

**1993 FBI Obstruction of Justice
Investigation**

Memorandum



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Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Office _____

To : Mr. Potts

Date 8/9/93

From : J. C. Frier

Subject : UNSUB; VINCENT W. FOSTER, JR.,
DEPUTY WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL TO
THE PRESIDENT - VICTIM;
7/20/93; PPSAKA - STAFF MEMBER,
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE (OOJ);
PRELIMINARY INQUIRY;
OO: WMFO

PURPOSE: To transmit report which sets forth the results of captioned investigation as it relates to the OOJ character.

RECOMMENDATION: That the enclosed report be reviewed and approved for transmission to the United States Department of Justice (USDOJ).

SYNOPSIS: Investigation was predicated upon request from the USDOJ to enter captioned investigation, being conducted by the U.S. Park Police (USPP), and to focus FBI efforts on the turning over of a note found in the office of Vincent W. Foster. Foster was Deputy White House Counsel to the President, whose body was found on the evening of 7/20/93 at Fort Marcy, Virginia, which is U.S. park land. The USPP investigation to date indicates death was by suicide. On 7/22/93, Foster's office was searched by

Enclosure

1 - Mr. Clarke, Room 7142
1 - Mr. Gow, Room 7116
1 - Mr. Potts, Room 5012
1 - Mr. Frier, Room 3013
1 - Mr. Kahoe, Room 5030
1 - Mr. Foran, Room 5042

PJF:vap (7)

(Continued - Over)

Memorandum from J. C. Frier to Mr. Potts
Re: Unsub; Vincent W. Foster, Jr.,
Deputy White House Counsel to
the President - Victim;
7/20/93; PPSAKA - Staff Member,
Obstruction of Justice (OOJ);
Preliminary Inquiry;
OO: WMFO

Bernard Nussbaum, Chief White House Counsel to the President. The search was observed by DOJ, FBI, U.S. Secret Service (USSS) and USPP personnel as agreed by DOJ officials. On 7/26/93, during an inventory of Foster's office, a briefcase, previously searched on 7/22/92, was found to contain 27 torn pieces of yellow paper. The papers were found by Stephen Neuwirth, an assistant to Nussbaum who was acting on Nussbaum's orders to inventory the office, segregate Foster's personal affects and pack them up for his family. The 27 pieces of paper, found at approximately 4:00 p.m., 7/26/93, were pieced together and determined to be a listing, in Foster's handwriting, of problems he had recently encountered in his job. The note was not turned over to law enforcement officials until 9:15 p.m., 7/27/93, approximately 30 hours after being found. All of those interviewed and who had knowledge of this 30-hour delay were consistent with regard to the delay. Each stated the note was not immediately turned over due to a need to advise the family prior to its release and the need for it to be shown to the President, ensuring his right to Executive Privilege was protected as it related to the contents of the note. The family could not be contacted until 3:00 p.m., 7/27/93, and the President was not available until 6:00 p.m., 7/27/93. There was not, according to all interviewed, any attempt or discussion regarding not providing the note to law enforcement investigators. Interviews were conducted of each individual present during the original 7/22/93 search of Foster's office. Each advised they had not seen the 27 pieces of torn paper despite the briefcase having been searched by Nussbaum. All individuals known to have access to Foster's office prior to its being sealed on 7/21/93 were interviewed and admitted being in the office, but stated they had not seen the 27 pieces of paper nor had they removed anything from the office. FBI laboratory examination of the note was essentially negative. U.S. Capitol Police (USCP) laboratory examination of the note, as requested by USPP, confirmed the note had been written by Foster. Additional interviews of individuals alleged to have made comments or heard comments about the existence of a Foster suicide note were interviewed with negative results.

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Obstruction of Justice (OOJ);
Preliminary Inquiry;
OO: WMFO

DETAILS: On 7/20/93, Vincent Foster, Jr., former Deputy Chief Counsel to President William Clinton, was found dead at Fort Marcy, which is on U.S. park land located on the George Washington Parkway in Virginia. Investigation of Foster's death by the USPP preliminarily indicates Foster committed suicide. On 7/22/93, an official search of Foster's White House office was conducted under the direction and control of Chief Counsel to the President Bernard Nussbaum. Pertinent documents relating to Foster's death were turned over by Nussbaum to USPP investigators. This search was conducted in the presence of DOJ attorneys David Margolis and Roger Adams; USSS Special Agents Don Flynn and Paul Imbordino; USPP Captain Charles Hume and Detective Peter Markland; FBI Special Agents Scott Salter and Dennis Condon; and Nussbaum's assistants, Stephen Neuwirth, Clifford Sloan and William Burton.

On 7/26/93, Stephen Neuwirth, an assistant to Nussbaum, was instructed by Nussbaum to conduct a final inventory of Foster's office and pack and turn over to Foster's family all personal items found in his White House office. At approximately 4:00 p.m., 7/26/93, Neuwirth found 27 pieces of torn paper located in a briefcase in Foster's office. The briefcase had been searched by Nussbaum on 7/22/93 and allegedly all items had been removed and nothing pertinent to the death investigation was found. The torn papers found by Neuwirth were turned over to Nussbaum and were pieced together by Neuwirth and Nussbaum. When put together, the papers revealed a list of information relating to Foster's recent job-related problems. The writing on the note was recognized by Neuwirth as being Foster's. It wasn't until 9:15 p.m., 7/27/93 (30 hours after it was found), that the torn note was turned over to USPP investigators.

Based on the above facts, Deputy Attorney General Phillip B. Heymann requested the FBI conduct an independent investigation to determine the facts relating specifically to the delay in turning over the above-described torn note to USPP investigators.

(Continued - Over)

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On 7/29/93, investigation commenced and is set forth in attached Investigative Summary Report, dated 8/6/93. During the course of this investigation, the following individuals were interviewed with regard to the handling of the above-described torn note:

1. Clifford Sloan, Associate Counsel to the President
2. Stephen Neuwirth, Associate Counsel to the President
3. Bernard Nussbaum, Counsel to the President
4. Thomas F. (Mack) McLarty, White House Chief of Staff
5. Charles William Burton, White House Assistant Chief of Staff
6. David Gergen, Presidential Media Specialist

All of these individuals confirmed that the torn note was found by Neuwirth in Foster's office in a briefcase which had previously been searched on 7/22/93. Further, each of the above individuals, during interview, advised that during telephone conversations and meetings held on 7/26/93 and 7/27/93, there was never any conversation regarding not turning the note over to law enforcement officials. Each individual advised that the delay was caused by the opinion of each of these individuals that prior to turning the note over, Foster's family and President Clinton should be advised as to the contents of the note and the fact it was to be released to investigators. Each of the above individuals stated that they believed the President had to be advised of the contents of the note to ensure that he was satisfied that there was nothing contained in the note which should not be released as a result of Presidential Executive Privilege. Each advised that the President was in Chicago at the time the note was found and was not available to review the note until 6:00 p.m., 7/27/93, the day after the note was found. Foster's wife was outside of the Washington, D.C., area and did not return until approximately 3:00 p.m., 7/27/93, which was the earliest possible time she could have been advised of the contents of the note. Finally, all of the above individuals concurred that immediately after President Clinton saw the note

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at 6:00 p.m. on 7/27/93, the Attorney General was contacted in order to make arrangements for the note to be turned over to the USPP. All of the above were consistent in their separate interviews as to the facts surrounding the finding of the note and the reasons for the delay in turning over the note.

In addition to the above individuals, the following were interviewed with regard to their participation in the original search of Foster's office on 7/22/93:

1. SA Scott Salter, FBI
2. David Margolis, USDOJ
3. Roger Adams, USDOJ
4. Donald Flynn, USSS
5. Paul Imbordino, USSS
6. SA Dennis Condon, FBI
7. Capt. Charles Hume, USPP
8. Peter Markland, USPP

All of the above confirmed that Nussbaum was observed to have removed a stack of documents from a briefcase and to then place against the wall a briefcase that all believed to be empty. None of the above individuals recall being able to actually see into the briefcase when it was opened by Nussbaum; thereby, not being able to see if anything remained in the briefcase. Investigation confirmed that the briefcase searched by Nussbaum on 7/22/93 is the same briefcase in which his assistant, Neuwirth, found the 27 pieces of torn yellow paper on 7/26/93. Assistant Chief of Staff Charles William Burton advised that on 7/22/93 he could see into the briefcase when Nussbaum opened it up and after the removal of the previously described documents, he observed that the only things remaining in the briefcase were a paper clip and what appeared to be a single yellow post-it type piece of paper. During interview, Neuwirth indicated that several of the 27 yellow pieces of paper fell out of the briefcase when he placed it on a pile of material on the afternoon of 7/26/93. Neuwirth advised that he subsequently opened the briefcase and found the remaining pieces of the torn note in the bottom of the briefcase.

(Continued - Over)

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DAG Heymann was interviewed and confirmed that he and Attorney General Reno were called to the White House at approximately 7:00 p.m., 7/27/93. It was at that time he was advised of the 7/26/93 discovery of the note, the previously described reasons it had been maintained by the White House staff, i.e. sensitivity for Foster's family and the need of the President to see it, and the fact that the President wanted the note turned over to the law enforcement investigators.

USPP Investigator Joseph Megby was interviewed and advised that he was provided the note on 7/27/93 at approximately 9:15 p.m. He copied the contents of the note on two pieces of plain white paper and gave a copy to DAG Heymann who was present in the White House when he, Megby, arrived. DAG Heymann advised he provided this copy to his assistant, David Margolis, who, in turn, provided it to the FBI.

In addition to the above, James Hamilton, attorney representing the Foster family, was interviewed. He confirmed the meeting between himself, Mrs. Foster and the White House staff on the afternoon of 7/27/93 as well as the purpose of the meeting as described above. Hamilton stated that during his meeting with White House personnel on 7/27/93, there was never any mention or indication that the note would not be turned over to law enforcement officials; only that such would occur after it was reviewed by the President. Hamilton advised that he would not make Mrs. Foster available for interview.

David Margolis and Roger Adams, DOJ, were interviewed and advised that they were present on 7/22/93 when Foster's office was searched. Margolis advised it had been agreed on 7/21/93 that law enforcement personnel would conduct the search; however, on the afternoon of 7/22/93, Chief White House Counsel Nussbaum advised the search would be conducted by him while being observed by law enforcement personnel. Both Margolis and Adams recall a briefcase being located, the contents being removed and the case being opened by Nussbaum to ensure nothing remained in it. Neither Adams nor Margolis could see into the briefcase.

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SAs Salter and Condon, FBI, and Flynn and Imbordino, USSS, provided statements consistent with that of Margolis and Adams. All advised they could not see into the briefcase when it was opened by Nussbaum on 7/22/93.

FBI laboratory examination of the original note was conducted for latent fingerprints, chemical and document analysis with essentially negative results. A smudged unidentifiable palm print was found on the note. USPP investigators had a handwriting analysis of the note completed by the USCP Laboratory, prior to the note being turned over to the FBI, which confirmed, as a result of comparison with known handwriting, that the note was written by Foster.

Investigation revealed that Ray Scott of Little Rock, Arkansas, former Secretary of Health when President Clinton was Governor of Arkansas, had indicated that "when the contents of Foster's suicide note is known, perhaps we will know more." Scott reportedly made this statement on 7/21/93, the morning after the death. He was believed to have received this information from some high-ranking White House official. Scott was interviewed and advised he obtained information regarding a possible suicide note on 7/21/93, the morning after Foster's death, during a telephone conversation with Joe and Sue Purvis. Joe Purvis was identified as a law partner in Hillary Rodman Clinton's Little Rock, Arkansas, law firm.

Joe and Sue Purvis were interviewed and advised that information relating to the possible suicide note had been obtained as a result of a discussion viewed on the 7/21/93 edition of NBC's "Today Show." The discussion viewed was between NBC commentator Bryant Gumble and White House Correspondent James Miklaszewski. This edition of "Today" was reviewed and confirmed Purvis' statement. The Purvises advised that they had neither talked to anyone in the White House nor had they obtained any first-hand knowledge regarding a suicide note in the Foster matter.

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Debra Gorham, Foster's secretary, was interviewed. She advised that on 7/26/93, she had assisted Neuwirth during the inventory of Foster's office. At one point during the day, she moved the briefcase; however, did not search it. Gorham does recall seeing something yellow at the bottom of the briefcase, which she believed was a post-it. Gorham was not present when the note was found and advised she did not remove anything from the office. She could not provide any additional information regarding the note or Foster's death.

A copy of the USPP's death investigation report was obtained and reviewed for additional leads relating to the finding of the torn note. As a result, the following individuals were interviewed:

1. Patricia (Patsy) Thomasson, Special Assistant to the President
2. Maggie Williams, Chief of Staff to Hillary Rodman Clinton
3. David Watkins, White House Chief of Protocol

Thomasson advised that on 7/20/93, at approximately 10:00 p.m., she was called by David Watkins who was at Foster's residence. Watkins instructed Thomasson to go back to the White House and look around Foster's office to determine if he had left a suicide note. Thomasson advised she looked on top of Foster's desk and in the center draw, locations she believed would have been places where a note would be left. She did not find a note, did not remove anything from the office and remained in the office with Maggie Williams for about ten minutes.

Maggie Williams advised she entered Foster's office with Thomasson and sat on the couch, being too distraught to do anything else. Thomasson sat at Foster's desk, according to Williams. She advised she took nothing out of the office and had only remained in the office about ten minutes. She did not observe Thomasson take anything out of the office.

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David Watkins, White House Chief of Protocol, was interviewed and advised that on the evening of 7/20/93, he was notified of the death of Foster and was dispatched to Foster's residence to advise his wife, Lisa Foster. Watkins remained at the Foster residence throughout the evening, and at some point Lisa Foster questioned whether or not a suicide note had been found. Watkins contacted Patsy Thomasson and instructed her to proceed to the White House and to determine if a suicide note had been found. He further instructed that Thomasson look in Foster's office for a note. He subsequently received a telephone call from Thomasson advising that she did not find a note, and the next morning, 7/20/93, he was again advised in a conversation with Thomasson that she had not found a note or removed anything from Foster's office.

