

The national co-chairmen of the Federalist Society are Bork (a regular at the Olson Salon) and Sen. Orrin Hatch, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Also on the Board of Trustees are former White House Counsel C. Boyden Gray, former Attorney General Edwin Meese (who presided over the secretive Council for National Policy for four years), and CNP members Holland Coors and Donald Hodel (now also head of the Christian Coalition).

## Get LaRouche, Get Clinton

LaRouche recently concluded that the operation being run against Clinton is the same one that was used against him. "This is a group of people who meet weekly, or approximately weekly, in a 'Get Clinton' operation, who are evidently steering and coordinating the attack on the President, and running Kenneth Starr's operation as a subsidiary operation," LaRouche said in a March 4 radio interview with "EIR Talks." "This is being run as a foreign intelligence operation, in style, under Executive Order 12333, a foreign intelligence operation targetting our own President! That's what the facts show is a pattern. In other words, you can't do what's being done, legally, except in this quasi-legal covert operations provision of Executive Order 12333 and other things, and the guy who wrote that thing, or drafted it, is a part of the same ambience that's running this style of operation."

LaRouche said that whether it's being run formally under E.O. 12333 or not, "is not crucial, because it's a 12333-style operation. . . . If it is legal, or quasi-legal, it is run under that Executive Order, which is a foreign intelligence operation *against our President, directed, overall, from London!*"

"Now, this is pretty close to high treason," LaRouche declared.

Noting that Olson is also running the operation in the Paula Jones case, LaRouche said that this means that Starr's Office of Independent Counsel is "being run under the management of an extra-governmental agency, operating in a mode which corresponds only to a secret foreign intelligence operation, under provisions of 12333. And these are the guys who managed, with Olson's help, managed the appeal to the Supreme Court from the Paula Jones lawyers, to go ahead with this case against the President, while he's sitting in office."

Adding into this mix another British asset, "a crazy man, but with more money than is good for his mental health—Richard Mellon Scaife," and then, "the usual CIA-type foundations, which were used against me," such as the Smith Richardson Foundation, the Bradley and Olin Foundations, he said. LaRouche then summed it up: "These are all the same groups I was up against, in the 1980s, the same groups that framed me up, and pulled all these phony charges against me. And, the same crowd is going after the President."

## The Chinagate connection

As noted above, the "predicate," in legal terms, for the 12333 operation against LaRouche was a phony allegation

that LaRouche had some sort of Soviet connection; this allegation was circulated through certain factions of the U.S. intelligence community, and into the Reagan-Bush National Security Council, particularly among the above-mentioned Walter Raymond, and Roy Godson—an NSC consultant who personally participated in the Train salon meetings. In fact, one participant in the Train meetings reported that Train himself insisted that LaRouche and his organization be characterized as "KGB."

In the case of the current operation being run against President Clinton, the corresponding allegation would likely be that Clinton allowed Chinese espionage to go on in his administration, in return for campaign contributions. Such charges—and worse—are being widely circulated in sections of the FBI and DOJ, and in private circles which overlap the Olson-Starr network.

## Who is Theodore Olson?

Theodore B. Olson is the key link between independent counsel Kenneth Starr, and a circle of right-wing present and former Justice Department lawyers and legal activists. He is reported to have played the central role in recruiting career prosecutors to Starr's staff—which is now composed of about 18 lawyers.

Upon receiving his law degree in 1965 from the University of California at Berkeley, he immediately joined the Los Angeles law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. Olson came to the Justice Department with his law partners William French Smith and Kenneth Starr in 1981, and has stayed in Washington ever since, as head of the Gibson firm's Washington office.

Olson represented Ronald Reagan during the investigation of the Iran-Contra affair in dealings with independent counsel Lawrence Walsh, and he successfully opposed subpoenas for Reagan to testify at the Iran-Contra trials of Oliver North and John Poindexter.

Olson is an activist in the network of right-wing "public interest" law firms funded by Richard Mellon Scaife, the Smith-Richardson Foundation, etc. He is also a leading member of the Federalist Society, the "conservative" alternative to the American Bar Association, in which Starr is also active.

