

**Gorham, D.**

**SCREENED**  
By *SP* On 2/15/10

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 5/6/94

On 4/19/94, DEBORAH L. GORHAM appeared for a previously arranged appointment at the Office of the Independent Counsel to be interviewed. Also present were her attorney, DAVID E. MILLS of DOW, LOHNES & ALBERTSON, 1255 23rd Street N.W., Washington D.C. 20037 where GORHAM is employed as a legal secretary; and attorneys for the Independent Counsel, RODERICK LANKLER, CARL STICH, and MARK STEIN. Having advised GORHAM and her attorney of the identities of the interviewing agent and Independent Counsel attorneys, GORHAM provided a portion of the following information. A subsequent appointment was needed to cover additional topics and was conducted by SSA [FOIA(b)7 - (C)] and RODERICK LANKLER, Esq. on 4/26/94 at the offices of DOW, LOHNES & ALBERTSON. DAVID E. MILLS was also present at that meeting. Over the course of both interviews, GORHAM provided the following information:

GORHAM advised that she held the position of Executive Assistant to Deputy Counsel to the President from March 8, 1993 until November 17, 1993. From March 8th until July 20, 1993 VINCENT FOSTER JR. was her immediate boss. She was referred to the position through her professional acquaintance with FOSTER'S sister SHEILA ANTHONY, who was an attorney with the firm of DOW, LOHNES & ALBERTSON and recommended GORHAM apply for the job as FOSTER'S secretary at the White House.

During a one week vacation that GORHAM took from April 4-10, 1993 FOSTER used a temporary Department of Justice (DOJ) secretary named "HELEN" (LNU). Other than that, GORHAM was the only secretary that FOSTER used. She described the relationship between herself and FOSTER as a "one on one team", cordial, professional, but not personally close, meaning they did not normally exchange personal information about one another. Most of their contact took place at her desk, rather than in his office. The only personal type task she remembers doing for FOSTER was ordering flowers for his wife on their wedding anniversary.

GORHAM described FOSTER as very private and reserved.

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 by SA [FOIA(b)7 - (C)] Date dictated 4/22+5/2/94

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She viewed him as reserved, not depressed or unhappy. He could enjoy a joke with others in the office, but was a very hard worker and would ask people to "keep it down" if their talking disturbed him. The only time he seemed to be more agitated than usual was when he was under time pressures. He had a very long fuse, so it was relatively rare for him to show agitation. The Friday before his death, as he was preparing to go away for the weekend, he needed a long distance beeper to take with him and he and GORHAM had a misunderstanding that he needed it right away. He showed agitation at that time, but did not lose his temper. Even with hindsight, GORHAM did not see anything in FOSTER's behavior which would indicate a distressed state of mind. She recalled BETSY POND and LINDA TRIPP saying to her that FOSTER did not seem to be concentrating the morning of his death.

GORHAM never saw him lose his temper. She saw him angry once, in response to the Wall Street Journal article, "Who is Vince Foster?" He did not seem to understand that that kind of thing would happen. You could see that the allegation, veiled or otherwise, that there was a cabal of Rose Law Firm people troubled him. He just wanted to stay in the shadows and do his work. An attack on his character was the most hurtful thing to him because his reputation was the most important thing to him next to his family. He also resented the fact that the article misquoted his office, saying that he refused to provide a photograph. What really happened was that GORHAM, on FOSTER's instructions, told the Wall Street Journal that he preferred not to provide a photograph. He had a conversation about it with FRANCIS SOBOL (phonetic) which GORHAM "tuned out", merely remembering that FOSTER sounded upset, though not overly emotional, about it.

GORHAM said that FOSTER demanded perfection of himself and others. And at times his ethical standards appeared to be higher than the staff in the office. For example, an individual went on vacation leaving his/her plant with FOSTER or the Counsel's office to care for while they were gone. FOSTER insisted that the plant be returned to them immediately upon their return, seriously brushing aside joking remarks that he should not be so quick to return the plant because it looked so good in his office. Also, all discussions with other Associate Counsels or DOJ personnel were conducted behind closed doors in his office so they would have the utmost privacy.