Investigation determined that USSS Special Technician Roger Kammerdeiner attended a neighborhood party on 8/1/93 and had indicated knowledge of a conversation outside Foster's office on 7/21/93 relating to a suicide note. Kammerdeiner, after contact with USSS officials, was interviewed and advised that he had been assigned to replacing locks on Foster's office door in the White House on 7/21/93. During this activity, he was told by a uniformed Secret Service guard, believed to be Joseph Phillips, that some FBI Agents had been in the office and had removed some materials. Phillips indicated that was the reason for the office being so clean. Phillips had been assigned to guard the entrance to Foster's Office. Kammerdeiner assumed that among the materials removed had been a suicide note. He stated he did not have any other knowledge regarding a suicide note.

Finally, USSS uniformed personnel Joseph Phillips and James Young were interviewed. Phillips advised that he did not recall having any conversation with Kammerdeiner relating to a suicide note, as he was not posted at Foster's office door when Kammerdeiner was there to change the locks. He advised that James Young and he had changed posts and Young was at the door when Kammerdeiner was at Foster's office. Young advised he does not recall any conversation, especially regarding a suicide note, with Kammerdeiner. Neither Phillips nor Young observed anyone remove anything from Foster's office while they were standing guard.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE WMFO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN WMFO	DATE 8/9/93	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 7/29/93-8/9/93
TITLE OF CASE UNSUB; VINCENT FOSTER, JR.; DEPUTY WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT-VICTIM; 7/20/93;		REPORT MADE BY SA SCOTT M. SALTER	TYPED BY: plj
		CHARACTER OF CASE PPSAKA-STAFF MEMBER; OOJ;	

Reference: WMFO teletypes to FBIHQ, dated 7/28/93 and 7/23/93; also reference WMFO teletype to Little Rock dated 8/2/93 and Little Rock teletype to WMFO dated 7/31/93.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Copy to: Office of the Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice

Report of: SA SCOTT M. SALTER
Date: August 9, 1993

Office: WMFO

Field Office File #: 175B-WF-187743

Bureau File #:

Title: UNSUB;
VINCENT W. FOSTER, JR.;
DEPUTY WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT-VICTIM;
7/20/93;

Character: PPSAKA-STAFF MEMBER;
OOJ

Synopsis:

Investigation was predicated upon request from the USDOJ to enter captioned investigation, being conducting by UNITED STATES PARK POLICE (USPP), and to focus FBI efforts on the turning over of a note found in the office of Vincent W. Foster. Foster was Deputy White House Counsel to the President, who body was found on the evening of 7/20/93 at Fort Marcy, Virginia, which is U.S. park land. The USPP investigation to date indicates death was by suicide. On 7/22/93, Foster's office was searched by Bernard Nussbaum, Chief White House Counsel to the President. Personnel for the Department of Justice (DOJ), Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Secret Service (USSS) and USPP were present at but did not participate in the search; an arrangement determined by Bernard Nussbaum and agreed to DOJ officials. On 7/26/93, during an inventory of Foster's office, a briefcase, previously searched on 7/22/93, was found to contain 27 torn pieces of yellow paper. The papers were found by Steven Neuwirth, an assistant to Nussbaum who was acting on Nussbaum's orders to inventory the office, segregate Foster's personal affects and pack them up for his family. The 27 pieces of paper, were found at approximately 4:00 p.m., 7/26/93, were pieced together and determined to be a listing, in Foster's handwriting, of problems he had recently encountered in his job. The note was turned over to law enforcement

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

officials t approximately 9:15 p.m. . 7/27/93, approximately 30 hours after being found. All of those interviewed who had knowledge of this 30-hour delay were consistent with regard to the reason for the delay. Each stated that note was not immediately turned over due to a need to advise the family prior to its release and the need for it to be shown to the President, ensuring his right to Executive Privilege was protected as it related to the contents of the note. The family could not be contacted until 3:00 p.m., 7/27/93, and the President was not available until 6:00 p.m., 7/27/93. There was not, according to all interviewed, any attempt or discussion regarding not providing the note to law enforcement investigators. Interviews were conducted of each individual present during the original 7/22/93 search of Foster's office. Each advised they had not seen the 27 pieces of torn paper despite the briefcase having been searched by Nussbaum. All individuals known to have access to Foster's office prior to its being sealed at 10:00 a.m., 7/21/93, were interviewed and admitted being in the office, but stated they had not seen the 27 pieces of paper and they had not removed anything from the office. FBI Laboratory examination of the note was essentially negative. U.S. Capitol Police (USCP) laboratory examination of the note, as requested by USPP, confirmed the note had been written by Foster. Additional interviews of individuals alleged to have made comments or heard comments about the existence of a Foster suicide note were interviewed with negative results.

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DETAILS: On 7/20/93, Vincent Foster, Jr., former Deputy Chief Counsel to President William Clinton, was found dead at Fort Marcy, which is on U.S. park land located on the George Washington Parkway in Virginia. Investigation of Foster's death by the USPP preliminary indicates Foster committed suicide. On 7/22/93, an official search of Foster's White House office was conducted under the direction and control of Chief Counsel to the President Bernard Nussbaum. During that search no pertinent documents relating to Foster's death were found.

On 7/26/93, Steven Neuwirth, as assistant to Nussbaum, was instructed by Nussbaum to conduct a final inventory of Foster's office and pack and turn over to Foster's family all personal items found in his White House office. At approximately 4:00 p.m., 7/26/93, Neuwirth found 27 pieces of torn paper located in a briefcase in Foster's office. The briefcase had been searched by Nussbaum on 7/22/93 and allegedly all items had been removed and nothing pertinent to the death investigation was found. The torn papers found by Neuwirth were turned over to Nussbaum and were pieced together by Neuwirth and Nussbaum. When put together, the papers revealed a list of information relating to Foster's recent job-related problems. The writing on the note was recognized by Neuwirth as being Foster's. It wasn't until 9:15 p.m., 7/27/93 (approximately 30 hours after it was found), that the torn note was turned over to USPP investigators.

Based on the above facts, DAG Heymann requested the FBI conduct an independent investigation to determine the facts relating specifically to the delay in turning over the above described torn note to USPP Investigators.

On 7/29/93, the investigation commenced with the interview of Stephen Neuwirth.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/3/93

STEPHEN R. NEUWIRTH, Assistant Counsel, the White House, Washington, D.C., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and informed of the nature of the interview. NEUWIRTH provided the following information:

NEUWIRTH advised that he was present on July 22, 1993, when the items in VINCENT FOSTER's office were inventoried by BERNARD NUSSBAUM. NEUWIRTH was aware that the items which were immediately identifiable as personal items were provided to the attorney representing the FOSTER family. After July 22, 1993, NEUWIRTH did not again go to VINCENT FOSTER's office until Monday, July 26, 1993.

NEUWIRTH advised that while he was in Arkansas attending VINCENT FOSTER's funeral he was asked by BERNARD NUSSBAUM to conduct a review of the items which were identified as work files in VINCENT FOSTER's office. On Monday, July 26, 1993, at approximately 10:00 a.m., NEUWIRTH began the review of the items in FOSTER's office. NEUWIRTH was also instructed to take any remaining personal items and place them in a box to be provided to the FOSTER family. As NEUWIRTH placed VINCENT FOSTER's briefcase in the box of personal items, he turned the briefcase on its side or upside down and observed several small pieces or scraps of yellow paper fall out of the briefcase. NEUWIRTH then reached inside the briefcase and pulled out more scraps of yellow paper. He speculated that the pieces of paper may have been stuck down in a corner of the briefcase and therefore not seen during the July 22, 1993 inventory of FOSTER's office. He recognized these to be in the handwriting of VINCENT FOSTER and he took the scraps of paper to the conference table located in BERNARD NUSSBAUM's office. He observed that the scraps of paper could be assembled and that they were pieces of a single sheet of yellow paper which had been torn into pieces. As he assembled the note, BERNARD NUSSBAUM returned to the office and was shown the note. The note was unsigned and contained no date. NEUWIRTH confirmed that the briefcase from which the scraps were recovered was the same briefcase which BERNARD

Investigation on 7/30/93 at Washington, D.C. File # WMFO 175B-WF-187743

by SA CHARLES K. DORSEY
SA SCOTT M. SALTER:plj Date dictated 8/2/93

NUSSBAUM reviewed during the inventory of VINCENT FOSTER's Office on July 22, 1993.

NEUWIRTH advised that after reading the note, NUSSBAUM left the office to see if he could find White House Chief of Staff MACK McLARTY. NUSSBAUM shortly thereafter returned with Assistant White House Chief of State BILL BURTON who advised that McLARTY was in Chicago with the President. NUSSBAUM, BURTON and NEUWIRTH decided to try to reach McLARTY in Chicago and they did in fact speak with him (NUSSBAUM, BURTON and NEUWIRTH participated in the conversation via speaker phone). During that conversation, McLARTY stated that it was important to notify VINCENT FOSTER's family and President CLINTON before anything was done with the note. There was also a discussion about whether this note was in fact a suicide note. During their conversation they also discussed the fact that the note should be turned over to the law enforcement personnel handling FOSTER's death investigation. BURTON questioned whether this unsigned, undated note constituted a suicide note. NEUWIRTH made the observation that even if this note did not meet the strict qualifications of being a suicide note, it was without question relevant to the investigation and was well within the guidelines of what the investigators sought. In addition, NEUWIRTH stated that concern that the U.S. PARK POLICE would leak the note's contents to the press was never an issue. NEUWIRTH advised the interviewing agents that at no time during the conversation was it stated that the note should not be turned over to the appropriate authorities

cf. Gergen ||

NEUWIRTH advised that on the evening of Monday, July 26, 1993, the note was secured in the desk or safe within BERNARD NUSSBAUM's office. It was decided that the handling of the note would be discussed on Tuesday morning, July 27, 1993 in a meeting with McLARTY, DAVID GERGEN, BILL BURTON and NUSSBAUM. NEUWIRTH was requested by NUSSBAUM to conduct appropriate legal research to determine if there were any legal problems associated with turning the note over to law enforcement individuals.

NEUWIRTH advised that he was aware that LISA FOSTER, VINCENT FOSTER's widow, met with BERNARD NUSSBAUM in his (NUSSBAUM's) office sometime during the afternoon of Tuesday, July 27, 1993. NEUWIRTH stated that he was not present at that meeting.

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NEUWIRTH advised that on the evening of July 27, 1993, a meeting was held between Deputy Attorney General PHILIP HEYMANN, Attorney General JANET RENO and White House officials regarding the note (NEUWIRTH was not present at that meeting). During that meeting, the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE arrived and took custody of the note.

NEUWIRTH advised that after locating the scraps of paper which constituted the note in the briefcase he observed that the only other items in the briefcase were a pen, a single rubberband and a single blank "post-it" note.

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BERNARD NUSSBAUM, Counsel to the President, the White House, Washington, D.C., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and informed of the nature of the interview. NUSSBAUM provided the following information:

NUSSBAUM advised that on Thursday, July 22, 1993, he conducted an inventory of the contents of VINCENT FOSTER's office in the presence of members of the Office of the White House Counsel, the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ), FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) and the UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE (USSS). During the inventory, NUSSBAUM removed the files and papers from VINCENT FOSTER's briefcase and reviewed those items. After the contents of the briefcase were removed he picked up the briefcase and placed it against the wall behind FOSTER's desk.

NUSSBAUM advised that on Friday, July 23, 1993, he departed Washington, D.C. in the morning and travelled to Hope, Arkansas, where the funeral for VINCENT FOSTER was held. While in Hope, Arkansas, NUSSBAUM spoke with STEPHEN NEUWIRTH, Assistant White House Counsel and he assigned NEUWIRTH to review the work files identified in the previous days inventory, Monday, July 26, 1993. NUSSBAUM instructed the staff at the Office of the White House Counsel to take the weekend off and return to work on Monday, July 26, 1993. NUSSBAUM returned to Washington, D.C. on the evening of July 23, 1993. On Saturday, July 24, 1993, NUSSBAUM travelled to Grand Island, Maine and returned to Washington, D.C. on the evening of Sunday, July 25, 1993.

NUSSBAUM advised that from the time the inventory of VINCENT FOSTER's office was completed on July 22, 1993 until Monday morning, July 26, 1993, the office remained locked with the only two keys in the possession of NUSSBAUM and VINCENT FOSTER's secretary, DEBRA GORHAM. On Monday, July 26, 1993, the review of work documents in VINCENT FOSTER's office was began by STEPHEN NEUWIRTH with periodic assistance from DEBRA GORHAM. At approximately 4:00 p.m., NUSSBAUM entered his (NUSSBAUM's) office

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and found STEPHEN NEUWIRTH at the conference table assembling what appeared to be scraps of yellow paper. At that time, NEUWIRTH turned to NUSSBAUM and said "Look what I found". NEUWIRTH went on to explain to NUSSBAUM that as he was packing items of FOSTER's personal property in a box, he discovered the scraps of paper in the bottom of FOSTER's briefcase. NEUWIRTH had been in process of placing the briefcase in a box when he tipped the briefcase over onto its side and several of the scraps of paper fell out. NEUWIRTH then discovered the rest of the scraps of paper located at the bottom of the briefcase. Based on their experience with working with FOSTER, both NEUWIRTH and NUSSBAUM believed the note to be in VINCENT FOSTER's handwriting.

