster story, its editor-in-chief, R. Emmett Tyrell, still refers to Foster's death as an "alleged suicide" in his columns. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 4/30/95]
- **\$450,000** to the **Landmark Legal Foundation** from 1988-93. Landmark is a conservative legal organization which has offered counsel and advice to Paula Jones, supported Clarence Thomas and Ed Meese, and searched for a conspiracy in "Travelgate." The Landmark Legal Foundation also asked Attorney General Janet Reno to seek the appointment of an independent counsel to review the Clintons' role in the Whitewater and Paula Jones cases. [Washington Post, 5/4/94; Texas Lawyer, 2/28/94; National Law Journal 9/9/91]
- **\$5,326,000** to the **Free Congress Foundation** from 1988-93. The Free Congress Foundation's National Empowerment Television (NET), headed by conservative activist Paul Weyrich, concentrates on conservative programming that includes such Clinton attack groups as Accuracy in Media and the NRA. The Board of Directors of Free Congress includes: Former Secretary of Education and current Sarah Scaife Foundation Board of Trustee member William Bennett; and Christian Coalition Executive Director Ralph Reed. Heritage Foundation economic analyst Dan Mitchell hosts a show on NET. The Heritage Foundation is a conservative think tank of which Bennett is a Distinguished Fellow. The Heritage President Edwin Feulner, Jr. also serves on the Scaife Board of Trustees. Scaife gave **\$4,441,000** to Heritage from 1988-93. [Sarah Scaife Foundation, 1993 Annual Report; Times Picayune, 2/5/95; Free Congress Foundation Brochure]

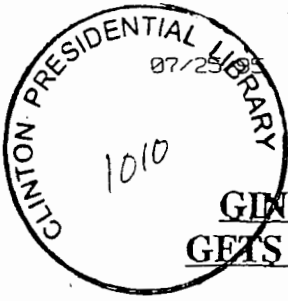
**SCAIFE'S HISTORY OF SUPPORT OF CONTROVERSIAL RIGHT WING GROUPS**

- ◆ Scaife's traditional support of conservative groups includes donations of:
  - **\$1,000,000** to **CREEP (Committee to Re-Elect the President)** in 1972. Scaife's donations made him the second largest contributor to Richard Nixon's re-election effort. CREEP general counsel G. Gordon Liddy, who served time in prison for his role in the Watergate scandal, is now a right-wing radio talk show host who has come under fire for advocating the killing of federal agents. CREEP was linked directly to the Watergate break-in in the early 1970's. [Gannett News Service, 6/10/92]
  - **\$47,500** to the **Townhouse Operation** in 1974. The Townhouse Operation was a secret \$3 million slush fund that contributed large campaign sums to Republican candidates around the country whom Nixon supported. The fund was run by H. R. Haldeman and the operations led to guilty pleas by three campaign workers to election law violations during the Watergate scandal. [AP, 2/7/80]



• \$2,000,000 to Capital Legal Foundation (CLF) in 1985. This foundation represented general William C. Westmoreland in his libel suit against CBS. Scaife's assistant, Richard Lary, contacted CLF chief Dan Burt and notified him that Scaife would help pay for the suit if Burt would fight CBS on Westmoreland's behalf. The suit was part of a campaign sparked by conservative groups against what Accuracy In Media chairman Reed Irvine calls the "liberal media." Conservative groups such as Accuracy in Media called for revocation of stations' FCC licenses and hoped that the Westmoreland case would lead to the demise of "CBS Reports," which had reported on Westmoreland's role in conducting secret war activities in Vietnam. [The Nation, 3/30/85; The Toronto Star, 7/11/93]





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## GINGRICH COMMENTS ON FOSTER'S DEATH AFTER GOPAC GETS NEW FUNDS FROM FOSTER CONSPIRACY BACKER SCAIFE

### **SCAIFE GAVE \$25,000 TO GOPAC LAST QUARTER**

Richard Mellon Scaife -- a long-time GOPAC charter member who has also funded several groups who promote conspiracy theories about the death of former White House staffer Vince Foster -- gave \$25,000 to Gingrich's GOPAC in the second quarter of 1995. Since 1989, Scaife has given at least \$60,000 to GOPAC.

