

troops are sent into an open-ended peacekeeping mission.”

Steve Forbes, the publisher of *Forbes* magazine whose multimillion-dollar personal fortune is fueling his dark-horse Presidential race, put out a statement on Nov. 22 calling for a Republican mobilization to block the U.S. troop commitment to Bosnia:

“While the settlement is applaudable and one hopes lasting, it would still be a murderous mistake to send American ground forces as peacekeepers. If the settlement is real, such a presence will not be necessary.

“Putting American troops in Bosnia would set the stage for another Lebanon or Somalia. Even worse, this debacle may set in motion forces that could destroy NATO and form xenophobic nationalist forces in Russia.

“I call upon Congress and Republican Congressional leaders to fight such a deployment with every ounce of energy they have. It must be blocked.”

Pat Buchanan: Buchanan has been the most outspoken opponent of the Clinton administration’s Bosnian peace plan. He held a press conference in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 27, prior to the President’s television broadcast, to excoriate the plan:

“We’re here to talk about the President’s plan to intervene with 20,000 American troops in Bosnia. In my judgment, President Clinton has no authority to do this. These American troops are NATO troops. Bosnia is not covered by NATO. No Americans have been attacked in Bosnia. There is no vital interest at risk in Bosnia. . . . I don’t know where in the Constitution Mr. Clinton gets the authority to wage war against Bosnian Serbs in a country that is not even covered by NATO without the authority of the Congress of the United States. . . . I think what is transpiring is an act of folly, and it’s inviting a tragedy of historic dimensions. . . .

“Let me talk about the President now. While I disagree with the President and while I don’t believe he has the authority without specific congressional approval to put an American army into Bosnia, he is leading. The President is taking a stand. He is articulating a vision about peace and democracy, utopian though it may be. . . .

“The Republican Party should likewise take a stand. I think the Republican Party should stand up and say, ‘We oppose American troops in Bosnia and we should deny the President the authority in the Congress to send those forces into Bosnia.’ I think it’s time Congress asserted a co-equal role with the President in the shaping of foreign policy.”

Richard Lugar (R-Ind.): The second-in-command of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee issued a statement through an aide on Nov. 28:

“His [Lugar’s] general policy is that, before troops are sent, there should be Congressional approval, and it has to be a clear and defined mission. As far as the President’s statement was concerned, he was pleased with it, he thought it was positive, but he still would like some more questions to be answered.”

Newt’s freshmen are ‘gangsta reps’

by Mark Sonnenblick

It’s no secret that, were the next elections to take place today, Newt Gingrich and his band of Republican “revolutionaries” would be swept out of Congress. It’s not just the “message” that has turned off the American public. But increasingly, the “messengers” are turning out to be very different than their slick public relations images.

In fact, some of Gingrich’s most devoted Congressional freshmen are turning out to be “sleaze personified.”

A ‘Mormon Maggie Thatcher’

Take the case of Rep. Enid Waldholtz (R-Utah), who paraded conservative Mormon virtues to defeat a feminist incumbent Democrat in Salt Lake City. During the campaign, she repeatedly pledged, “I promise to bring Utah values to Washington, not Washington values to Utah.”

Waldholtz came from third place in the election race to win, thanks to an infusion of \$1.8 million in what she claimed was “personal money.” Grilled by the press as to the source of the mystery money, she reassured the voters in her best Mormon manner, “We were very blessed for our hard work.” They chose to believe her.

Now, the FBI is investigating the myriad of federal election law violations by her campaign. These include falsified campaign reports to hide unlawful contributions, embezzlement of campaign funds, falsified personal asset reports, bounced checks, and misuse of Congressional funds. Husband Joseph Waldholtz has also been subpoenaed as a material witness in an alleged \$1.7 million check-kiting scheme. He is negotiating a deal with prosecutors which could include helping to convict his wife. The congresswoman claims that all misconduct was hidden from her until recently by “misrepresentations made to me by Joe Waldholtz.”

Once in Washington, Enid Waldholtz promptly became Newt’s darling and rose to an influential position in the class of ’94. The *New York Times* reported, “Her fellow freshmen bow exaggeratedly in her presence.” Eighty-five percent of the freshmen vote with the Speaker over 90% of the time. That huge voting bloc has been the source of Gingrich’s power.

Gingrich gave her a seat on the Rules Committee, much to the chagrin of many more senior Republicans. She was the

first freshman to be on Rules in 70 years. Under Gingrich, the Rules Committee has even more power than before. It has frequently replaced bills approved by Republican-dominated committees with ones which better fit the Gingrich agenda for fascist austerity. When Democrats complained about the Rules Committee preventing full debate on major legislation, Enid Waldholtz was called out to accuse the Democrats of "hypocrisy."