NUSSBAUM advised that after assembling the note and reading its contents he (NUSSBAUM) left his office to go find White House Chief of Staff MACK McLARTY. NUSSBAUM was told that McLARTY was in Chicago with the President and NUSSBAUM then arranged to speak with McLARTY via telephone. During their discussion, NUSSBAUM and McLARTY discussed whether the contents of the note held any legal privilege or executive privilege. It was determined that several tasks needed to be accomplished including a research of the legal issues involved in disclosing the contents of the note, notification of LISA FOSTER, VINCENT FOSTER's widow, and notification to President CLINTON. It was learned that LISA FOSTER was to travel from Arkansas to Washington, D.C. on July 27, 1993 and that President CLINTON would be available to be briefed on the matter at approximately 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 27, 1993.

NUSSBAUM advised that by Tuesday, July 27, 1993, it had been decided that the note would be turned over after it was shown to LISA FOSTER and after the matter was presented to President CLINTON. LISA FOSTER arrived at the White House and was shown the contents of the note at approximately 5:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993 and President CLINTON was briefed at approximately 6:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993. President CLINTON directed that the note be turned over to the appropriate authorities.

NUSSBAUM advised that later on July 27, 1993, Attorney General JANET RENO and Deputy Attorney General PHILLIP HEYMANN arrived at the White House and were shown the note. RENO told NUSSBAUM that the note should be turned over to the UNITED STATES

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PARK POLICE (USPP). The USPP received the note at approximately 9:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993.

NUSSBAUM advised that he was rather surprised that the note was located in the bottom of a briefcase which he had believed was empty. He was also puzzled as to why FOSTER would have placed the note there. NUSSBAUM advised that he had no reason to question the explanation regarding the note's discovery given by STEPHEN NEUWIRTH. NUSSBAUM also stated that the note was kept in a secure place in NUSSBAUM's office on the night of Monday, July 26, 1993.

NUSSBAUM stated that he is aware of no other notes or messages left by VINCENT FOSTER which would be relevant to the investigation of his death.

At the conclusion of the interview NUSSBAUM provided to the interviewing agents the briefcase from FOSTER'S office and one yellow pad of paper, also taken from FOSTER'S office.

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CHARLES WILLIAM BURTON, also known as BILL BURTON, Deputy Assistant to the President and Policy and Staff Director for the Chief of Staff, the White House, Washington, D.C., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and informed of the nature of the interview. BURTON provided the following information:

BURTON advised that he was present on Thursday, July 22, 1993, for the inventory of items in the Office of VINCENT FOSTER. BURTON recalled that FOSTER's briefcase was emptied by BERNARD NUSSBAUM and the contents, which consisted of files and papers, were reviewed by NUSSBAUM. BURTON stated that after NUSSBAUM removed the papers and files, he observed the briefcase to be empty with the exception of several paperclips and a single "post-it" paper located in the bottom of the briefcase.

BURTON advised that during the afternoon of Monday, July 26, 1993, he was working at his desk when BERNARD NUSSBAUM requested that BURTON come to NUSSBAUM's office to see something. BURTON went to NUSSBAUM's office with NUSSBAUM and also met STEPHEN NEUWIRTH. BURTON was shown a note which had been put together after having been torn into many pieces. BURTON stated he immediately recognized the handwriting as that of VINCENT FOSTER. It was explained to BURTON that the items were located by NEUWIRTH in the bottom of VINCENT FOSTER's briefcase.

BURTON advised that after reading the note he NUSSBAUM and NEUWIRTH discussed what steps should be taken next. It was determined that MACK McLARTY, White House Chief of Staff, should be notified immediately. BURTON and NUSSBAUM spoke with McLARTY via telephone and informed McLARTY of the note's existence and explained to him the note's contents. At that time, it was believed that although the note did not constitute a suicide note it was clearly relevant to the investigation regarding FOSTER's death. However, the note's contents also raised legal matters and questions of executive privilege. It was determined that the legal matters should be researched on the evening of Monday, July

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26, 1993, and that on the following day the note would be turned over to the appropriate law enforcement agency after President CLINTON and VINCENT FOSTER's family were notified of the note's existence. BURTON advised the interviewing agents that there was not an outstanding subpoena which ordered immediate surrender of the note before the legal research could be conducted. In addition, while the note was relevant in that it was an indication of FOSTER's state of mind, it was not a suicide note. Therefore there was "not an issue of time pressure" with respect to the need to turn the note over immediately.

BURTON advised that he is not aware of any other notes left by FOSTER which would be pertinent to the investigation of FOSTER's death.

BURTON advised that it was decided the note would be turned over to the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE after President CLINTON and VINCENT FOSTER's family were notified of the note's existence. On the evening of July 27, 1993, Attorney General JANET RENO advised individuals at the White House that the note should not be turned over to the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, rather it should be turned over to the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE.

BURTON advised that although he observed BERNARD NUSSBAUM remove the contents FOSTER's briefcase of July 22, 1993, he saw nothing inconsistent with STEPHEN NEUWIRTH's story regarding how the pieces which made up the note were found.

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THOMAS F. (MACK) McLARTY, III, Chief of Staff, the White House, Washington, D.C., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and informed of the nature of the interview. McLARTY provided the following information:

McLARTY advised that on Monday, July 26, 1993, at approximately 3:30 to 4:00 p.m. (Central Daylight Savings Time) he was in Chicago with President CLINTON when he was contacted by BERNARD NUSSBAUM and informed that a note had been located which appeared to have been written by VINCENT FOSTER and was relevant to FOSTER's death. The contents of the note were explained to McLARTY by NUSSBAUM and it was explained to McLARTY that there were potential legal and executive privilege issues which must be resolved before the note was disclosed. McLARTY discussed the matter with DAVID GERGEN, who was also in Chicago and they agreed that the note must be disclosed to the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE and they also agreed that LISA FOSTER, VINCENT FOSTER's widow, should also be promptly notified. After discussing this matter with DAVID GERGEN, McLARTY called NUSSBAUM back at the White House and a meeting was scheduled for Tuesday morning (July 27, 1993) to further discuss this matter.

McLARTY advised that on Tuesday, July 27, 1993, a meeting was held in his (McLARTY's) office involving BILL BURTON, DAVID GERGEN, BERNARD NUSSBAUM and McLARTY. At the meeting it was decided that President CLINTON would be advised of the note's existence at the earliest possible time and that the matter would be discussed with LISA FOSTER also. At approximately 6:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993, McLARTY advised President CLINTON of the note's existence. At approximately 7:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993, Attorney General JANET RENO and Deputy Attorney General PHILIP HYMAN arrived at the White House and were told of the note's existence. At that time, RENO advised that the note should be turned over promptly to UNITED STATES PARK POLICE. McLARTY stated that the note was in fact turned over to the U.S. PARK POLICE at approximately 8:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

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DAVID GERGEN, Assistant to the President, the White House, Washington, D.C., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and informed of the nature of the interview. GERGEN provided the following information:

GERGEN advised that on Monday, July 26, 1993, he was in Chicago, Illinois with President CLINTON and White House Chief of Staff MACK McLARTY. During the afternoon of July 26, 1993, GERGEN was advised by McLARTY that a note had been located at the White House by White House Counsel BERNARD NUSSBAUM. GERGEN was told that the note was written by VINCENT FOSTER and was relevant to FOSTER's suicide. GERGEN and McLARTY discussed this issue at which time GERGEN made clear to McLARTY that the note must be turned over to the law enforcement agency investigating FOSTER's death. McLARTY and GERGEN discussed executive privilege and legal issues involved in releasing the note to the proper authorities. Because McLARTY and GERGEN were only able to be told of the contents of the note and did not view the note in person, a meeting was set for Tuesday, July 27, 1993 at approximately 10:30 a.m. at the White House which would include McLARTY, NUSSBAUM and GERGEN, at which time the note could be viewed and the appropriate decision made regarding the note's disposition.

GERGEN advised that on Tuesday, July 27, 1993, sometime around 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., a meeting was held at the White House between BERNARD NUSSBAUM, JAMES BURTON, MACK McLARTY and GERGEN. It was the unanimous opinion of the individuals present for the meeting that the note must be turned over to the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE as soon as possible. At that time, GERGEN and the others believed the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE was the agency responsible for the investigation of FOSTER's death. While being aware that the note must be turned over, GERGEN and the others also wanted to advise LISA FOSTER, VINCENT FOSTER's widow, that the note had been found and they wanted to show her the note. Arrangements were made to have a meeting with LISA FOSTER at the earliest possible time on July 27, 1993. It was learned that

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LISA FOSTER was in the process of traveling from Arkansas to Washington, D.C. on July 27, 1993 and the meeting was scheduled through LISA FOSTER's attorney, JAMES HAMILTON, to take place at approximately 3:00 p.m.

GERGEN advised that the meeting with LISA FOSTER did in fact take place during the afternoon of July 27, 1993. Also on July 27, 1993 at approximately 6:00 p.m. the existence of the note was disclosed to President CLINTON by MACK McLARTY. McLARTY was told by the President that the note should be turned over to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

GERGEN advised that at approximately 7:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993, a meeting was held at the White House between Attorney General JANET RENO, Deputy Attorney General PHIL HEYMANN, BERNARD NUSSBAUM, MACK McLARTY, BILL BURTON and GERGEN. At that time, the existence of the note was discussed with the Attorney General who stated that the note should be turned over to the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE immediately. RENO questioned the group as to why the note had not been turned over sooner and she was advised that the only reason that the note was not turned over sooner was that it had been decided to notify President CLINTON prior to turning over the note and that the first opportunity to meet with President CLINTON occurred at approximately 6:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993. It was explained that the contents of the note had potential implications regarding executive privilege. In addition it was explained to the Attorney General that it had been decided to meet with LISA FOSTER prior to the note being disclosed.

GERGEN advised that at approximately 9:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993, a detective from the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE arrived at the White House and the note was turned over to him at that time.

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JAMES HAMILTON, Attorney, SWIDLER AND BERLIN, telephone number 202-424-7826, was telephonically contacted and advised of the identity of the undersigned agent. HAMILTON declined to be interviewed in person and requested that the interview be conducted telephonically. HAMILTON provided the following information:

HAMILTON advised that he had been retained by LISA FOSTER to represent her in matters following the death of her husband, VINCENT FOSTER. On Tuesday, July 27, 1993, at approximately 11:15 a.m., HAMILTON was contacted by BERNARD NUSSBAUM, White House Counsel, and requested to come to the White House as soon as possible. He was told by NUSSBAUM that a note had been found which was relevant to the death of VINCENT FOSTER.

HAMILTON advised that after arriving at the White House he was told by BERNARD NUSSBAUM that the note was found during the afternoon of July 26, 1993 by STEPHEN NEUWIRTH. After discovering the note, which had been torn into pieces, in a briefcase owned by FOSTER, NEUWIRTH had pieced it together and observed that it contained information relevant to FOSTER's death. HAMILTON wanted to have LISA FOSTER notified of the note's existence as quickly as possible and he was able to reach her at approximately 3:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993. LISA FOSTER arrived at the White House shortly after 5:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993 and the note was shown to her. HAMILTON advised the interviewing agent that after observing the note, LISA FOSTER stated that the handwriting was indeed that of her husband, VINCENT FOSTER.

HAMILTON advised that he was aware that the Attorney General, JANET RENO, was shown the note at the White House at approximately 7:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993.

HAMILTON advised that in his opinion any delay in having the note turned over to the UNITES STATES PARK POLICE was

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due to a desire to have President CLINTON and the FOSTER family briefed regarding the notes existence prior to having the note turned over. HAMILTON stated that during his discussions with White House personnel, executive privilege was an issue however, HAMILTON declined to provide further information of that matter.

HAMILTON advised that LISA FOSTER was interviewed by the U.S. PARK POLICE and that she would not be available for future interviews.

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PHILLIP HEYMANN, Deputy Attorney General, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Washington, D.C., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and informed of the nature of the interview. HEYMANN provided the following information:

HEYMANN advised that on Tuesday, July 27, 1993, he received a note that stated he was to go with Attorney General JANET RENO to the White House at approximately 7:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993. A short time after receiving that note, HEYMANN received a telephone call from BERNARD NUSSBAUM, White House Counsel. NUSSBAUM explained to HEYMANN that a meeting was to take place in the office of White House Chief of Staff, MACK McLARTY at 7:00 p.m. on July 27, 1993. NUSSBAUM wanted to make sure that his (HEYMANN's) presence was requested at the meeting along with Attorney General RENO.

HEYMANN advised that he and the Attorney General arrived at the White House at approximately 7:00 p.m. and went directly to the office of the Chief of Staff. Present in that office was McLARTY, BERNARD NUSSBAUM, DAVID GERGEN, BILL BURTON, JANET RENO, and HEYMANN. NUSSBAUM initiated the meeting by displaying an envelope which contained many scraps of paper which constituted a single yellow sheet of paper which NUSSBAUM stated contained a message written by VINCENT FOSTER. NUSSBAUM had previously assembled the pieces of the note and copied the message over on another sheet of paper in his (NUSSBAUM's) own handwriting. NUSSBAUM proceeded to read the note's message to the group. NUSSBAUM then explained that the note had been found during the afternoon of Monday, July 26, 1993 in a briefcase belonging to VINCENT FOSTER. Attorney General RENO then told NUSSBAUM that the note should be turned over right away to the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE. None of the individuals present disagreed with the Attorney General. RENO then asked where the note has been and also asked why the note had not been turned over to the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE on Monday afternoon, when it was found. NUSSBAUM explained that the note was held in order to notify President CLINTON of the note's existence and to notify

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LISA FOSTER, VINCENT FOSTER's widow. HEYMANN explained to the interviewing agents that under those circumstances he did not believe that it was inappropriate that the note was held for as long as it was.

HEYMANN advised that at the conclusion of the meeting the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE was contacted and requested to come take possession of the note. A UNITED STATES PARK POLICE detective arrived at the White House at approximately 9:00 p.m. and was met by HEYMANN. HEYMANN accompanied the detective while he met with NUSSBAUM and received the note. NUSSBAUM again read the note's contents aloud for the U.S. PARK POLICE detective and the detective produced his own handwritten copy of the note's message. Prior to leaving the White House, HEYMANN received a photocopy of the notes made by the PARK POLICE detective. HEYMANN and the PARK POLICE detective departed the White House at approximately 9:30 p.m.