FOSTER worked very hard and very long hours. He was

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usually at his desk already settled when GORHAM arrived to work and was there late into the evening. GORHAM advised that, rather than just having "a lot on his plate" all the time, he had a "service for eight" going on.

As an example of the toll his workload took, FOSTER had been voted Outstanding Lawyer of 1993 by the Arkansas Bar Association in late June 1993. It was to be awarded to him personally at an awards ceremony sometime mid to late June 1993. FOSTER was scheduled to go and appeared to be looking forward to it. The morning he was to have left for Little Rock for the ceremony, he told GORHAM he just did not see how he could go because he "was just too busy to leave". He was in the middle of the nomination process for RUTH BADER-GINZBERG for the U.S. Supreme Court. Late in the morning he sent faxes to individuals in Little Rock notifying people he would not be able to attend. GORHAM does not know if he called anybody personally, but she herself called a couple individuals to notify them. She could not recall their names. FOSTER followed the cancellation with four letters explaining and apologizing for his non-attendance. GORHAM said he seemed very torn and disappointed.

GORHAM does not know if NUSSBAUM was aware of FOSTER's having to cancel his attendance at this ceremony. Sometime after that he had wanted to get away with LISA for a day or two and he could not make it because NUSSBAUM left town instead.

The Thursday before his death, FOSTER and GORHAM were alone in his office. He asked her, "How are you doing?" in a casual way and she answered, "Some days were fine--how are you doing?" He answered using the illusion of trying to build a building that people keep knocking down-- you rebuild it and they keep trying to knock it down. GORHAM asked him during this conversation, "Do you ever feel like you're in 'spiritual deficit'?" FOSTER responded, "Yes, I know what you mean." She told him about the services at St. John's Episcopal Church across from the White House through Lafayette Park during lunch hours and he said that maybe he would go. He did not say it as though he were dismissing her suggestion, but rather as though he might be considering doing it. GORHAM advised that he was Episcopalian by upbringing, but he attended the Catholic Church with his wife and children since his marriage.

GORHAM advised that it was not unusual for FOSTER to have long closed door sessions with people. The longest she

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could remember was about one and a half hours.

Events of 7/19/93

GORHAM reflected that Monday, the day before his death, FOSTER had what she called a major and uncharacteristic "lull" in his work pace. Normally, she would see him have periods of a couple hours where there would be a lull, but this lasted all day and he spent it going through his papers and drawers and taking care of a lot of unfinished business he had not been able to get to. He was doing a lot of straightening and cleaning.

The previous Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday he had generated a lot of personal "thank you" letters and several memos. Monday, however, he started looking through the stuff in his drawers, looking calm and staying quieter than usual and spending more time than usual alone with the door to his office closed.

The rest of the office was busy that day with the appointment of LOUIS FREEH to be Director of the FBI. FOSTER was not involved with that. He had been involved with the RUTH BADER-GINZBERG nomination. The FREEH nomination was NUSSBAUM's responsibility.

FOSTER left the office twice during the day-- once to the "bank" (which meant the Credit Union). The other absence was without explanation, which was very uncommon, because he usually told her where he was going. GORHAM could not recall how long he was gone or what time of day it was. He also left much earlier at the end of the day than normal. He left before GORHAM did, without any explanation. He did not seem stressed, just simply left.

Also that Monday, MARSHA SCOTT visited FOSTER. She often visited him, but usually they were relatively brief, open-door visits, frequently with other visitors from Arkansas in tow. GORHAM does not know if their long, closed door visit the day before his death was business or personal, what was discussed, and did not notice what SCOTT's demeanor was when she left.