### **GINGRICH: "NOT CONVINCED" FOSTER COMMITTED SUICIDE**

Today, Gingrich told a small gathering of reporters that *"I'm not convinced that he didn't (committee suicide). I'm just not convinced he did ... I don't question it, I just don't accept it... I believe there are plausible grounds to wonder what happened. There is plausible reason to question whether or not it was suicide."* [AP, 7/25/95]

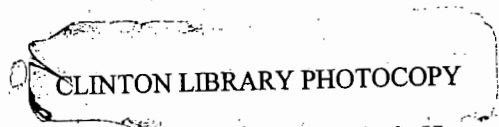
On July 6, 1995, Gingrich promised a caller to Bob Grant's radio show that congressional hearings on Whitewater would question whether Foster committed suicide. Gingrich: *"Oh, I think we are entitled to a full airing and I think you're gonna find that Congressional hearings are gonna raise questions. I was very struck by an article, I think it was in, Investor's Daily, ran a very a long article that I thought was stunning raising question after question after question about Foster and what happened there. And I've asked several of our congressional chairmen of our committees to look into that and I think you will be seeing some hearings on these topics because when you look at em, there's just too much there to, uh, uh, to not try to find out what really happened."* [Bob Grant radio show, 7/6/95]

However, in 1993, Gingrich said that the views an independent investigation should be accepted: *"If there is an investigation, and there should be, if they end up concluding that whatever happened was entirely personal, then I think that ought to be sealed. I think human beings and their families deserve some level of decency in which to live their lives out, even in this town."* [CNN, "Capital Gang", 7/24/93]

### **FOSTER CONSPIRACY THEORISTS REPEAT GINGRICH'S WORDS**

Gingrich's quote on Foster's death from the Bob Grant show have been published three times by organizations funded by Richard Mellon Scaife.

The Pittsburg Tribune-Review, which is owned by Scaife, featured Gingrich's quote in a story by Christopher Ruddy that ran on July 13, 1995. The Western Journalism Center then paid to have Ruddy's story -- entitled "Gingrich Says Expect Hearings on Foster Death Topics" -- re-printed in the July 19, 1995 Washington Times. The July 24, 1995 issue of Dispatches, a monthly newsletter published by the Western Journalism Center's executive director, Joseph Farah, ran a front-page re-print of the same Ruddy story, now entitled "Gingrich calls flaws in Foster case 'stunning.'"



# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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001. report	Re: Conspiracy Theory (1 page)	n.d.	P5 1011
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### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
Counsel's Office  
Jane Sherburne  
OA/Box Number: CF 426

### FOLDER TITLE:

[Binder] Communication Conspiracy [3]

Rhonda Young  
2007-0080-F  
ry1275

### RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

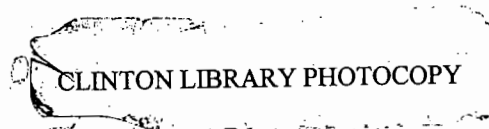
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CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY



## HELEN DICKEY-ROGER PERRY: A PRODUCT OF THE RIGHT-WING CONSPIRACY THEORY INDUSTRY

- The alleged "earlier" phone call between Helen Dickey and Trooper Roger Perry was first reported by Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, the conservative Washington D.C. correspondent for the right wing British tabloid the Sunday Telegraph.
- The Dickey-Perry story has been a staple of Foster conspiracy theorists for a long time. The Foster conspiracy is constantly covered by the far right wing and fringe elements through their publications.
- The Dickey-Perry story is also a favorite of the fringe Foster conspiracy theorist fanatics who proliferate the internet. On any given day, a new permutation of the Foster-Dickey-Perry conspiracy theory is floated on the net.
- The Dickey-Perry story is a classic example of how the Conspiracy Stream of Commerce works. In short, the stream effectively conveys the rantings of the fringe into legitimate subjects of coverage by the mainstream media. The fringe stories are first covered by right wing publications then posted on the internet then bounced into the mainstream media from which it is then picked up by Congressional investigations and given unwarranted legitimacy. In this particular case, the story went from Evans-Pritchard's article to fringe publications such as the Western Journalism Center and the Pittsburgh Tribune Review. From the fringe publications, the stories were conveyed vis-a-vis the internet, which reproduced the fringe stories for a wider audience. Next, more mainstream, but nonetheless conservative, newspapers such as the Washington Times and New York Post picked up and reported on the story. Once the conservative newspapers covered the story, the mainstream media picked up the Dickey-Perry story and reported on it. The reporting of the story in the mainstream gave Republicans on the Hill the justification they needed to investigate the story. Once Congress begins looking into the story, it gains further legitimacy as a credible story and serves as a foundation upon which to build another conspiracy story to be disseminated through the same media food chain cycle.
- Troopers Patterson and Perry have soiled pasts. They are represented by long-time Clinton hater Cliff Jackson. In addition, the two have made previous charges about the President. Finally, they are purporting to be working on a book regarding the President.



# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. report	Re: Joseph Farah (5 pages)	n.d.	P5 1012

**COLLECTION:**

Clinton Presidential Records  
 Counsel's Office  
 Jane Sherburne  
 OA/Box Number: CF 426

**FOLDER TITLE:**

[Binder] Communication Conspiracy [4]

Rhonda Young  
 2007-0080-F  
 ry1276

**RESTRICTION CODES**

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
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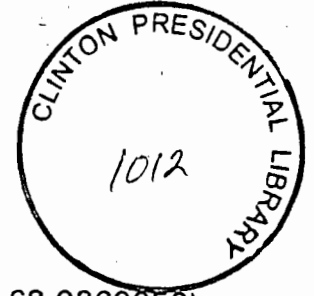
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## JOSEPH FARAH



### **Biography.**

Approximately 40 years of age

Founder, Western Journalism Center, a 501(c)3 California corp. (Fed. Tax I.D. 68-0260052)

Editor & assoc. publisher, *Between the Lines* (biweekly newsletter on politics of news media and Hollywood)

Executive editor, Glendale Newspapers, a group of dailies and weeklies in southern California

Executive News Editor, now-defunct *Los Angeles Herald-Examiner*, 1984-1990

Editor, now-defunct *Sacramento (CA) Union*, 1990-1991

Presbyterian

**Western Journalism Center Sued On Foster Ad.** Farah's Western Journalism Center began running newspaper advertisements entitled, "Vincent Foster's Death: WAS IT A SUICIDE?" in major national papers since August 1994. The ad has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Times*, the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Washington Post* among others. In August, the Western Journalism Center was sued for re-printing a series written by former *New York Post* reporter Chris Ruddy. The suit was filed by Kevin Fornhill, the U.S. Park Police Officer who discovered Foster's body. Ruddy left the *New York Post* in September 1994 to write for *Dispatches*, a newsletter on politics and the media published by Farah. [Associated Press, 8/31/94; New York Times, 8/28/94; Washington Post, 11/16/94]

**Personal Views.** Farah describes himself as a "very liberal" student who once was arrested for protesting the Vietnam War but who converted to conservatism in the early 1980s, impressed by former President Ronald Reagan's "tough stance" in foreign policy and by the "success of 'supply side' economics."

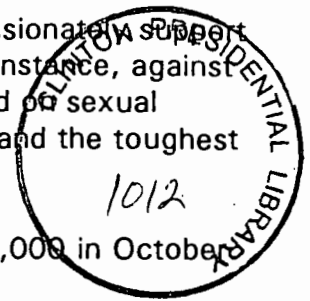
Farah sometimes has carried his anti-abortion crusade beyond the pages of the *Union*. Last January he spoke to an anti-abortion rights rally at the state Capitol, and in March he was involved in a physical confrontation at a Sacramento abortion clinic. Farah is strongly anti-abortion. He has called Pete Wilson "a disaster for Republicans and for conservatives". [National Review, 9/9/91]