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LEONARD JOSEPH MEGBY, JR., Detective, UNITED STATES PARK POLICE, 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W., Washington, D.C., telephone number 202-690-5050, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and informed of the nature of the interview. Detective MEGBY provided the following information:

MEGBY advised that on Tuesday, July 27, 1993, he was contacted at approximately 8:30 p.m. by UNITED STATES PARK POLICE Captain CHARLES HUME and directed by HUME to go to the Southwest Gate of the White House in order to pick-up a note relevant to the death investigation regarding VINCENT FOSTER. MEGBY arrived at the White House at approximately 9:00 p.m. and was taken to an office where he met with BERNARD NUSSBAUM, BILL BURTON, DAVID GERGEN, MACK McLARTY and PHILLIP HEYMANN. Arriving after the initial meeting began was an attorney, JAMES HAMILTON. BERNARD NUSSBAUM explained to MEGBY that a note, relevant to the investigation regarding the death of VINCENT FOSTER had been found on Monday, July 26, 1993 by STEPHEN NEUWIRTH, a White House Attorney. NEUWIRTH found the note while packing a box of FOSTER's personal items. The note had been located in the bottom of an empty briefcase which belong to FOSTER. Upon finding the note, NEUWIRTH advised NUSSBAUM and NUSSBAUM related this information via telephone to McLARTY who was in Chicago. MEGBY was also told that the note had been shown to the FOSTER family on July 27, 1993 and had also been shown to President CLINTON.

MEGBY took possession of the note and departed the White House at approximately 9:45 p.m.

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CLIFFORD M. SLOAN, Assistant Counsel, the White House, Washington, D.C., was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents and informed of the nature of interview. SLOAN provided the following information:

SLOAN advised that he first learned of VINCENT FOSTER's death on Tuesday, July 20, 1993 at approximately 11:30 p.m. SLOAN was aware that FOSTER's office was secured at approximately 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 21, 1993. SLOAN was present for the inventory of the contents of VINCENT FOSTER's office which occurred on Thursday, July 22, 1993. SLOAN advised the interviewing agents that he recalled when BERNARD NUSSBAUM examined the contents of VINCENT FOSTER's briefcase but could not recall any specific items which were located in the briefcase. SLOAN believed that all the items were taken out of the briefcase however he did not examine the empty briefcase at that time. SLOAN was asked by the interviewing agents to review the notes he took during the inventory of July 22, 1993. SLOAN examined his notes and advised that there was nothing in his notes which is of any use in providing more details regarding the inventory.

SLOAN advised that he was not aware that a note had been located until the evening of Tuesday, July 27, 1993. At the time SLOAN was notified that a note had been located, the note had already been turned over to the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE.

SLOAN advised that he was told that the note was located by STEPHEN NEUWIRTH having been found when NEUWIRTH turned VINCENT FOSTER's briefcase upside down in order to place it in a box. As the briefcase was turned upside down several scraps of paper fell out of the briefcase and NEUWIRTH subsequently located more scraps of paper inside the briefcase. The scraps of paper were assembled and the message on the note could be read.

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SLOAN advised that he was not surprised that the note was located in the bottom of the briefcase even though the briefcase had been previously emptied and its contents inventoried. SLOAN recalled that after the briefcase was emptied by NUSSBAUM and the contents reviewed, the empty briefcase was placed on the floor at the spot where he (SLOAN) was standing. However, SLOAN did not notice if there were any items remaining in the briefcase because he "did not look after every detail." SLOAN was not aware of any other notes left by VINCENT FOSTER which would be relevant to the investigation of FOSTER's death. SLOAN was also unaware of any circumstances regarding the location of the note in question other than the version given by STEPHEN NEUWIRTH.

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Special Agent (SA) DONALD A. FLYNN, UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE (USSS), the White House, Washington, D.C., was made aware of the identity of the interviewing agent and to the nature of interview. FLYNN provided the following information:

FLYNN advised that he was present in VINCENT FOSTER's office located in the West Wing of the White House on July 22, 1993, during the inventory of the contents of FOSTER's office. FLYNN recalled that the inventory was conducted by White House Counsel BERNARD NUSSBAUM. FLYNN advised that prior to the inventory being conducted the room had been secured with the only key in FLYNN's possession. FLYNN's role during the inventory was to be present as an escort for the individuals from the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE, the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, and the FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

FLYNN recalled that at one point during the inventory BERNARD NUSSBAUM removed and reviewed the contents of a briefcase which was located in VINCENT FOSTER's office. FLYNN could not recall any details of this portion of the inventory but was aware that items were removed from the briefcase and he did not recall any items being put back into the briefcase. FLYNN could not recall any other details regarding that portion of the inventory.

FLYNN advised that at the conclusion of the inventory he provided his key for VINCENT FOSTER's office to BERNARD NUSSBAUM.

FLYNN advised that he is not aware of any other information which would be pertinent to VINCENT FOSTER's death investigation having been found.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/5/93

PAUL IMBORDINO, Special Agent, UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE, the White House, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and informed of the nature of the interview. IMBORDINO provided the following information:

IMBORDINO advised that he was present in VINCENT FOSTER's office on July 22, 1993 when the contents of the office were inventoried. IMBORDINO stated that he was present in the office to insure that the visiting officials from the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, the UNITED STATES PARK POLICE, and the FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION were properly escorted. IMBORDINO advised that during the inventory he was required to leave the office on two occasions to return messages he received on his pager. IMBORDINO advised that he could provide not specific information regarding the portion of the inventory during which VINCENT FOSTER's briefcase was handled.

Investigation on 8/2/93 at Washington, D.C. File # WMFO 175B-WF-187743

by SA SCOTT M. SALTER:plj Date dictated 8/5/93

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/5/93

DAVID MARGOLIS, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ), Washington, D.C., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and informed of the nature of the interview. MARGOLIS provided the following information:

MARGOLIS advised that he was present for the inventory of the contents of VINCENT FOSTER's office which was conducted by BERNARD NUSSBAUM on July 22, 1993. MARGOLIS stated that all of the items in the office were reviewed only by BERNARD NUSSBAUM and members of the Office of the White House Counsel. MARGOLIS recalled that at one point during the inventory, items were removed from a briefcase in FOSTER's office and that the items removed were reviewed by BERNARD NUSSBAUM. MARGOLIS believed those items to be papers and files. After reviewing these items, NUSSBAUM picked up the briefcase which was apparently empty at that time and placed it against the back wall of FOSTER's office. MARGOLIS was not able to observe if there were any other items remaining in the bottom of the briefcase.

MARGOLIS advised that on July 21, 1993 he understood that the inventory of FOSTER'S office was to be conducted by both White House personnel and law enforcement personnel. On July 22, 1993, when MARGOLIS arrived at the White House to participate in the inventory, BERNARD NUSSBAUM told him that only White House personnel would review the items in FOSTER'S office. MARGOLIS stated that this change in the inventory process was a decision made by NUSSBAUM.



Investigation on 8/3/90 at Washington, D.C. File # WMFO 175B-WF-187743

by SA CHARLES K. DORSEY
SA SCOTT M. SALTER:plj Date dictated 8/4/93

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/3/93

ROGER ADAMS, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ), Washington, D.C., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and informed of the nature of the interview. ADAMS provided the following information:

ADAMS advised that he was present during the inventory of items located within VINCENT FOSTER's office on July 22, 1993. ADAMS stated that the review of the items was conducted by BERNARD NUSSBAUM. ADAMS recalled that at one point during the inventory NUSSBAUM located a briefcase somewhere behind VINCENT FOSTER's desk. ADAMS recalled that there was some conversation concerning whether or not FOSTER carried that briefcase with him to and from work on a daily basis. NUSSBAUM removed items from the briefcase, those items consisting primarily of papers and files and reviewed those items. ADAMS stated that from his vantage point he was not able to observe whether there were any items remaining in the bottom of the briefcase after the papers and files have been removed by NUSSBAUM.

Investigation on 8/3/93 at Washington, D.C. File # WMFO 175B-WF-187743
by SA CHARLES K. DORSEY
SA SCOTT M. SALTER:plj Date dictated 8/4/93

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/5/93

CHARLES W. HUME, Captain, UNITED STATES PARK POLICE, 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W., Washington, D.C., was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and informed of the nature of the interview. HUME provided the following information:

HUME advised that he was present on July 22, 1993 during the inventory of VINCENT FOSTER's office, located at the West Wing of the White House. HUME stated that the inventory occurred at 1:15 p.m. HUME stated that the inventory of items was conducted by White House Counsel BERNARD NUSSBAUM and that he (HUME) and other law enforcement individuals present were there only as observers and were not permitted to review the items which were inventoried.

HUME advised that during the inventory BERNARD NUSSBAUM removed documents from a briefcase which was in the office and identified as belonging to FOSTER. HUME believed that when these items which consisted of files and papers had been taken out of the briefcase it was believed that the briefcase was empty. After BERNARD NUSSBAUM reviewed the items which were in the briefcase, HUME recalled that NUSSBAUM picked up the briefcase looked in it and indicated that the briefcase was empty. HUME recalled that a short while later during the inventory, NUSSBAUM picked up the briefcase again and at that time moved it against the back wall of FOSTER's office. HUME advised the interviewing agent that at no time was he able to see the bottom portion inside the briefcase.

Investigation on 8/2/93 at Washington, D.C File # WMFO 175B-WF-187743

by SA SCOTT M. SALTER:plj Date dictated 8/5/93

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/4/93

PETER W. MARKLAND, Detective, UNITED STATES PARK POLICE, 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W., Washington, D.C., after being aware of the identity of the interviewing agent and to the nature of the interview, provided the following information:

MARKLAND advised that he was present of Thursday, July 22, 1993, during the inventory of the contents of VINCENT FOSTER's office located at the White House. MARKLAND stated that the items were reviewed only by White House Counsel BERNARD NUSSBAUM and that the inventory's purpose was to identify and set aside any items in the office which were related to FOSTER's work in the Office of the White House Counsel.

MARKLAND advised that he recalled when NUSSBAUM reviewed the items located in VINCENT FOSTER's briefcase. MARKLAND observed NUSSBAUM remove the contents of the briefcase which included files and other papers and place them on FOSTER's desk. After those items had been reviewed, MARKLAND observed NUSSBAUM pick up the briefcase, open the top of the briefcase, look inside it and declared that it was empty. MARKLAND then observed NUSSBAUM close the briefcase and place it against the back wall of the FOSTER's office. MARKLAND believed that had there been scraps of paper lying in the bottom of the briefcase, they would have been seen and identified by NUSSBAUM at that time.

MARKLAND advised that he has prepared a written report regarding the inventory of FOSTER's office and an interview of BERNARD NUSSBAUM.

(telephonically)

Investigation on 8/2/93 at Washington, D.C. File # WMFO 175-WF-187743

by SA SCOTT M. SALTER:plj Date dictated 8/3/93

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/5/93

DEBRA L. GORHAM, Secretary, Office of the Counsel to the President, the White House, Washington, D.C., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and informed of the nature of the interview. GORHAM provided the following information:

GORHAM advised that sometime just before midnight on July 20, 1993, she was contacted at her home via telephone and advised that VINCENT FOSTER had been found dead of an apparent suicide. GORHAM arrived at work the next day (Wednesday, July 21, 1993) at approximately 8:30 a.m. Shortly after arriving at work, GORHAM, who had been VINCENT FOSTER's secretary, went to FOSTER's office and looked inside the office. GORHAM did not touch any item in FOSTER's office and was careful in that when she looked in the office she only stood in the doorway, where it would be clear to other individuals that at no time did she enter the office. From her vantage point at the doorway to FOSTER's office, GORHAM did not observe anything to be missing from FOSTER's desk. GORHAM was aware that BETSY POND, the lead secretary for the Office of the White House Counsel, had gone into FOSTER's office briefly on the morning of July 21, 1993 and that she did "straighten up" some items on the desk. GORHAM stated that it was unusual for POND to go into FOSTER's office but that she was not aware of any items that were taken out of FOSTER's office. GORHAM did not go into FOSTER's office until after an inventory had been taken of the items in the office on Thursday, July 22, 1993. After that inventory, GORHAM was given the keys to FOSTER's office.

GORHAM advised that on Monday, July 26, 1993, she was assigned to assist STEPHEN NEUWIRTH in the review of items in FOSTER's office. GORHAM recalled that at one point, FOSTER's briefcase was "in the way" so she picked it up and placed with a group of FOSTER's personal items which were to be returned to the FOSTER family. GORHAM stated that it her practice never to look in another's individuals briefcase but that as she picked up the briefcase she was aware that it was empty with the exception of



Investigation on 8/3/93 at Washington, D.C. File # WMFO 175B-WF-187743
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Continuation of FD-302 of DEBRA L. GORHAM, On 8/3/93, Page 2

what she believed to be some yellow "post-it" notes. GORHAM was not certain that these were "post-it" notes but she stated that whatever it was in the bottom of the briefcase was generally of the size and color of a "post-it" note. GORHAM stated that the items that she saw in the bottom of the briefcase may have been "post-it" notes or it may have been pieces from a sheet of yellow paper.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/30/93

DUNCAN W. SELLARS, Chairman, INTERNATIONAL FREEDOM FOUNDATION, was interviewed by Special Agent (SA) BRADLEY J. GARRETT. SELLARS advised that his work address is 200 G Street, N.E., Washington, D.C., 20002, phone 202-546-5688 or home number 703-486-9422.