Also that day, FOSTER placed three items of personal mail in the out-going mail tray in the Counsel's Office. GORHAM checked to make sure they were sealed and had postage on them.

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It was common for FOSTER to mail bills this way, but unusual for him to mail personal letters. GORHAM recalled that all were in plain white envelopes which FOSTER had hand addressed. One was in a plain white large business (4" x 9 1/2 ") envelope, was rather thick and had two stamps on it and was addressed to FOSTER's mother in Arkansas. The second was in a plain white small business (3 1/2" x 5 1/2") envelope and GORHAM recalls nothing about the addressee except the words "Insurance Company". The third piece was also in a small white business envelope and was hand addressed, but GORHAM cannot recollect who the addressee was. She feels certain, however, that it was not to his wife or any member of his immediate family. She believes that she cannot recall the addressee because they had no significance to her. None of the envelopes had any commercial printing on them, nor did they have any see-through windows in them. GORHAM advised that she told NUSSBAUM about the letters on either Wednesday or Thursday following FOSTER's death. He made a comment that he should let someone know about them. NEUWIRTH was present. Other than that GORHAM does not recall any other discussion about the envelopes.

There is no system for logging mail either in the Counsel's office or anywhere in the White House that GORHAM is aware of. They were put in the out-going mail on July 19, picked up some time during the day. GORHAM could not recall which mail courier picked them up.

GORHAM does not recall making any reservations for any lunches or dinners for FOSTER in the week or so prior to his death, nor does she recall FOSTER mentioning any date that he had with anybody. Two weeks before his death he had lunch with WALTER PINKUS, a journalist with the Washington Post. MRS. PINKUS is from Arkansas and the two are personal friends with FOSTER.

GORHAM advised that FOSTER spent the majority of his time in his office when he was not attending meetings. He attended a lot of meetings when he was working on the Health Care Malpractice Reform, but that was over. GORHAM does not recall what he was working on during the last few weeks prior to his death. He had two or three issues he was handling and was dictating a lot of letters to personal friends, catching up on answering congratulatory letters. GORHAM advised that he would dictate about 15 letters and two memos on each tape and he was giving her about one per day.

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GORHAM advised that she observed HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON visit FOSTER in his office approximately four times during the period she worked for FOSTER. He was called into her office approximately three times, including the night she interviewed for the job. [REDACTED]

GORHAM advised that cheeseburgers were FOSTER's favorite food and he always removed the onions from them.

GORHAM feels that LISA FOSTER was VINCE FOSTER's most important confidante and that it is important that she be interviewed. She called three times in the one and a half weeks prior to FOSTER's death, and each time she asked how he was doing. She would ask GORHAM, "How's he doing?". GORHAM would always just give an upbeat "Fine." and then LISA would ask, "Is he available?" and/or "What's he doing?" VINCE's son, VINCENT JR. telephoned a week before his father's death and asked, "How's he doing today?" It was clear from the calls that the family had a general concern about FOSTER, but GORHAM explained that she felt it inappropriate to offer anything more than a superficial answer to their questions, inasmuch as offering a more insightful answer would be inappropriately personal within the context of her role as executive assistant and his as supervising attorney.

GORHAM spoke with LISA FOSTER twice since VINCE's death. LISA asked her if she noticed anything the morning of his death. She had not. They also spoke around Thanksgiving time about a possibility that GORHAM would be in Little Rock for the holidays and might possibly visit. As it turned out, she did not.

FOSTER had not ever made any statements or comments to GORHAM indicating despondency and she had not noticed any physical changes in FOSTER from the time she started as his secretary to his death.

