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More Scaife-Falwell sleaze behind assault on Presidency

by Edward Spannaus

More of the rotten underpinnings of the attacks on the Presidency are being exposed to public light, demonstrating the fraud of the operation to bring down President Clinton. Among the new revelations are those involving the origins of the "Troopergate" story, secret payments to the Paula Jones legal defense fund by an operative linked to Richard Mellon Scaife, and back-door payments to dubious Arkansas "sources" to be used for articles ending up in publications such as the *Wall Street Journal*, the *American Spectator*, and the *Sunday Telegraph* of London.

The new evidence coming out, with links to key elements of the "Olson Salon" described in last week's *EIR*, provides further confirmation that the operation against President Clinton conforms to the type of covert foreign intelligence operation which would be run under the authority of the 1981 Executive Order 12333.

Lying for dollars

Secret payments in excess of \$200,000 from an organization closely linked to Rev. Jerry Falwell were made to individuals making allegations against Bill Clinton, according to an article published in the current issue of the Internet magazine Salon. Investigative reporter Murray Waas says that the payments and the allegations they bought "were part of a covert and sophisticated political propaganda effort to influence public opinion against President Clinton."

Such a "covert propaganda effort" as Waas describes, is a tell-tale feature of a 12333 operation; this parallels the operation run against Lyndon LaRouche around the "John Train Salon" in the 1980s, where a "private" propaganda operation runs in parallel to an official investigation.

It is therefore not surprising that the two publications featured in the Salon exposé are the Wall Street Journal and

the American Spectator—whose respective editors, Robert Bartley and Emmett Tyrrell, are regulars at the gatherings at the Great Falls, Virginia, home of Ted and Barbara Olson, where they can meet with Kenneth Starr and other lawyers, judges, and journalists.

The organization making the secret payments to sources and witnesses was Citizens for Honest Government (CHG), the producer of the notorious *Clinton Chronicles* video, which accuses Clinton of drug running and of a string of murders in Arkansas. Although televangelist Jerry Falwell lies that his only involvement with the videotape was to promote it on his "Old Time Gospel Hour" TV show, Waas shows that Falwell was involved in financing the production of the videotape as well.

Waas's story also discloses previously unknown ties of Richard Mellon Scaife to the Falwell/Clinton Chronicles operation

Larry Patterson, one of the original "Troopergate" sources in late 1993, opened up a joint bank account in 1995 with Larry Nichols, the narrator of the *Clinton Chronicles*, who was fired as an Arkansas state employee in 1987 by Clinton for spending too much time in activities involving the Nicaraguan Contras. Nichols got at least \$89,000 from CHG and from a closely linked film company, Jeremiah Productions. The principals in Jeremiah were the head of CHG, Pat Matrisciana, and Christopher Ruddy—Scaife's poison pen, who spent a couple of years trying to prove that White House aide Vincent Foster was murdered. Ruddy is employed by Scaife's *Pitts-burgh Tribune-Review*.

The Nichols-Patterson bank account provided secret payments to a number of individuals who made allegations about Clinton's personal life, as well as alleged "witnesses" who claimed that Clinton was involved with the Mena, Arkansas

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drug-smuggling operation (which was in fact run by George Bush's Federal "secret government" apparatus, not by the Arkansas state government). When these allegations found their way onto the editorial page of the *Wall Street Journal*, they were used by Rep. James Leach of the House Banking Committee to launch a two-year investigation of Clinton and Mena, which predictably came up with nothing.

Another beneficiary of these secret "witness" funds was Jane Parks, who told the *American Spectator* that she had witnessed Bill Clinton using cocaine in 1984; she later told Ambrose Evans-Pritchard of the London *Sunday Telegraph* that her husband, a private investigator and former member of Clinton's security detail, was killed because he knew too much about Clinton and Mena. Parks, who got over \$20,000 from these sources, provided information for the anti-Clinton books eventually written by both Tyrrell and Evans-Pritchard.

'Troopergate' apology

Troopers Patterson and Roger Perry were the original two sources for the widely circulated *American Spectator* "Troopergate" story which burst out at the end of 1993, with the help of round-the-clock coverage from CNN. Now, the author of that story has issued an apology to President Clinton.