SELLARS stated that on July 21, 1993, he had a conversation with RAY SCOTT who is a former Arkansas Secretary of Health when President CLINTON was the Governor of Arkansas. SELLARS contacted the FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) regarding VINCENT FOSTER. SELLARS stated that SCOTT is a business associate that he recently met and SCOTT stated during the conversation on July 21, 1993, that when the contents of FOSTER's suicide note is known perhaps "we will know more" about his death. SCOTT went on to state according to SELLARS that he (SCOTT) does not know the content of the note. SELLARS stated that he does not have an address for SCOTT other than he is a Healthcare Consultant in Little Rock, Arkansas and is close with HILARY CLINTON but is particularly close with Mrs. CLINTON's White House healthcare adviser, BRUCE LINDSEY. In addition, SELLARS stated that SCOTT reported he was friends with CAROL RASKIN, Deputy Domestic Policy Advisor to the President as well as CLINTON's Chief of Staff MACK McLARTY. SELLARS advised that he has no additional information to provide but will contact the FBI when he is contacted by SCOTT.

Investigation on 7/30/93 at Washington, D.C. File # WMFO 72-WF-187908

by SA BRADLEY J. GARRETT:plj Date dictated 7/30/93

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/2/93

RAY SCOTT, white male, approximate age 45, was contacted at his residence, 58 Rainwood, Little Rock, Arkansas, telephone number (501) 227-7708. SCOTT was advised of the official identities of the interviewing agents and the nature of the contact. SCOTT advised as follows:

He is employed as a consultant in the health care field. His business partner is GEORGE DENISON, who resides in Bethesda, Maryland. Although he was unable to locate an address for DENISON, he provided a telephone number of (301) 229-5791 after consulting a personal telephone diary.

SCOTT was a guest at DENISON's house during July 20-21, 1993, having travelled to the area to further his consulting business. On July 21, 1993, approximately 8:30am local time, SCOTT called the Little Rock, Arkansas, residence of JOE and SUSAN PURVIS, where it was approximately 7:30am. The call was made from the telephone at DENISON's residence. SCOTT referred to the Southwestern Bell telephone directory which encompasses the Little Rock area and provided the PURVIS's telephone number as (501) 663-9242.

SCOTT telephoned the PURVIS' to offer his condolences over the death of VINCENT FOSTER. SCOTT advised he knows PURVIS on a first-name basis, but was not as closely acquainted with FOSTER. The PURVIS' had been friends with the FOSTER family for some time, and he especially wanted to console JOE PURVIS.

SUSAN PURVIS answered the telephone and spoke to SCOTT concerning FOSTER's death. SCOTT initially recalled SUSAN PURVIS made the comment to SCOTT that, "We understand there is a note" but it was not made public. Upon further reflection, SCOTT advised his best recollection was that SUSAN PURVIS stated, "I understand there is a note," but it won't be public for obvious reasons. SCOTT did not question how SUSAN PURVIS obtained her information, but assumed she or her husband had spoken to some of their friends in Washington, D.C., who mentioned a note related

Investigation on 7/30/93 at LITTLE ROCK, AR File # 72-WF-187908

by SA FOIA(b)(7) - (C) SS SDI/sdi Date dictated 7/30/93

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Continuation of FD-302 of RAY SCOTT, On 7/30/93, Page 2

to FOSTER's suicide. Neither JOE nor SUSAN PURVIS were able to provide any information that would shed light on the reason for the apparent suicide, and the possible content of the note was not discussed.

SCOTT continued with his scheduled meetings after the telephone call ended. He met with former Idaho congressman McCLURE that morning. Inasmuch as the death of FOSTER was the news topic at the time, SCOTT did discuss it briefly with McCLURE. He did not mention the possible existence of a note to McCLURE.

SCOTT had lunch with DUNCAN SELLARS, and advised he was amazed the interviewing agents were aware of that fact, and that the agents were aware he mentioned the possible existence of a note to SELLARS. SCOTT advised he barely knows SELLARS. He believed he told SELLARS they might understand more about why FOSTER took his life when the contents of the note were released. SCOTT made the statement based his conversation with SUSAN PURVIS and, probably, his natural assumption a person who committed suicide would leave a note explaining the feelings or events that led to it.

Other than SELLARS, SCOTT did not recall mentioning the possible existence of a note to anyone else that day. He left Washington, D.C., on a flight to Little Rock that departed at approximately 7:15pm. SCOTT, along with about one hundred other persons in the health care field, attended a function on July 22, 1993, at Arkansas Childrens Hospital in Little Rock, Arkansas. HILLARY CLINTON was the keynote speaker, and SCOTT had a brief conversation with her that did not include mention of FOSTER.

SCOTT did not discuss the possible existence of a suicide note with anyone in Arkansas after his arrival July 21, 1993. He attended neither the memorial service, nor the graveside ceremony, held in FOSTER's memory. Other than SUSAN PURVIS, no person told him FOSTER left or may have left a note.

In response to his question, the interviewing agents asked SCOTT to refrain from contacting the PURVIS', DENISON, or anyone else concerning their contact with him.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/3/93

SUSAN PURVIS, white female, approximate age 40, was contacted at her residence, 3001 Ozark Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, telephone number (501) 663-9242. Also present was her husband, JOE PURVIS. After being advised of the official identities of the interviewing agents and the nature of the contact, SUSAN PURVIS advised as follows:

SUSAN PURVIS did have a telephone conversation with RAY SCOTT on the morning of July 21, 1993, which was the morning after the death of VINCENT FOSTER. The death of FOSTER was discussed, but PURVIS categorically denied telling SCOTT she understood FOSTER left a note which was not being released to the public. Specifically, she denied using the terminology "We understand there is a note" or "I understand there is a note" when she spoke to SCOTT.

PURVIS advised she did think she mentioned there might be a note which might shed light on the reason for the apparent suicide of FOSTER. However, PURVIS maintained her mention was prompted by discussion of the possibility of a note on the Today television show, combined with her general knowledge that media reports of other suicide deaths often mention notes of explanation left by the deceased. PURVIS advised SCOTT telephoned her during or shortly after the Today Show, which she and her husband were viewing, and she was probably just trying to give what little information she knew or assumed from the commentary on the show to SCOTT.

PURVIS advised no person ever told her there was a note left by FOSTER that was being withheld from the public or others, and she did not make that assertion to anyone herself. She later learned from media reports there was apparently some type of note, but she is not aware of the contents. She knew of no reason FOSTER would have taken his life.

PURVIS advised she had no personal knowledge of any other person with information about the note.

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by SA FOIA(b)(7) - (C) SS SDI/sdi Date dictated 7/30/93

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/3/93

JOSEPH H. PURVIS, 3001 Ozark Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, telephone (501) 663-9242, was contacted at his residence and advised of the official purpose and identities of the interviewing agents. PURVIS was observed to be a white male approximately 45 years old. Also present during the interview was his wife, SUSAN PURVIS. JOSEPH PURVIS advised as follows:

He first learned of the death of VINCENT FOSTER from a Washington reporter, JIM MIKAVICKI (PHONETIC). PURVIS and MIKAVICKI became friends within the past year when both had occasion to stay at the same hotel for two weeks, PURVIS to assist BILL CLINTON and MIKAVICKI to report on CLINTON's activities. PURVIS gestured toward a photograph in the room and advised it was of his friend, MIKAVICKI. The reporter telephoned PURVIS at his residence the evening of July 20, 1993, to tell him of FOSTER's death. There was no mention of any note left by FOSTER during that conversation.

No one told PURVIS there was a note either the evening of July 20, 1993, or in the days that followed. The media did eventually report FOSTER left a note of some type around the weekend following FOSTER's death.

PURVIS advised he and his wife were viewing the Today show on television the morning of July 21, 1993, to obtain news pertaining to the death of FOSTER. The show host, BRYANT GUMBEL, interviewed MIKAVICKI during the show and asked MIKAVICKI a question concerning the existence or content of any note left by FOSTER. MIKAVICKI seemed startled by the question and paused before answering that he was unaware of a note, but his previous experience would lead him to believe the authorities would not release the contents at that time.

It was during, or shortly after, the Today show that RAY SCOTT called his residence and spoke to his wife and him about FOSTER. PURVIS advised he did not tell SCOTT that FOSTER had left a note.

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by SA FOIA(b)(7) - (C) SDI/sdi Date dictated 7/30/93

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Continuation of FD-302 of JOSEPH H. PURVIS, On 7/30/93, Page 2

Due to MIKAVICKI's reaction to GUMBEL's question, PURVIS wondered if he knew something about a note or some other detail not disclosed on the program. PURVIS telephoned MIKAVICKI the same day and asked him why he reacted in the manner described.

MIKAVICKI advised he and GUMBEL discussed what MIKAVICKI knew before the show aired, roughly rehearsing the questions and answers that would be exchanged. During the preparation period, GUMBEL asked MIKAVICKI if there was a note and MIKAVICKI told him he knew of none.

Because of that background, MIKAVICKI was caught off guard by GUMBEL's question. He told PURVIS he paused before answering due to surprise, and remembered thinking GUMBEL was dumb to ask that question when he already knew the answer was no.

FOSTER was known to PURVIS as such an organized person, PURVIS would have been surprised if he had not left a note explaining why he chose to end his life.

PURVIS advised he had no information anyone tried to cover up the existence of the note and no one directed him to conceal any knowledge or conversation he had concerning a note left by FOSTER. He had no knowledge concerning why FOSTER may have committed suicide.

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PJF:plj

On August 2, 1993, a video tape containing a segment of the NATIONAL BROADCAST COMPANY (NBC) "TODAY SHOW" for July 21, 1993, was reviewed by PATRICK J. FORAN. The segment reveals BRYANT GUMBEL, the "TODAY SHOW" host, interviewing NBC White House reporter JIM MIKLASZEWSKI regarding the alleged suicide of Presidential Counsel VINCENT FOSTER. During this interview GUMBEL asks MIKLASZEWSKI why police investigators have not released any suicide note that was found. MIKLASZEWSKI advises that, from his prior experience, in covering police beats, such notes are not released until some time after the family is notified.

72-WF-187908
CKD/ckd

On 8/3/93, Special Agent (SA) DAN BRADLEY, C-5, who was in the office of Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) DONALD THOMPSON, provided SA CHARLES K. DORSEY with the following information:

On 7/31/93, SA BRADLEY held a party at his residence that was attended by several individuals including his cousin's husband, ROGER KAMMERDINER. KAMMERDINER is employed as an electrical technician by the UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE (USSS) with his current assignment being at the WHITE HOUSE. During the course of the evening, KAMMERDINER related that he had been in the WHITE HOUSE office of VINCENT FOSTER subsequent to his death and prior to the presence of law enforcement. At this time an unknown individual, also present in FOSTER's office, had indicated the presence of " a second letter", allegedly involving FOSTER's death.

SA BRADLEY will interview KAMMERDINER on 8/3/93 in order to obtain more details related to this incident.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/5/93

ROGER KAMMERDEINER, Physical Security Specialist, UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE, 1709 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and the nature of the interview. Also present for the interview was UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE Special Agent DONALD FLYNN. KAMMERDEINER provided the following information:

KAMMERDEINER advised that on July 21, 1993, sometime shortly after 5:00 p.m., he was assigned to go to the Office of VINCENT FOSTER located in the West Wing of the White House in order to do a survey regarding having a lock installed on the door to FOSTER's office. While at that location, KAMMERDEINER had a brief conversation with a UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE officer (KAMMERDEINER could not recall that individual's name) who was assigned to secure FOSTER's office. During the conversation, KAMMERDEINER mentioned to the SECRET SERVICE guard that FOSTER's office "looked clean". KAMMERDEINER advised the interviewing agents that he based that remark on the fact that he had seen FOSTER's office on a previous occasion during the course of his official business and at that time the office appeared to be not as neat as on this occasion. KAMMERDEINER recalled that the SECRET SERVICE guard responded by stating that the FBI had been at the office and they had taken things out of the office. KAMMERDEINER advised the interviewing agents that he now knows that the FBI did not take any items from FOSTER's office and believed that he simply had not understood what the SECRET SERVICE guard had said or that the SECRET SERVICE guard was mistaken in his statement.

KAMMERDEINER stated that while at FOSTER's office he remained within the doorway and never fully entered FOSTER's office.

Investigation on 8/5/93 at Washington, D.C. File # WMFO 175B-WF-187743
 by SA BRADLEY J. GARRETT
SA SCOTT M. SALTER:plj Date dictated 8/5/93

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/9/93

JOSEPH H. PHILLIPS was telephonically contacted and advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and of the nature of the interview. PHILLIPS provided the following information:

PHILLIPS advised that he is currently employed by the UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE (USSS) as a uniformed office at the White House. On July 21, 1993, PHILLIPS was on duty in the West Wing of the White House, standing guard at various posts including the second floor office of VINCENT FOSTER. PHILLIPS recalled seeing two (2) USSS technical employees walking towards FOSTER's office at approximately 5:00 p.m., however, he stated that at that time his post had been on the first floor of the West Wing at Post ECHO 1. PHILLIPS believed that one (1) of these two (2) individuals had been (FNU) WILLS and he did not know the other employee's name but he stated that it could have been ROGER (LNU). PHILLIPS concluded by advising that his fellow officer during this shift was JIMMY YOUNG who would have most likely been standing at the door of FOSTER's office when the USSS technical people were present.

YOUNG advised that during the time he stood guard at FOSTER's office, nothing was removed from the office.

(telephonically)
Investigation on 8/8/93 at Woodbridge, Virginia File # WMFO 175B-WF-187743
by SA CHARLES K. DORSEY:plj Date dictated 8/9/93

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/9/93

JAMES YOUNG, Officer, UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE (USSS), was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and informed of the nature of the interview.

YOUNG advised that on July 21, 1993, he was assigned to stand guard at the Office of VINCENT FOSTER from approximately 4:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. During that time YOUNG did not have a conversation with any USSS technical personnel. YOUNG was relieved from that post by JOSEPH PHILLIPS, who stood guard at the post until approximately 6:30 p.m.