Some of those whom Olson has represented include:

- convicted Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard, during Pollard's appeal of his 1987 conviction;
- students challenging affirmative action in Texas law schools, in a suit sponsored by Center for Individual Rights;

This reporter had occasion to sit in on a briefing given about a year ago, by a private investigator who is working with Rep. Dan Burton's congressional committee investigating "China-gate"—the committee for which Theodore Olson's wife Barbara also works. A few weeks prior to that meeting, the investigator, Neal Hogan, charged on NET Television that Clinton is responsible for treason in his administration. "Let's be honest," Hogan said. "Charlie Trie and John Huang have committed treason. And they are responsible to the President. Therefore, the President is responsible for this treason."

"The evidence is there!" Hogan proclaimed. "We've got the evidence just in the DNC financing reports. . . . We know that John Huang attended 39 security briefings. We know that John Huang was given a security classification even before he became a government employee. We know that Charlie Trie was given a security clearance and allowed to wander

around the White House at will despite the fact that he's still a Chinese national, has a home in Beijing, and a restaurant in Beijing." Hogan, a CNP member, is also the head of the Washington, D.C. chapter of the Christian Coalition. In addition to working for Congressional Republicans, Hogan also works closely with a group of renegade FBI agents; Hogan has described himself as a friend of former FBI agent Gary Aldrich (who is also a friend of Linda Tripp), and Hogan said that he and his wife have been among the recipients of leaks from FBI agents and Justice Department officials which began immediately after the November 1996 elections. Hogan stated that the allegations being passed around within U.S. law enforcement agencies are that Clinton has put the lives of longtime U.S. intelligence agents in danger because of leaks of sensitive intelligence information through John Huang and other Chinese agents.

- Virginia Military Institute, defending its all-male enrollment policy;
- former State Department official Steven Berry, after Berry was accused of leaking information from Bill Clinton's passport file to Republicans before the 1992 elections;
- the *American Spectator* magazine; and
- David Hale, Starr's key witness in Little Rock, in connection with a subpoena to Hale from the Senate Whitewater Committee in 1995.

### The 'independent counsel network'

That Olson should be running Starr's pursuit of President Clinton is no accident. Olson is an important figure in the "institutional" independent counsel network, according to a former Justice Department prosecutor. Having had the independent counsel law used against himself—in an investigation triggered by Democrats in Congress—Olson no doubt believes that now, it is "payback" time.

In 1986, an independent counsel was appointed to investigate Olson, after a report by the House Judiciary Committee, chaired by Peter Rodino (D-N.J.), found that Olson had given "false and misleading testimony" to Congress concerning the Reagan administration's withholding of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) documents involving the "Superfund" program. Olson declared, at the time, that the independent counsel statute "can work in unpleasant and unfair ways."

Olson challenged the constitutionality of the independent counsel statute, in the well-known case *Olson v. Morrison*. Olson's lawyer Thomas Martin told the Court of Appeals: "No less than any monarch, this independent counsel is able to act without any accountability to the people." His lawyer argued that the independent counsel

law imposes "a dual standard of justice. It picks out a group of people and says, 'For you, different justice.'"

The appellate panel, headed by Lawrence Silberman, ruled the statute unconstitutional on Jan. 22, 1988. Morrison appealed to the Supreme Court, which upheld the statute on June 29, 1988. The sole dissenter was Antonin Scalia, who took the unusual step of reading his dissent aloud from the bench.

On Aug. 26, 1988, independent counsel Alexis Morrison announced that she would not bring criminal charges against Olson. After Morrison released her report on March 20, 1989, Olson complained that the investigation was "an extremely difficult burden to undergo, particularly for such a long time. The cost of that emotionally, financially and psychologically is enormous."

Last summer, Olson was a participant on a panel on "The Independent Counsel Process," at the Judicial Conference of the Fourth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, in Homestead, Virginia. In his remarks, Olson was highly critical of the independent counsel statute, quoting extensively from Scalia's 1988 dissenting opinion in *Morrison v. Olson*.

In that dissent, Scalia had declared, as quoted by Olson: "I fear the Court has permanently encumbered the Republic with an institution that will do it great harm."

Another Scalia quotation used by Olson was the following: "How frightening it must be to have your own independent counsel and staff appointed, with nothing else to do but to investigate you until investigation is no longer worthwhile."

Knowing what we now know about Olson's role in steering Starr's witch-hunt against President Clinton and the President's associates, that statement sounds more like a boast than a complaint.—*Edward Spannaus*