Farah is straightforward about his, and *Union* co-owner Dan Benvenuti Jr.'s, support for right-to-life Christian groups and their notions of traditional American and family values. "We are unambiguously a pro-life newspaper," Farah says proudly. "We consider it a very, very important issue." [California Journal, 4/1/91]

**Shifted Sacramento Union to Right -- Emulating the Washington Times.** According to the *L.A. Times*, Farah "shifted the Sacramento Union from a mainstream conservative newspaper into one further to the right". During the 15 months Farah directed the *Union* (which had been California's oldest newspaper and the oldest daily newspaper continuously published west of the Mississippi), he "directed the paper to give more aggressive coverage of conservative activities and increased the emphasis on anti-abortion and pro-family issues."



Farah wrote: "The Sacramento Union stands for certain principles and we passionately support them in our editorials, columns, and cartoons. We take strong positions, for instance, against abortion on demand, excessive government spending, and special rights based on sexual proclivities. We also strongly support the family, the free enterprise system, and the toughest penalties for violent criminals." [Columbia Journalism Review, 1-2/91]



During his tenure, the *Union's* circulation fell from 72,000 in July 1990 to 52,000 in October 1991.

Farah hired two people who had most recently worked at the state Assembly Republican Caucus -- city editor Mike Pottage and columnist Roger Canfield.

At city editor Pottage's first staff meeting with reporters, questions were raised about seemingly biased story assignments. Pottage responded that the paper had a bias and that if there was ever a weekend when both Operation Rescue and ACT UP were holding demonstrations and only one reporter was available, "You know which one we'll cover. We'll cover the Operation Rescue story."

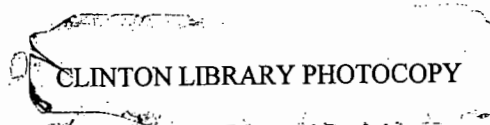
According to the *Washington Post's* Howard Kurtz, Farah's efforts "prompted an exodus of veteran staffers who complain that conservative bias is distorting the news coverage."

Farah told the conservative *National Review* that he was putting out one of the few conservative daily newspapers in the country. He mentioned the *Indianapolis Star*, the *Birmingham News*, and the *Washington Times* as others. [L.A. Times, 10/17/91; UPI, 10/15/91; *National Review*, 9/9/91; L.A. Times, 5/16/91; *National Review*, 9/9/91; *Columbia Journalism Review*, 1-2/91; *Washington Post*, 10/24/90]

**Union Owner Daniel Benvenuti, Farah and Radical Right Views.** The paper, which had been losing money for years, continued during Farah's term despite the best efforts of a "prayer committee" of local residents that owner Daniel Benvenuti established shortly after taking control. The committee's task is "to pray for and with you and to lift up the Union to God," the new owner said. "I also believe that it is important that other Christians recognize just what is at stake and what it will take if a newspaper with a Christian philosophy is to succeed."

Farah has said he shares many of Benvenuti's opinions, especially his fervent opposition to abortion. Benvenuti issued a "statement of guiding principles" when he bought the paper in 1989. The "principles" extol the virtues of capitalism; warn against big government; assert that "all legitimate and inalienable rights are endowed by the Creator", and admonish that "it is wrong to murder the innocent," including the "preborn." Benvenuti has been a generous contributor to the Capital Christian Center, a 6,000-member fundamentalist, evangelical church in Sacramento.

Farah sees such criticism as "a form of bigotry" because the paper's owners are religious Christians (he says his own religious beliefs are "none of your business"). Such questions would never be raised if the owners of a news organization were Jewish, he says. [L.A. Times, 10/17/91; UPI, 10/15/91; *National Review*, 9/9/91; L.A. Times, 5/16/91; *National Review*, 9/9/91; *Columbia Journalism Review*, 1-2/91; *Washington Post*, 10/24/90]



**Right-Wing News Policies.** San Diego Union-Tribune Capitol bureau chief Daniel Carson processed Farah's Union of being a "mouthpiece for the fundamentalist Christian Right." Among Farah's policies at the Union:

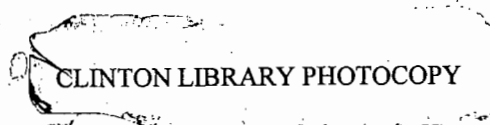
- Changed a story to identify National Organization of Women as a "radical feminist group." (Reporter quit, writing "The owner of this paper has manipulated the editorial personnel in an effort to mold a staff that will follow his religious and political ideals").
- Replace the word "assault weapons" with "semi-automatic rifles".
- Replace the words "pro-choice" and "pro-life" with "pro-abortion" and "anti-abortion."
- Replace the word "women's health center" with "abortion clinics".
- Identify retiring Supreme Court Justice William Brennan as having "consistently struck down all legal protections of the unborn."
- Replace the word "gay" with the word "homosexual."
- No advertising for films rated NC-17 because they "are nothing more than X-rated films with a polite new name".
- Union opposed a bill banning discrimination against gays and lesbians.
- Farah refused to meet with ACT-UP.
- A piece on a large "life chain" anti-abortion demonstration was headlined "16,600 STAND PROUD AGAINST ABORTION"
- A piece on a countywide smog-clearing law was edited to read "The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District wants to dictate how area residents travel to work. The planned ordinance would include penalties for nonconformists.... New rules will be drafted to force at least two of every five commuters to abandon their cars and either take the bus, carpool or ride rapid transit." [L.A. Times, 10/17/91; UPI, 10/15/91; National Review, 9/9/91; L.A. Times, 5/16/91; National Review, 9/9/91; Columbia Journalism Review, 1-2/91; Washington Post, 10/24/90]

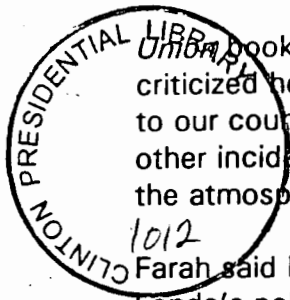


**Union reporter released after writing AIDS Quilt story.** Reporter Marybeth Bizjak was fired by the Union after running a story on the AIDS Memorial Quilt. According to Bizjak, "My editor told me, 'You don't understand. The owner (Sacramento developer Danny Benvenuti Jr.) is a fundamentalist Christian. He doesn't want to see this kind of thing in the paper'.... They never told me why they let me go, but I assumed it was that story and a few other stories, and the fact that I wasn't much of a bower and scraper." [Los Angeles Times, 5/16/91]

**Reporters Left Union due to Farah News Policies.** Union religion reporter Mary Owen resigned after several conflicts with Farah. "If I didn't find a story the way he wanted," she said, "I was told he wouldn't give it time or space. He was telling anybody who disagreed with him that they were bad reporters."

One assignment she received from Farah was to do a piece on values in the schools. Farah, she says, wanted conflict in the story. "He told me that religion was the basis of all morals, so the schools were in trouble because of lack of Christian influence. But I believe you don't have to be religious to have a moral structure. The bottom line is that I saw great things happening in the schools, but he didn't want to hear about that."





Book editor and feature writer Sue Gilmore resigned after 13 years when Farah sharply criticized her favorable review of a book about Jane Fonda. "He said Jane Fonda was a traitor to our country and we shouldn't have reviewed the book," said Gilmore. "There had been some other incidents, but after that one I just decided it wasn't a healthy place to work anymore ... the atmosphere was really oppressive."

Farah said he objected to the review because "it was a defense of Jane Fonda and Jane Fonda's politics. It would be suicidal for this newspaper to run exclusively that kind of material over a long period of time. We've got a readership that's totally at odds with that point of view." [L.A. Times, 5/16/91; Columbia Journalism Review, 1-2/91]

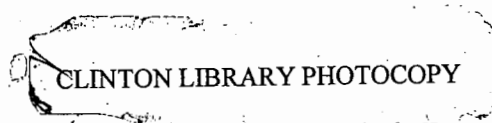
**Farah discussed abortion, gays and religion with job applicants.** In a letter from a job applicant for a reporter's position that was left on top of the city editor's desk over the weekend (and was copied and distributed around the newsroom), it became clear that the applicant had talked with Farah about abortion, homosexuality, and Christianity. "I mentioned to you that I've resolved the homophobia and personal hatred toward homosexuals that I once had," wrote the applicant, who in the end was not hired. "I don't hate them as individuals, but I believe they are an evil influence in our society and need to be opposed and their propaganda barrage combated by truthful reporting.... I trust God for protection and if He chooses not to protect me in His own purposes, then I'm ready to suffer for it."