#### Events of July 20, 1993

On July 20, 1993 GORHAM advised that she arrived to work between 7:30-8:00am. FOSTER arrived about 8:50am, which was a little later than usual. He had coffee and a muffin and attended a routine 9:00am meeting with NUSSBAUM and other Associate Counsel. She does not recall how long the meeting lasted. He went back to his office at its conclusion. GORHAM

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could not recall if he was alone or not. At 10:30 he grabbed his jacket, slung it over his shoulder and walked out saying, "I'll be back." He returned about 11:30. GORHAM did not recall whether or not he attended the Rose Garden ceremony for Judge LOUIS FREEH. She advised that most of the time he told her where he was going when he left the office, but about a quarter of the time he did not.

Soon after he returned--about 11:40-11:50, GORHAM entered his office and told him she was going out and did he need anything. He answered, "No--I believe I have everything." He appeared relaxed and normal.

FOSTER was gone when she returned about 1:20-1:30pm. He had left a couple letters and a memo for her to type. She does not recall who the letters were to or to what, specifically, the memo pertained. She also does not recall what was on his itinerary for the afternoon. POND told her that he had had his lunch, left M&Ms for everybody, and left with his jacket slung over one shoulder, saying, "I'll be back."

GORHAM spent the afternoon typing the letters and memo. FOSTER had been dictating a lot of personal letters on his own letterhead to Arkansas friends, thanking them for their support and congratulations. There were also some form responses to people who were asking for referrals and other frequently seen requests.

People who called for FOSTER that afternoon of July 20, 1993 were told he was "out of the office". BILL KENNEDY asked for him. MAGGIE WILLIAMS asked for him. GORHAM could not recall the times.

GORHAM does not know why BRANT BUCK called FOSTER on 7/20/94. She does not know GORDON RATHER and does not know why he called FOSTER on 7/20/94. And she knows JIM LYONS, but does not know why he called on 7/20/94.

FOSTER had never left in the middle of the day before. GORHAM does not know of anybody paging FOSTER during the afternoon, until 6:30pm, when POND said she paged him (POND told GORHAM this later).

GORHAM left the office at 5:45pm. She was called at 11:30pm by LINDA TRIPP, who notified her of FOSTER's death.



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TRIPP told GORHAM that DEBORAH COYLE had called TRIPP. TRIPP said that FOSTER may have killed himself. GORHAM wondered rhetorically what could have been so bad that he would have done such a thing. TRIPP had no opinion. They spoke about the conversation GORHAM had had with FOSTER the Thursday before his death about being in "spiritual deficit". GORHAM later mentioned to her husband that FOSTER had opened up a little. GORHAM and TRIPP did not speculate or mention the possible existence of a suicide note. GORHAM did not know if FOSTER would be the type likely to leave a note. NUSSBAUM called GORHAM about midnight, wanting to make sure GORHAM had been notified.

#### Events of July 21, 1993

The next day GORHAM got to work between 8:30 - 9:00am. POND was at her desk and said she had arrived shortly before. STEVE NEUWIRTH was at the doorway of FOSTER's office. GORHAM does not know when NEUWIRTH got there, but he looked freshly dressed and groomed as normal for the morning. He was in charge of FOSTER's office and he was keeping everybody out of it.

NUSSBAUM's door was closed. The door to FOSTER'S office was open. GORHAM looked into FOSTER's office. She couldn't see much because the lights were not on and things were backlit from a window with a dim exposure, but what she did see looked normal and unchanged. She could not see if anything had been moved and could not observe from her vantage point if there were any gaps in shelves. From what she could see, the office did not look any emptier than it had the day before. NEUWIRTH told her not to go in the office and she did not. Nobody else mentioned having been in the office except POND.

She spent the morning taking telephone messages. She and POND talked. POND told her she had gone into FOSTER's office to turn off the security alarm and, not wanting his office to look messy, started to tidy the papers on FOSTER's coffee table. POND told GORHAM she suddenly realized that she should not touch anything and left. GORHAM advised that she realized that there was later misunderstanding about what POND had touched. She stressed that POND told her that she only straightened papers on the coffee table, and never touched anything on FOSTER's desk or anything else in his office. GORHAM said that Wall Street Journals and other papers she could not recall were on the coffee table.