YOUNG advised that while he was standing guard at FOSTER's office, nothing was removed from the office.

Investigation on 8/9/93 at Washington, D.C. File # WMFO 175B-WF-187743

by SA SCOTT M. SALTER:plj Date dictated 8/9/93

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/5/93

MARGARET A. WILLIAMS, Chief of State for the First Lady, the White House, Washington, D.C., was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and informed of the nature of the interview. WILLIAMS provided the following information:

WILLIAMS advised that on the evening of July 20, 1993, she was at home when at approximately 9:30 p.m., she received a telephone call from First Lady HILLARY CLINTON who told her that VINCENT FOSTER was dead of an apparent suicide. After being notified, WILLIAMS left her home and travelled to her office in the West Wing of the White House. WILLIAMS' primary purpose for travelling to the White House was that she did not have the First Lady's schedule for July 21, 1993 and she did not know if any of the scheduled events would need to be canceled. WILLIAMS arrived at the White House at approximately 11:00 p.m. at which time she went to the Press Office and spoke to several individuals there. She then went to the second floor where she observed that several of the cleaning people were standing in a hall. WILLIAMS then went to VINCENT FOSTER's office where she observed that PATSY THOMASSON was in the office and was sitting at FOSTER's desk. THOMASSON conducted a cursory search of the items on FOSTER's desk which included picking up and looking through some papers which were located on the desk. THOMASSON stated that she had hoped to find a note or something which would give comfort to LISA FOSTER, VINCENT FOSTER's widow. WILLIAMS remained in FOSTER's office for approximately ten minutes and then WILLIAMS departed FOSTER's office. During the time that WILLIAMS was there she did not see THOMASSON find a note on FOSTER's desk. THOMASSON remained in FOSTER's office after WILLIAMS left.

WILLIAMS advised that she is aware that a note had been found which was relevant to VINCENT FOSTER's suicide. WILLIAMS emphasized that she learned of the notes existence only through reading the newspapers and she has no other knowledge of the note that was found.

Investigation on 8/3/93 at Washington, D.C. File # WMFO 175B-WF-187743

by SA CHARLES K. DORSEY
SA SCOTT M. SALTER:plj Date dictated 8/4/93

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/6/93

The following message was found to be written on a note found in VINCENT FOSTER'S briefcase on July 26, 1993:

I made mistakes from ignorance, inexperience and overwork

I did not knowingly violate any law or standard of conduct

No one in the White House, to my knowledge, violated any law or standard of conduct, including any action in the travel office. There was no intent to benefit any individual or specific group

The FBI lied in their report to the AG

The press is covering up the illegal benefits they received from the travel staff

The GOP has lied and misrepresented its knowledge and role and covered up a prior investigation

The Ushers Office plotted to have excessive costs incurred, taking advantage of Kaki and HRC

The public will never believe the innocence of the Clintons and their loyal staff

The WSJ editors lie without consequence

I was not meant for the job or the spotlight of public life in Washington. Here ruining people is considered sport.

Investigation on 8/6/93 at Washington, DC File # 175B-WF-187743

by SA SCOTT M. SALTER Date dictated 8/6/93

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UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE
IDENTIFICATION SECTION
ROOM 103-B
119 D STREET, N.E.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

PHONE: 202-224-0965

LABORATORY EXAMINATION RESULTS

CFN: Not Related/USCP

OFFENSE: EXAMINATION CONDUCTED FOR THE
PURPOSE OF IDENTIFYING QUEST-
IONED WRITING APPEARING ON A
DOCUMENT.

USPP: 30502-93

DATE REC'D: 07-29-93 COMPL'D: 07-29-93

REC'D FROM: OFFICER P. J. SIMONELLO / ID SECTION

TYPE OF EXAMINATION REQUESTED

1. DOCUMENT EXAMINATION/HAND WRITING

NAME(S): VINCENT W. FOSTER

ELIM / SUSP /
ELIM / SUSP /
ELIM / SUSP /

DOCUMENT EXAMINATION RESULTS

STATEMENT OF EXAMINER: The examination consisted of studying the Standard Writings [Known] and locating writing characteristics that appear throughout the written words and letter characters which are unique to the writer. Then, the Signature Document [Questioned] were studied to locate those characteristics that are unique to a particular writer in the way alphabetical characters, groups of alphabetical characters, numerical digits and written words are completed. The Questioned and Known documents are listed as:

Questioned Document:

1. Handwritten "note" with writing appearing on a yellow, lined paper which had been mutilated by tearing into several pieces. The note had been re-constructed by investigators of the United States Park Police. The note was written with a black in color ink.

Known Documents:

1. Vincent W. Foster
 - a. A photostatic copy of a letter bearing the signature of the person that is the subject of the investigation. The signature is completed as "Vincent W. Foster".
 - b. The photostatic copy represents a letter that was completed on a standard sheet of stationery without lines.

EXAMINER'S CONCLUSIONS

The conclusion as related to the Questioned and Known writings are:

1. The Known Document is a photostatic copy of a handwritten letter that is of excellent quality. The copied writing appears without reproduction flaws that would cause this examiner to question the characteristics as they relate to the author. The author's signature appears on the bottom of the document and is represented as "Vincent W. Foster"
2. Even though the Questioned Document has been re-constructed, the writing contains sufficient characteristics of the author to allow identification.
3. Both the Known and Questioned Documents were completed by the same writer/author and that writer/author is known as Vincent W. Foster.

The characteristics used to reach the final conclusion of the examiner were not marked on either the known or questioned document. After the examination, which was conducted at the Identification Division Office of the United States Park Police, the documents were released to Officer P. J. Simonello.

EXAMINER:

Larry G. Lockhart
Sergeant Larry G. Lockhart

DATE:

7/29/93

HWEX/1762



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

W
1- Mathis
1- Deedrick

To: SAC, WMFO

Date: August 2, 1993

FBI File No. 72-WF-187908

Lab No. 30730011 D/S UD UJ

Reference: Communication dated July 30, 1993

Your No. 72-WF-187908

Re: UNSUB;
POSSIBLE OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE OF
U.S. PARK POLICE INVESTIGATION OF DEATH OF
VINCENT FOSTER, COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT,
DOJ;
OO: WMFO

Specimens received: Hand delivered by SA Scott M. Salter July 30, 1993

Specimens:

Q1 Twenty-seven pieces of torn paper bearing original handwriting

Also Submitted:

United States Capitol Police Laboratory Report dated 7-29-93

Results of examination:

The pieces of paper designated Q1 were reassembled, photographed, and examined for indentations. No indented writing was observed on the questioned document.

Enclosure

Page 1

(over)

A blue wool fiber was found on the surface of the Q1 specimen. This fiber has been mounted on a glass microscope slide for possible future comparison purposes. It is noted that the blue wool fiber was not adhering to the surface.

You will be advised separately of the results of the latent fingerprint examination and the disposition of Q1 and the Also Submitted material. A glass microscope slide containing the blue wool fiber is enclosed herewith.

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30730011 D/S UD UJ



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

8/2/93

YOUR FILE NO. 72-WF-187908
FBI FILE NO.
LATENT CASE NO. L-5024

TO: SAC, WMFO

RE: UNSUB;
POSSIBLE OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE OF
U.S. PARK POLICE INVESTIGATION OF DEATH OF
VINCENT FOSTER, COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT;
OOJ

REFERENCE: Specimens received 7/30/93 and telephone call 7/30/93
EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY: WMFO
SPECIMENS: Q1, twenty-eight pieces of torn paper bearing
original handwriting

This report confirms and supplements information
furnished telephonically on 7/30/93.

The result(s) of the other requested forensic
examination(s) and the disposition of the specimen(s) will be
furnished in a separate report.

The specimens were examined and one latent palm print of
value was developed on one piece of paper, part of Q1.

No palm prints are available in the main fingerprint
files for STEPHEN R. NEUWIRTH, FBI #876995RA5; BERNARD WILLIAM
NUSSBAUM, FBI #766788RA5; CLIFFORD SLOAN, FBI #484313TA0;
CHARLES WILLIAM BURTON or VINCENT FOSTER.

The specimens are enclosed.

Enc. (28)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: SAC, WMFO

Date: August 6, 1993

FBI File No. 72-WF-187908

Lab No. 30802079 D UD

Reference: Communication dated August 2, 1993

Your No. 72-WF-187908

Re: UNSUB;
POSSIBLE OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE OF
U.S. PARK POLICE INVESTIGATION OF DEATH OF
VINCENT FOSTER, COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT,
DOJ;
OO: WMFO

Specimens received: Hand delivered by SA Charles K. Dorsey on August 2, 1993

Specimens:

Q2 Notepad of yellow lined paper

Result of examination:

The Q2 notebook did not contain indented writing in the wording of the Q1 note.

Indented writing of unknown value was observed on the top page of the Q2 notebook.

Q2 is being forwarded to the Assistant Director, Criminal Investigative Division, for appropriate disposition.

Enclosure (1)

**SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
TUESDAY, JULY 27, 1993
FINAL**

tba	JOG
9:00 am- 9:30 am	MEETING OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Bob Rubin
9:30 am- 9:45 am	COMBINED BRIEFINGS OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Tony Lake
9:45 am- 10:00 am	BRIEFING for Conservative Democratic Forum OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Howard Paster
10:00 am- 11:00 am	CONSERVATIVE DEMOCRATIC FORUM ROOSEVELT ROOM Staff Contact: Howard Paster POOL SPRAY at beginning of meeting
11:15 am- 11:25 am	BRIEFING for Immigration Policy Announcement OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Bob Boorstin
11:25 am	THE PRESIDENT proceeds to OEOB 450
11:30 am- 11:55 am	IMMIGRATION POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT OEOB 450 Remarks: Bob Boorstin Staff Contacts: Bob Boorstin, Tom Epstein OPEN PRESS
	-- The President makes opening remarks
	-- The Vice President makes remarks
11:55 am	THE PRESIDENT proceeds to White House
12:00 pm- 1:35 pm	LUNCH OVAL OFFICE

as of 07/26/93 6:09pm

4:50 pm-
5:20 pm

SATELLITE FEED to National Conference of State Legislators
OEOB 459
Staff Contact: Regina Montoya
CLOSED PRESS

4:50 pm- **Opening Statement**
5:00 pm

5:00 pm **Q & A**
5:20 pm

5:20 pm- option
5:35 pm

OFFICIAL VIDEOTAPING
OEOB 459
Staff Contact: Dave Anderson
CLOSED PRESS

NOTE: The President will make three short videotapes for the following organizations' national conventions.

1. Korean War Veterans
2. United Food and Commercial Workers
3. Communications Workers of America

5:40 pm

THE PRESIDENT proceeds to White House

6:00 pm-
6:15 pm

MEETING
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Bob Rubin

6:15 pm-
6:30 pm

MEETING
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Mack McLarty

7:00 pm-
7:45 pm

MAINSTREAM ECONOMIC FORUM
STATE DINING ROOM
Staff Contact: Howard Paster
POOL SPRAY at beginning of meeting

BC AND HRC RON

WHITE HOUSE

as of 07/26/93 6:09pm

I made mistakes from ignorance, inexperience
and overwork

I did not knowingly violate any laws or standards
of conduct

No one in the White House, to my knowledge,
violated any law or standard of conduct, including
any action in the travel office. There was no intent
to benefit any individual or specific groups

The FBI - lied in their report to the AG

The press is covering up the illegal benefits they
received from the travel staff

The GOP has lied and misrepresented its
knowledge and role and covered up a prior investigation

The US Marshals Office plotted to have excessive
costs incurred, taking advantage of Kake and the

The public will never believe the innocence
of the Clintons and their loyal staff

The WSJ editors lie without consequence

I was not meant for the glare or the spotlight
of public life in Washington. Here ruining people
is considered sport.

Memorandum



To : ADIC, WMFO 29D-LR-35063

Date 4/21/94

From : SA William T. Guyton

Subject: Text of Press Conference of 8/10/93 Received from
David Margolis, U.S. Department of Justice, 4/14/94

On April 14, 1994, David Margolis, U.S. Department of Justice, provided the attached text of a press conference held on August 10, 1993. The press conference was held by Phillip B. Heyman, Deputy Attorney General; Robert Langston, Chief, U.S. Park Police; and Robert Bryant, Special Agent in Charge of the Washington Metropolitan Field Office of the FBI. The subject of the press conference was a report on the death of Vincent Foster, former Deputy Assistant to the President.

Margolis provided this press conference text as a follow-up to his interview by the FBI concerning his involvement in the death investigation of Vincent Foster.

- 1 - SUB 17 (NVMRA) (Attachment)
- ① - SUB 17 (OIC) (Attachment)
- 1 - Jim Bell (Attachment)

29D-LR-35063 SUB 17

PRESS CONFERENCE WITH: PHILIP B. HEYMANN, DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL; ROBERT LANGSTON, CHIEF, US PARK POLICE; ROBERT BRYANT, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE OF THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN FIELD OFFICE, FBI; SUBJECT: REPORT ON DEATH OF VINCENT FOSTER, FORMER DEP. ASST. TO THE PRESIDENT, US JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
F-10-01 page# 1 TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1993

dest=mwh,doj,fbi,park,crime
data

TRANSCRIPT BY: FEDERAL NEWS SERVICE
620 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20045

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MR. HEYMANN: Ladies and gentlemen, we are here today to announce the results of the inquiry into Vince Foster's death. I received an FBI report this morning, a Park Police report last Friday just got into my hands on Monday. As you all know, Park Police have been taking the lead in investigating the cause of death. The FBI has been assisting in that investigation and separately investigating the circumstances surrounding the finding of the note.

The chief of the Park Police, Chief Langston, and the special agent in charge of the Washington field office of the FBI, Mr. Bryant, are here today. They're here to describe their findings to you and to answer any questions you have.