Across the top of this letter Farah had written: "This guy will work cheap." [Columbia Journalism Review, 1-2/91]

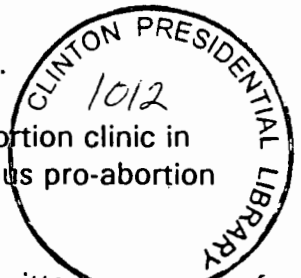
**Controversy on "Ghost-written" Rush Limbaugh column.** Farah and the *Union* were forced to defend themselves against charges by California radio host Christine Craft that a bylined column by syndicated radio commentator Rush Limbaugh was actually written by someone else. Farah admitted that the column was ghostwritten by a newspaper staff member but insisted that "the words are really Limbaugh's." Limbaugh and Farah argued that a *Union* staffer transcribed portions of Limbaugh's radio program, wrote a column and faxed it to Limbaugh for editing daily. [Editor and Publisher, 1/12/91]

**"Operation Spike" and the conservative media watch.** Farah was director of a media panel called "Operation Spike" -- a conservative counterpunch to "Operation Censored", a project of Professor Carl Jensen of Sonoma State University. Operation Censored annually lists what Jensen and his panel (which includes Ben Bagdikian and Bill Moyers) consider the top 10 "underreported" news stories.

Farah's group, which includes Reed Irvine and Washington Times editor Arnaud de Borchgrave, listed its own top 10 underreported stories. Leading the list was "Ronald Reagan's contributions to world peace." Other choices included "how supply side economics really worked" and "why SDI is more necessary than ever." [California Journal, 4/1/91]



***Speaks at Anti-Abortion Rally and Involved In Tussle at Abortion Clinic.***  
Farah addressed an anti-abortion rights rally at the California state Capitol.



In 1991, Farah was involved in a tussle with a pro-choice escort at an abortion clinic in Sacramento. He claimed to be "punched in the mouth by one of the vicious pro-abortion demonstrators" and filed assault and battery charges against the woman.

After deliberating less than an hour, a Sacramento Superior Court jury acquitted a woman of assault and battery charges for striking Farah. The jury found the woman was acting in self-defense. Farah said he had gone to the clinic as a journalist after hearing that abortion supporters were harassing abortion opponents. He claimed that his hands were in his pockets during the altercation and that at no time did he grab or strike the woman. [Editor and Publisher, 7/6/91]

***Outing Gay Journalists.*** Farah published a story in an August 1993 newsletter called "The Lambda Report" in which he wrote "the pernicious role of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association in media coverage of homosexual issues". The article identified several reporters as "card-carrying members" of the gay journalists group, and was accompanied by a sidebar that listed nineteen other journalists who "are or have been active" with the group.

The monthly newsletter (which is published by the Springs of Life Church, a Pentecostal church in Lancaster, California) is devoted to "monitoring the homosexual agenda in American politics and culture." The church has also produced a twenty-minute video called "The Gay Agenda," which offers an unflattering portrayal of gay life in America. [Columbia Journalism Review, March 1994]

At a May 1993 meeting of Pat Buchanan's "American Cause" organization, Farah said he was receiving literature from the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association. He said: "I'm happily married, to a woman no less. Maybe they thought I was a male lesbian." [Houston Chronicle, 5/15/93]

***Farah and Buchanan's Cultural War.*** At a May 1993 meeting of Pat Buchanan's American Cause supporters, Farah "summoned the spectre of communism... and said that the Reds understood that once you got hold of a nation's cultural institutions, political power was yours for the plucking. "The left has been doing that for the last 25 or 30 years," according to *MacLean's* magazine. [Maclean's, 6/7/93]