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Shortly after she'd arrived GORHAM went down to the canteen to get some coffee and breakfast. When she returned POND and NEUWIRTH were there. There was a 9:00am meeting in NUSSBAUM's office with all the Associates (8-10 of them) and it was short. There was also a short meeting in NUSSBAUM's office of NEUWIRTH, SLOAN, and intermittently, CHERYL MILLS, who was working on flight arrangements for the funeral.

BILL KENNEDY, and CRAIG LIVINGSTONE dropped by. LIVINGSTONE was dressed more casually than he normally did, wearing khaki trousers and a blue shirt without a tie. He looked emotionally upset. She thinks she remembers POND saying that he had identified FOSTER's body the night before and did not get much sleep. He was not dressed in clothes he would normally have worn to work. GORHAM does not recall seeing any boxes or binders carried around and did not hear anybody talking about such a thing.

The door to FOSTER's office was secured by a female Secret Service guard who arrived maybe 10:30-11:00am. NUSSBAUM, NEUWIRTH, and KENNEDY spoke of securing the office. SLOAN may have also been in on that discussion. A bolt was put on the door by the time she left the office for the day, so there was no guard any longer. There were two keys to the bolt- NUSSBAUM had one and he gave GORHAM the other one. She taped her key to the underside of her desk and told POND it was there in case they needed it in her absence.

GORHAM advised that she was not involved in the arrangements being made to inventory the contents of FOSTER's office and does not know who was involved in the negotiations and the event. She was never asked where things were, except NEUWIRTH asked her about what was located in the general files located in front of her desk. Nobody asked about the safes. She knows nothing about a tablet from FOSTER's desk being taken during the inventory, then returned to Nussbaum or any efforts to find any tablet. She left the office about 7:00pm that evening.

#### Events of July 22, 1993

GORHAM advised that her memory of July 22 is very vague. The only salient points she remembers are items related to funeral logistics-- who would be going and travel arrangements and the like. WEBB HUBBELL was there in casual attire and did some of the planning.

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During the inventory on July 22nd GORHAM was in the outer office at her desk. She recalls that people began to arrive and things seemed disorganized. There were lots of people in and out of NUSSBAUM's office and lots of slamming of doors. She did not hear any arguments or heated negotiations of any sort. Nobody asked her any questions or asked her for assistance. Nor did anybody ask anything about, or do anything about, looking into the safes or the files in front of her desk. It struck GORHAM as odd that nobody ever asked her where things were in FOSTER's office.

Normal Location of Papers in FOSTER's office

The lateral file cabinet to the left of Foster's desk: Papers in the right hand top drawer were the President's and HILLARY CLINTON's personal legal and financial records in "drop pin flex folders". GORHAM advised that she helped maintain those files. They included tax returns.

Below the top drawer was visitor information related to Washington D.C.. GORHAM could not recall what was in the bottom drawer.

Other top drawers in the lateral files against the wall were folders on individuals. There was one for the Associate Attorney General WEBB HUBBELL, which included press releases about his confirmation. In another folder there were also some papers regarding FOSTER's father's estate.

The lateral file cabinet to the right of Foster's desk: the top right drawer closer to the window contained files on specific individuals--i.e. MAC McLARTY, HAROLD ICKES, and others she could not recall. The left top file held personal press clippings and a "junk" drawer. The lower right drawer was maintained by FOSTER and was kept locked by FOSTER himself. It contained confidential documents he said he would file things in as appropriate. She assumed it was out of his desire for privacy. It did not contain classified documents. The two or three documents she knows were in there were not White House documents. One related to "transition matters". Other than that, she does not know what was in that drawer as she was told not to touch it.

The desk drawers:

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The three narrow ones on the left held desk supplies; the middle one held personal items, such as receipts and his checkbook; the right top held more desk supplies; the lower right had folders with information concerning the sale and purchase of a personal car, the Rose Law Firm, and others she could not identify.