In an open letter to Clinton, published in the April 1998 *Esquire* magazine, David Brock says that the Arkansas state troopers who fed him allegations about Clinton's sex life "were greedy and had slimy motives, and I knew it." Brock also says that in the years since his article was published, "the troopers have greatly damaged their credibility." He cites the following examples of how they have done this:

- the troopers making fools out of themselves during the Senate Whitewater hearings with improbable claims about the death of Vincent Foster;
- trooper Larry Patterson helping to promote the *Clinton Chronicles*, "a crackpot video accusing [Clinton] of drug running and murder"; and
- that "Patterson was recently cited as a source for several wild allegations in the spurious book *The Secret Life of Bill Clinton* by British journalist Ambrose Evans-Pritchard."

Brock told ABC-TV on March 10 that the idea for the apology started to come to him when he saw the President being hauled in to give a deposition in the Paula Jones case in January; he decided for certain to write the apology when the Monica Lewinsky affair broke in the news media. Brock writes to Clinton: "My ransacking of your personal life had given your political adversaries—who were now funding and fighting the Jones case—an opportunity to use the legal process to finish the job that I had started."

Whatever happens with Paula Jones's case, Brock writes, "in a way, the people who hate you have already won, and we have all suffered not only from their malice toward you but from their contempt for the office of the President."

In David Brock's first public confession, published in July 1997, he described how "the entire anti-Clinton establish-

ment, from Wall Street Journal editorial-page editor Robert Bartley to Whitewater independent counsel Kenneth Starr," had been present for the wedding of Ted and Barbara Olson in the summer of 1996 in Great Falls, Virginia. Brock described how George Bush's former White House counsel, C. Boyden Gray, had "joked" with Brock, telling him that since it looked like Starr was not going to come up with the goods on Clinton before the election, it was going to be up to Brock to do the job.

Olson is in the middle of this seamy affair in multiple ways. Olson is counsel to the *American Spectator*, and sits on its board of directors. He was instrumental in the funnelling of at least \$1.7 million from Scaife through the *American Spectator* into the "Arkansas Project" from 1993 through 1997, which was used to dig up sex scandals and other dirt on Clinton; Scaife money also greased the way for notorious liar David Hale to become the "Starr witness" against Clinton and former Clinton associates in Whitewater-related trials in Arkansas. When Hale was subpoenaed to appear before the Senate Whitewater Committee in 1995, it was Olson who represented him.

Paying for Paula

Meanwhile, a brawl has broken out between the two organizations claiming to be raising money for Paula Jones's legal defense. One of the groups, the Christian Reconstructionist Rutherford Institute, is threatening to file a complaint with the IRS and FBI against the other group, the Paula Jones Legal Fund. Rutherford signed onto the Jones case last October, promising to underwrite the cost of Jones's lawyers—one of whom, Robert Rader, happens to be an old college classmate of Kenneth Starr, from the hard-right Harding College in Arkansas.

Although the Paula Jones Legal Fund claims to be raising money to pay Jones's lawyers, the Rutherford gang is angry because the money is instead going to Jones personally and to direct-mail fundraiser Bruce W. Eberle & Associates, of McLean, Virginia. In one example, Jones has used to money to bring her Hollywood hairdresser with her to Washington in an expensive effort to improve her appearance before TV cameras at Clinton's deposition in the case during January.

A surreptitious Mellon Scaife connection to the Paula Jones Legal Fund has also been uncovered by *Salon* magazine, which has dug up a secret \$50,000 donation given to the fund in 1995 by an obscure tax-exempt organization run by tax lawyer William Lehrfeld. Lehrfeld does most of his legal work for foundations and organizations funded by Scaife—as well as for the Sarah Scaife Foundation itself. Lehrfeld has done work for the Heritage Foundation and the Washington Legal Foundation; Scaife is thought to be the largest contributor to both. Moreover, Kenneth Starr, as well as Ted and Barbara Olson, are on the Legal Policy Advisory Board of the Washington Legal Foundation, as is John Norton Moore—one of the principal authors of Executive Order 12333.

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