Waldholtz's leading role in the Gingrich kindergarten was hailed by the British media. The *Times* of London described her as the archetypical member of "the shock troops of the Gingrich army." It reported she carried the Contract with America in her purse "like a Bible" and praised her as "a self-proclaimed revolutionary with an unshakeable belief in her cause." The City of London's *Economist* weekly anointed her "the Mormon Maggie Thatcher."

Who done it?

Enid and Joseph Waldholtz are now locked in a bitter dispute over which one stole the funds which bought her seat in the Congress. Enid filed for divorce on Nov. 14, charging that Joe was responsible for all the campaign financing shenanigans, and that she knew nothing of them. On Nov. 17, after six days in hiding, Joe turned himself in to federal authorities. He says he can prove that she knew and approved of anything illegal he may have done to get her elected.

The whole affair is on its way into becoming an American version of the Prince Charles-Princess Di soap opera. After all, didn't the English invent the mechanism of "rotten boroughs," by which people could buy their way into Parliament?

This is not the first time that Representative Waldholtz has had her run-ins with campaign law. The Salt Lake City daily *Deseret News* ran a story on Nov. 28 which details how "she was the architect in 1992 of a situation similar to the 1994 problems but on a smaller scale. . . . She filed a financial disclosure form that suggests she may not have had enough assets to legally provide the money she supplied to her campaign, and her father ended up furnishing the cash that paid off campaign debts."

The next day, the *Salt Lake Tribune* reported that her lawyer, Charles Roistacher, acknowledged that her father, wealthy San Francisco stockbroker D. Forrest Greene, was the source of much of the mystery \$1.8 million which she claims were her own personal contributions. FBI agents are checking reports that her father directly wired payment for her last-minute TV ads which are credited with winning her the election.

Federal election law forbids buying of federal elections. Nobody, except for the candidate, may contribute more than \$1,000 to a campaign. That prohibition includes parents and spouses. Enid Waldholtz learned this in her class on election law at Brigham Young Law School.

Pittsburgh stealer

Joseph P. Waldholtz, 32 years old and almost 300 pounds, is from Pittsburgh. As a young man, he was under great pressure to be "successful." He was raised Jewish, but tells Republican hot-shots that he's an Episcopalian. When Enid got elected, "power-tripper" Joe rented the Georgetown townhouse in Washington, D.C. once owned by Henry A. Kissinger. They used it for expensive power-parties and other social activities which might not fit in with "Utah values."

The Waldholtzes met when she was running for national chairwoman of the Young Republicans in 1991. She was told that if she wanted to win, "You have to get to know that fat guy from Pittsburgh." Like Wendy Gramm, Sen. Phil Gramm's (R-Tex.) power-hungry wife, Enid overcame her initial disgust. She was elected chairwoman, and he, treasurer.

Joe worked on George Bush's Pennsylvania campaign in 1988, and, in 1992, he was made executive director of Bush's campaign at the request of billionaire Elsie Hillman, George Bush's cousin. In 1991-92, he was employed as her personal political operative. Hillman is one of two Republican National Committee members from Pennsylvania, and is the Republican boss of the Pittsburgh area.

The high living which Waldholtz employed to give associates the impression that he was independently wealthy and "the big man on campus," was financed by his running up \$100,000 in bills on Hillman's account. It took Hillman some years to catch on, because she gave him management control over a portion of her own fortune. Even when she fired him from the Bush campaign in June 1992, she protected him, and possibly herself, by doing it in a most discreet manner.

Waldholtz's first political "coup" came with the 1990 surprise victory of Rick Santorum in a Pittsburgh area Congressional contest. Waldholtz was one of Santorum's two campaign "gurus." Santorum was a product of the Pittsburgh law firm headed by Bush Attorney General Richard Thornburgh. The firm Kirkpatrick & Lockhart was sued for its role in setting up the looting of Sharon Steel by reputed Meyer Lansky-mob associate Victor Posner, to the benefit of Mellon Bank.

During this period, Joe was also embezzling from his own family, according to lawsuits filed by members of the family. His family exhibits a November 1990 note from Joe to his grandmother, Rebecca Levinson, stating that he was managing \$680,000 of her funds. He also took out a \$87,000 loan on her house. The family was never able to get Joe to give them income from Levinson's funds or even tell him what he was doing with them. They had a subpoena out for him in mid-1992 when he suddenly emigrated to Salt Lake City. Joe listed his mother and father as contributing \$1,000 each to his wife's 1994 campaign. His father responded that they made no such contributions; but, he wondered whether Joe had spent their inheritance in the campaign.