I have directed that the full text of the note that was found be made public now. At the very strong urging of the family of Vince Foster, we are not making available photocopies of the note itself, but knowing that some of you may want to see it so that you can describe what it looks like, Carl Stern will have a copy available and anyone who wants to see it is welcome to see it. We just don't want to distribute it.

There are in the note some statements, which to be sure that no stone was left unturned, we have referred to the units which the attorney general asked some weeks ago to review any questions about the travel office -- the Office of Professional Responsibility, and

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the public integrity section. As to these assertions in the note, the Office of Professional Responsibility is looking at the sentence dealing with the FBI as part of its broader inquiry into the FBI contacts with the White House in accordance with the attorney general's letter to Chairman Brooks promising that we would look into the FBI's contacts.

As to the remaining assertions, the Public Integrity Section of the Criminal Division is looking at them as part of its mandate -- also from the attorney general, also in response to Chairman Brooks -- to review all travel office matters. Now, there's one that is not a travel office matter, and as to that one, which I don't even have it in front of me to describe it, involves the ushers. While the inquiry into these assertions is not totally complete, I am told that based on its interviews to date, nothing has led the Public Integrity Section to suspect any criminal conduct that would then have to be investigated.

I will also hand out or make available to you my instructions last week to the Public Integrity Section and to the Office of Professional Responsibility asking them to look into these matters.

The FBI joined the Park Police in the initial stages of the inquiry into Vince Foster's death because of his status as a federal official and assassination statutes. As it became apparent that this was a suicide, the FBI gradually assumed a secondary role to the Park Police. The bureau reentered the inquiry at our request to examine the handling of the note.

And with this, I think I should turn you over to Chief Langston.

Chief?

CHIEF LANGSTON: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. The United States Park Police has completed its inquiry into the death of Vincent Foster and, as you are aware, that occurred on the 20th of July at Fort Marcy National Park. It's a component of the George Washington Memorial Parkway in Fairfax County, Virginia.

MORE

PRESS CONFERENCE WITH: PHILIP B. HEYMANN, DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL; ROBERT LANGSTON, CHIEF, US PARK POLICE; ROBERT BRYANT, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE OF THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN FIELD OFFICE, FBI; SUBJECT: REPORT ON DEATH OF VINCENT FOSTER, FORMER DEP. ASST. TO THE PRESIDENT, US JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
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data

The condition of the scene, the medical examiner's findings and the information gathered clearly indicate that Mr. Foster committed suicide. Without an eye witness, the conclusion of suicide is deducted after a review of the injury, the presence of the weapon, the existence of some indicators of a reason, and the elimination of murder. Our investigation has found no evidence of foul play. The information gathered from associates, relatives and friends provide us with enough evidence to conclude that Mr. Foster's -- that Mr. Foster was anxious about his work and he was distressed to the degree that he took his own life.

That's the end of a brief official statement. I'd like to say to the press and to the media that we're not really equipped in the Park Police to answer the numbers of phone calls that came into Park Police headquarters, and let me apologize if we were a little short or there was a delay getting back to you. We had probably over a thousand phone calls over my three lines at my office, and it was kind of hard to conduct business.

I'll be pleased to answer any questions at this time regarding this death investigation.

Q Chief, have you ever found the person who reported it to the park maintenance man? And do you -- were you able to trace the source of the gun?

CHIEF LANGSTON: We can only identify that a white male in a white van may have been the person that notified a park maintenance employee at the Turkey Run maintenance center, and that white van was also placed in the parking lot near the time of the incident.

MR. HEYMANN (?): Chief, let's bring special agent in charge -- (inaudible).

CHIEF LANGSTON: Thank you. Bob?

Q Was the -- the Fairfax police, were they notified at all?

CHIEF LANGSTON: The emergency 911 was notified, and the Fairfax County Police notified the US Park Police of the incident.

Q Were (any ?) people there when you got there or anything like that?

CHIEF LANGSTON: There was no one there, to my knowledge.

Bob, you want to make a statement first.

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MR. BRYANT: Ladies and gentlemen, I'm Bob Bryant, and I'm special agent in charge of the Washington metropolitan field office of the FBI, and I want to make a few brief comments to you.

First, what we have here is a great sad tragedy in our community, and it's -- initially when there is a death of a high government official that's covered by the assault or the assassination statutes, the FBI as a matter of course establishes liaison with the police agency that has the primary lead, in this case the United States Park Police. We followed this case from the time we were notified until we were basically of the opinion, along with Chief Langston's staff, that this was a suicide.

Subsequently, there was an issue raised about a note and the question of what the note -- the handling of the note and the processing of the note and its turnover to the United States Park Police or law enforcement.

MORE

PRESS CONFERENCE WITH: PHILIP B. HEYMANN, DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL; ROBERT LANGSTON, CHIEF, US PARK POLICE; ROBERT BRYANT, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE OF THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN FIELD OFFICE, FBI; SUBJECT: REPORT ON DEATH OF VINCENT FOSTER, FORMER DEP. ASST. TO THE PRESIDENT, US JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
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We were ordered then by the Department of Justice to look into the handling of this note and to bring that investigation to the forefront, and we did that in recent times. And that's the time when we re-entered the investigation.

I would just like to say that during this time the cooperation between our two agencies has been outstanding, and I'm sure there are a lot of questions around this, but I'll turn it back over to Bobby or --

(Cross talk)

Q (Inaudible due to cross talk) -- could you tell us what you found out about the handling of the note?

MR. BRYANT: The note was initially discovered on July the 26th, 1993 at 4:00 p.m. by an aide who was inventorying Mr. Foster's office. The note was reviewed. It was torn up into several small pieces. It was put back together. And then there was concern by White House staff about executive privilege and about family interests. The note was subsequently reviewed by the wife and her attorney -- Mrs. Foster -- and was then reviewed by the president for executive privilege issues. And then after these 30 hours had passed, the note was turned over to Chief Langston's people on July the 27th at 9:15 p.m.

(Cross talk)

Q Mr. Bryant, why -- what about what the delay?

Q (Inaudible due to cross talk) -- whether that was appropriate handling of the note, because that's -- (off mike)?

MR. BRYANT: The handling of the note by the White House staff, certainly, they had interests there as far as executive privilege and certainly sensitivities to the family, and they were reasonable.

Q . They were --

Q They were reasonable, you said, Mr. Bryant?

Q What did you say --

MR. BRYANT: I said they were reasonable.

Q Well, what's the relationship between what he says and he has a family? This is all the government business.

MR. BRYANT: I'm sorry, you -- what are speaking from?

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Q I'm reading from the note.

MR. BRYANT: So --

Q Reading from what --

MR. BRYANT: -- the -- the content of the note was not examined by us. The handling of the note by the White House staff and its subsequent turn-over to the Park Police was what we looked at.

Q Who first told you this was a suicide?

MR. BRYANT: Well, I think while we were with the United States Park Police, it became reasonably apparent that it was a suicide.

Q Sir, do you have any concerns about the delay in the time that the White House did turn the note over to you?

MR. BRYANT: I think that the -- the concerns that they were working from were reasonable. We would probably have liked it to have been a little sooner, but we understand what was going on. I'd leave that to Bobby to answer, too.

Q How much sooner would you have liked to have seen --

MR. BRYANT: I can't answer that question because there are executive privileges and family interests here that are certainly very strong interests.

Q Reading these -- these things in this note --

Q There's no question that this note, that this --

Q -- I don't see any family interests.

Q Let me finish my question. There's no question that this is his note, his handwriting, that you took it. Did you do forensic on it? Are there fingerprints?

MR. LANGSTON: Yes. It's -- it's been identified by an expert in handwriting. Also, it was identified by the wife, Mrs. Foster, as being his handwriting.

Q How many people handled it? Are there -- a sense of how -- was it passed back and forth, or just his fingerprints on it?

MR. LANGSTON: It was handled by a number of people at the White House. And it was processed there were no real discernment of prints that could be identified.

Q Mr. Bryant, what precisely were the executive privilege

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concerns that the White House staff cited to you from the note?

MR. BRYANT: I think that when you have at the highest levels of government, I think any document, they would want to examine it as to whether there is information in there that might be privileged, and I think that's what, in fact, occurred.

Q Was there any -- is there anything in --

MR. BRYANT: I think --

(To staff ?) Had the note been turned over?

MR. LANGSTON: I'm sorry.

MR. BRYANT: Has the note been turned over?

I think it has, so I think that answers your question.

MORE

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dest=mwh,doj,fbi,park,crime
data

Q Yeah, but --

Q So there were no privileged --

MR. BRYANT: No.

Q Let me ask --

Q Mr. Bryant?

Q Let me ask you this: Were you able to determine what took the bulk of the 30 hours? Was it giving it to the family first?

MR. BRYANT: I think they had -- if you will remember -- go back to the time here, we had a death, a family traveling back and forth from Little Rock, an attorney involved, and also the president's schedule. And there were issues there that they thought were paramount to have a review done, and they were, in fact, done. And that's what accounts for most of the 30 hours.

Q Mr. Bryant?

Q Who's to blame, Mr. Bryant? Who at the White House was exerting this thought of executive privilege in the family? Is there a name of a person you can give us who was your contact there?

MR. BRYANT: Well, I think we working through Mr. Nussbaum...

Q Who was the aide that was examining the --

MR. BRYANT: I'm really not going to get into that. I don't think I want to --

Q You already --

Q Mr. Bryant?

Q Why wouldn't you get into that?

MR. BRYANT: Because I would just prefer not.

Q Mr. Bryant --

MR. BRYANT: Gary?

Q Mr. Bryant?

Cross talk.)

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Q How do you know that the circumstance is that the note was left in the briefcase torn up? Who discovered the note? How certain are you that the note was torn up by Mr. Foster and left in the briefcase? And, if so, how do you reconcile the fact that he tore up a suicide note?

MR. BRYANT: Okay, Gary, first, the note -- the -- I don't -- whether it's a suicide note or not, I don't know. It certainly comments about what's going on, first. The note was torn up into 27 pieces. It was in a briefcase that was discovered on the 26th.

Q Sir, this sounds like all this material that he might have been going to discuss -- he had an appointment, I understand, to talk to the president on Wednesday after he died Tuesday. He made this appointment Monday night. This sounds like this all the stuff that they were going to chat about.

MR. BRYANT: Well, I don't know --

Q Do you know for sure --

Q Could you give us a sense of what you think he was talking about when he seems to allege in this note that the FBI lied to the Justice Department? Have you got --

MR. BRYANT: I'm not really going to get into what his state of mind was or this type of thing. The facts are -- what was written down, you have. And it'd just be sheer speculation on my part or Chief Langston's.

Q Sir?

Q Are you saying the FBI hasn't discussed this with the White House counsel's office at all, that you have not had a conversation about this particular line in the note, that no one at the counsel's office --

MR. BRYANT: I think Deputy Attorney General Heymann suggested that certain aspects of this note are under inquiry by professional responsibility, and I think that's what he's referring to.

Q Do you know why --

Q (Inaudible.)

Q Do you know for sure that there was no other note left by Mr. Foster anywhere? Do you know that he did not leave any note for any member of his family?

MR. BRYANT: We've conducted over 30 interviews to determine what

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happened to this note, the time schedule, and we've run down numerous comments and suggestions of other notes, and we've found them all to be without fact.

(Cross talk.)

Q Do you have any indications that --

Q You haven't really answered the question about the gun, where the gun came from, how he got the gun.

CHIEF LANGSTON: We probably ought to -- we ought to probably clean up any other comments about the note before we move on to the gun.

Q Well, can I ask you just about --

Q Mr. Bryant?

Q On that Thursday, two days after, you have this going through his materials by Bernie Nussbaum with people here sort of looking on, the FBI looking on, the Park Police looking on. Do you have any concerns that Bernie Nussbaum was the guy who was basically searching the office and you guys were sort of standing around?

MORE

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CHIEF LANGSTON: Let me comment on that. We certainly weren't pleased at the way that was conducted. Our investigators would like to have seen that briefcase and would like to have examined the content of files. It was -- executive privilege was invoked. And we raised those concerns with the Justice Department, and those concerns from the Justice Department were raised with the White House. And the White House staff became very compliant, and everything that we had asked for, they provided to us fully.

Q Do you have any sense, Chief, of why this note wasn't found in the first office search?

CHIEF LANGSTON: It was ripped up into 28 small pieces and evidently was --

Q Twenty-five.

CHIEF LANGSTON: Well, there is some controversy over that.
(Laughter.)

Q The FBI can't count?

Q What fingerprints were found?

Q I'm sorry. I'm sorry, you were answering the question about why you think it wasn't found.

CHIEF LANGSTON: Well, obviously, the search of the briefcase was done out of the sight of our investigators and the agents. Papers were being pulled out. And it was overlooked is what was --

Q (You are in the ?) executive department. Why in the world was anybody conducting executive privilege against you?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I can't answer that, ma'am.

Q Sir, what fingerprints did you find on the note?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I don't believe anything discernible.

MR. : There was one smudged palm print.

CHIEF LANGSTON: One smudged palm print.

Q Chief Langston, the fact remains you don't know, do you, who tore the note up and put it in the briefcase?

CHIEF LANGSTON: No, we don't, Gary, but we have -- in interviews

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with the wife, she encouraged her husband to write down a list of what was bothering him. And she believes that that may have occurred a week to a week and a half prior to when he was found at Ft. Marcy. So, it could have been anytime between a week and a half and the time that --

Q There's no question that he wrote it, I understand that.

CHIEF LANGSTON: Yes.

Q But there is a question that somebody on the White House staff might have discovered the note elsewhere and torn it up and put it there?

CHIEF LANGSTON: That would be speculation. I could not comment on that.

Q Gentlemen, the note refers to both the president and Mrs. Clinton. Did anybody interview the president or Mrs. Clinton as part of this investigation?

CHIEF LANGSTON: Not from the Park police, no.

MR. BRYANT: We did not.

Q Why not? The president was one of the last to talk to him, had a meeting with him the day following the suicide --

MR. BRYANT: I think what we were trying to do here first was trying to find out if there was a violation, if he'd been harmed, you know, assaulted or assassinated or whatever. We concluded no. The second part of our inquiry was the note, and we didn't consider the president or Mrs. Clinton to be relevant witnesses to that.

Q Why?

MR. BRYANT: Because in our investigative view, they were not.

Q Did anyone on the White House staff talk to you about that? Did they -- did you approach anyone at the White House staff about interviewing the president or the first lady? Did they attempt to discourage you in any way?

MR. BRYANT: No.

Q So, you never talked to anyone on the White House staff at all --

MR. BRYANT: We talked to many members of the White House staff first about the note and the handling of the note. As far as the interviewing the president, no, we did not because we did not consider

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them to be relevant.

Q Why was a loose end not tied up? I mean, if you want to make sure it's thorough and you know this question is going to come --

MR. BRYANT: I suggest to you that it's a very thorough investigation.

Q Is there any indication that Mr. Foster had in the past been treated for depression or had ever talked about taking his own life?

CHIEF LANGSTON: No. He had been encouraged to see several doctors, and I think he had a doctor in Arkansas who was prescribing to him some medication. That doctor was, I think, just a regular general practitioner who had prescribed some medication.

Q What kind of medication?

CHIEF LANGSTON: He may have taken one dose of that prior -- maybe a day or two prior to, but the medical examiner found no traces of any drugs in his system.

Q What medication was that?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I'd have to -- I don't have that on the tip of my tongue. I'd have to provide that.

Q Was it an anti-depressant?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I believe that it was, yes.

Q Are we going to get the autopsy report?

Q Was that the first time he had been prescribed an anti-depressant? Was that the first time in his life he had been prescribed an anti-depressant?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I have not -- I don't have that information.

Q Was the doctor interviewed?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I believe so.

Q Did the doctor say why he would mail an anti-depressant to somebody when most people would provide a full psychiatric workup before you take them?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I believe that Mr. Foster had gone through a recent medical from that doctor and had been under his care.

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Q A recent psychiatric workup?

CHIEF LANGSTON: No. I think just a recent medical examination.

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Q Was it Prozac or was it --

CHIEF LANGSTON: It was not Prozac, but I can't recall the name of the drug. It started with a "T," is the only thing I can recall.

Q Chief, you said that Mr. Foster's wife had urged him to write down what was on his mind. I know there are sensitive family concerns here, but what can you tell us about what she suggested to him that he do with this after he write it down?

CHIEF LANGSTON: Oh, I think she just wanted him to vent. I can't speculate on why she asked him to write it down, but --

Q She didn't tell you that she said write it down and take it to the president or write it down and bring it home and talk to me about it?

CHIEF LANGSTON: No. I was not the investigator, so I wasn't interviewing her, and I didn't see that in the investigation.

Q (Off mike) -- sure that this was definitely a suicide, why did the FBI begin to work around and see if this was something else?

CHIEF LANGSTON: The FBI was in it because of the public official aspect of it, the possible homicide --

Q I know that, but why was the FBI looking at this to see if he had been assaulted if you were so sure it was a suicide?

CHIEF LANGSTON: Every indication led to that point on the scene.

Q (Off mike) -- FBI man answer that, will you?

CHIEF LANGSTON: Yes, ma'am.

MR. BRYANT: I'd be delighted to answer that question. Any time there is an assault or a death under suspicious circumstances of an official covered by the assassination or assault of a federal officer statute, we immediately put agents with the primary or lead agency, in this case United States Park Police, to determine the circumstances. As we became convinced that it was, in fact, a suicide, we subsequently started to withdraw, and then the issue with the note and the 30-hour issue, and then when we were ordered back in by the Department of Justice to examine the circumstances of the turnover of the note. And that's the chronology --

Q What does the autopsy show?

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CHIEF LANGSTON: The autopsy showed that he was free of any disease, that he had no drugs in his system, and that he died from a single gunshot wound that entered through the mouth and upward into the brain.

Q Can you tell us anything about the origin of the gun, or have you traced the gun?

CHIEF LANGSTON: The gun has a serial number on it, and if you're familiar with a Colt weapon, there are normally two numbers on each Colt weapon. One is called the serial number and one is called the butt number. There was some confusion that there may be two guns on the scene. I'd like to put that to rest. There is one gun on the scene. There's not a matched pair that we know of. A photograph of that gun was sent to the family in Arkansas to see if that was part of the father's collection. Evidently the father had died and had a gun collection. It was a 1912 Army Colt special. It was not traceable. It was not registered. It was not registered here in the District of Columbia, nor was it registered in Arkansas. The gun was similar to that in his father's collection. It was identified by a sister who looked at the photograph and said that is similar to the weapon that was in her father's collection. There were some ornate swirls on the handle of the Colt. She identified that that was the same. And -- but nowhere does that serial number come back to any one that we can recognize.

Q Can you tell us, did he have the gun in the White House or did he go someplace else to pick up the gun?

CHIEF LANGSTON: We cannot trace that.

Q Can you tell us about the time period --

Q Can you tell us about -- can we finish with the gun?

Q Okay.

Q Can you tell us whether or not -- in other words, was it believed that he had that gun? Does the family think that that gun had been in Vince Foster's possession?

CHIEF LANGSTON: Yes.

Q And what can you tell us about the time period -- there was a period of four or five hours when he left the White House and when he was believed to have committed suicide. What do you know about that time period?

CHIEF LANGSTON: We know that he had a full meal, and we cannot identify where that was, and that's strictly because the medical examiner said that he had a full meal. We cannot, from the time he

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left the White House, cannot account for the time. The body was
discovered at 1800 hours, which is 6:00 p.m. It may have been there
for an hour to two hours.

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Q Chief, you've not been able to recover the bullet?

CHIEF LANGSTON: The bullet has not been recovered.

(Cross talk.)

CHIEF LANGSTON: I'm sorry?

Q Who was the last person to see him alive that you interviewed?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I cannot tell you that. It is in the interview statements. I'm not sure who that is.

Q Was it a White House official or his family?

Q Was there anything remarkable about the last known conversation with Mr. Foster that stands out in terms of his suicide?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I can't answer that.

Q Why?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I don't know. That's -- no knowledge of it.

Q Was he receiving anti-depressant drugs? And what's the name of the doctor who sent them to him?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I will provide that to you later, but I don't have it with me right now.

Q Chief, can you shed -- or Mr. Bryant -- any light at all on this line about the usher's office and the name Cocky (sp) and HRC?

CHIEF LANGSTON: No, I can't.

Q Can you give us any idea what that means? The line is: "The usher's office plotted to have excessive costs incurred taking advantage of Cocky (sp) and HRC."

MR. BRYANT: I don't know.

CHIEF LANGSTON: I believe Cocky (sp) is somebody in the White House and HRC is Hillary Rodham Clinton, I believe. That's what they speculate.

Q I'm sorry, that's what who speculates?

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CHIEF LANGSTON: That was just -- that was given to me by one of my investigators that they thought that's what that meant.

Q Sir, in the collection of all the interviews, was there a general sense that he was very depressed?

CHIEF LANGSTON: Oh, yes, very much so -- from the family, from friends, from his writing, from the doctor -- that he had been going through some tough times accepting some of the problems that had occurred there. And I think you can see in the note that certain situations had occurred that he was directly responsible for.

Q Well did he say to friends that he was having a difficult time?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I don't know if he did or not. I think his wife acknowledged the fact that he was really down. As a matter of fact, they had called the office to see how he was doing. And I think the friends pretty well acknowledged that he had been acting a little down.

Q Any indication when the note was written?

Q Did they indicate how long --

CHIEF LANGSTON: Yes, ma'am? I'm sorry?

Q Did they indicate how long he had been down, how long they'd been noticing this?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I think probably it had to extend back over a week or two.

Q Did you figure out when this note was written, other than Mrs. Foster's suggestion that she told him to write down what was bothering him?

CHIEF LANGSTON: No. She said that he had suggested that about a week and a half prior to the death. It could have been written any time in there.

Q When he leaves the White House, does he log his car out? Did you find the logging? Is that the person who might have last seen him? How did he get his car out of the parking because they usually log them in very carefully.

CHIEF LANGSTON: I'm sure that's part of the investigation, but I cannot tell you.

Q Well let's come back to this last person for a minute, if we could, because that is strange. In this kind of investigation I

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would think you would want to know somebody who saw this man directly before death. Do you have any witnesses who saw him outside of the White House after 1:55?

CHIEF LANGSTON: No.

Q Where does the investigation go from here?

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Q Let me just finish. Could I -- I have one more thought on that, ma'am?

Have you interviewed his secretary? Did she see him?

CHIEF LANGSTON: Yes.

Q Have you -- you don't know that, for example, Mr. Nussbaum was the last person? Do your investigators know, Chief --

CHIEF LANGSTON: Yes, they do. No, I don't know. My investigators do know.

Q (Inaudible) -- very quickly so we can find that out? That seems a little bit crucial, because there are suggestions that a very senior person saw him right before he left. And so naturally we want to lay that to rest.

CHIEF LANGSTON: Sure.

Q Did you examine his phone --

CHIEF LANGSTON: We'll get back on that.

Q Did you examine his phone logs?

CHIEF LANGSTON: I'm sorry. Go ahead.

Q Where does the investigation go from here?

CHIEF LANGSTON: The Park Police has concluded its investigation into the death inquiry of Mr. Foster.

Q What about the FBI?

MR. BRYANT: And we've concluded our investigation as to the handling of the note.

Q Gentlemen, there's a lot of serious statements here. Aside from the -- you said you would follow up on the FBI line in the Justice Department. Will the rest of this be looked into? A man did, apparently, give his life because of these concerns. You're saying it's over. Does that mean all these things about the travel office and so on will not be looked into?

MR. BRYANT: I think some of those inquiries are ongoing. Certainly the travel office and the issues about the FBI -- some of those are ongoing.

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Q What about his telephone logs?

Q Did you -- have you kept a copy of Heymann's letter?

Q Did you all examine his telephone calls?

MR. BRYANT: Yes, we did.

Q You did? And did that lead you -- did that tell you what officials in government he had been talking with that might have contributed to his distress?

MR. BRYANT: Well, we asked for 2-1/2 weeks prior to his death of telephone logs. We did receive that.

Q What were the main offices he dealt with during that time?

MR. BRYANT: I don't have that information with me. I'm sorry.

Q Are you going to make that public, those offices, that phone log?

MR. BRYANT: It's part of our investigation. I doubt it will be made public, ma'am.

Q Chief --

MR. STERN: Let's just take a couple more questions, and they've got to get back to work.

Q Is there any indication of why he chose the place --

Q What about the phone logs? Will you --

Q -- he chose to shoot himself?

CHIEF LANGSTON: No, ma'am.

Q Was there anything that happened on that date that indicates -- that may have sparked this? Is there --

CHIEF LANGSTON: Not to our knowledge, no.

Q Chief, is there --

MR. STERN: Safire?

Q Mr. Bryant, the line that says the usher's office plotted to have excessive costs incurred, might that have been a federal crime? And would the FBI look into that?

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MR. STERN: Bill, you came in late. We did distribute a letter from the deputy attorney general that indicates how those matters will be pursued.

(Cross talk.)

Q You didn't distribute it over here.

MR. STERN: Okay.

Q Well, what are these --

MR. STERN: I'll make -- Sarah, will you please?

Q (Inaudible.)

MR. STERN: We'll make sure that he -- I thought it was passed out on your side. If it wasn't, we'll get you copies. Let me just say one last thing. There are some of you who obviously would like to see a photocopy of the original -- of the note in its original form. If you want to come to my office after this session, I'll be happy to show it to you, but we did want to respect the family's wishes. But if you wish to see it in terms of where there are scratch-outs, interlineations, scribbles, anything like that, I do have one photocopy. And if you want to come to my office --

Q So we can't get a copy?

MR. STERN: No. But if you'd care to come to office to look at it --

Q Sure.

MR. STERN: I understand your journalistic need to describe the note to your readers or to your viewers.

Q For those of us who don't usually cover Justice, could you tell us where your office is? (Laughter.)

MR. STERN: Just passed the men's room.

(Cross talk.)

MR. STERN: Thank you. Thanks a lot.

Q Wait a minute, sir!

Q From which office are we getting the report?

MR. STERN: The report --

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Q When is it being released?

MR. STERN: As soon as the FOIA section processes the report, it'll be available to you. That has already started before this meeting even took place.

Q Do you have to file a request or is it going to be released to everybody at once?

MR. STERN: The normal practice of the FOIA section is to call the people who have requested it and let them know that it's available and to ask them whether they would like it mailed or would they like to pick it up. (Laughter.)

Q Who do we tell --

MR. STERN: If you'll send an FOIA to Philip Heymann, the deputy attorney general, or to me, we'll make sure that it gets up to that section.

Q This question is to both of these gentlemen here. You say this man was in great depression and he'd been dissatisfied with the government.

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Therefore we certainly need to know what departments and what agencies of government he talked with recently, and that would be in the telephone log, and you're not going to make that public?

MR. STERN: Sarah, if you put in a Freedom of Information Act request, we'll make sure that it's handled.

Q (Off mike) -- Freedom of Information Act -- (off mike). I want to know what --

MR. STERN: Okay, Sarah.

Q -- (off mike) -- of things we should know now. Are you going to give it to us or are you not?

MR. STERN: Sarah, I don't think we have that available at this -- at this point.

Q Well, why don't you?

MR. STERN: You want some special servicing? Is that it? You're not content to wait and do it the normal way, through a Freedom of Information Act request?

Q No. Hell, no. I'm not --

MR. STERN: Okay.

Q -- going to wait on that.

MR. STERN: Thank you very much.

END