The cabinet up above the lateral files on the left of Foster's desk held two pewter candlestick holders.

GORHAM advised that she does not recall seeing anything in FOSTER's office regarding "MADISON" (understood to mean MADISON GUARANTY SAVINGS AND LOAN). There was a very thin, pressboard folder on WHITEWATER kept to the left of the desk in the upper righthand drawer where the President's personal files were kept. She advised that she never did any work on either WHITEWATER or MADISON.

She does not recall any black binders anywhere in FOSTER's office. There were some pictures of family. There were no firearms, either for decorative display or otherwise that she ever saw.

Files outside FOSTER's office were located just in front of GORHAM's desk. They included general information files covering nonsensitive subjects.

#### Information Concerning the Safes

There are no safes in FOSTER's office. The only two safes are in NUSSBAUM's office, each located in a lower inset cabinet. GORHAM had the combinations to both safes and she was the only one in the office to have them. She believes only the safekeeper and CYNTHIA MCMANUS (a temporary duty employee from Department of Justice) also had the combinations. GORHAM advised that she does not know what was inside the lefthand safe because she never opened it.

The righthand safe was used by FOSTER and NUSSBAUM for highly confidential and sensitive items such as those relating to national security. There were some FBI reports. There were no items relating to CLINTON or WHITEWATER. GORHAM prepared an item by item inventory of the contents of the safe (which was stored in the hard drive of her computer). FOSTER would give things to GORHAM for her to put into the safe (as opposed to having her open the safe and his insisting on putting the items in himself).

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On occasion, he would ask her to open the safe and he would remove two books on national security procedures. Two examples of items kept there are a copy of the War Powers Act, and procedures to follow in case of a critical Bosnian crisis. FOSTER and NUSSBAUM were both designated to be privy to national security information. GORHAM was authorized to receive it.

After FOSTER's death, GORHAM was never asked to open the safe in order to search it for anything FOSTER may have placed there relevant to his death, then or at any other time. The first of September was the last time she opened the safe. She does not know if the combinations have been changed, but she would presume they were after she left.

GORHAM does not know if there was any other place that FOSTER kept his materials. She also does not know how much material he brought with him from Arkansas. The only items she knows of which were removed from his office prior to the inventory following his death were on two significant occasions. The first was in May or June when he asked her to get two boxes, which were subsequently loaded with transition materials which were taken out of his office (she does not know where they were taken). The second was the day before his death, when he seemed to be sort of "cleaning house" and routing various things off to other places.

#### Events on July 23

July 23, 1993 was taken up entirely by attending FOSTER's funeral in Little Rock. POND, TRIPP, and GORHAM met at the office at about 7:00am, left at 7:20am together for the shuttle to Air Force One, which was flying everyone to Little Rock. President CLINTON was on the flight. HILLARY CLINTON was out of town and GORHAM had not seen her for some time. GORHAM did not see her on the flight and does not know if she was on it. She saw her, however, at the funeral. There was not a lot of chit-chat and speculation about FOSTER's death that she heard. They returned in the evening.

#### Events of July 26, 1993

GORHAM did not work the weekend. On Monday, the 26th, later in the morning, NEUWIRTH was in FOSTER's office, beginning the task of making an inventory of what remained in the office.

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She does not know who told him to do it.

GORHAM advised that she went into FOSTER'S office to ask NEUWIRTH if he needed assistance. She observed him get up from the desk to come around it and as he did so, trip slightly over FOSTER'S briefcase, which was propped against the desk just to the right of the chair area as one is sitting at the desk. FOSTER usually carried it to and from work, not always.

Thinking it best to get the briefcase out of the way, she walked to the left side of the desk, reached down with her left hand and picked up the briefcase. It spread open as she lifted it, she glanced down and transferred it to her right hand, closing it in the same movement, carried it over to near the door and propped it there on the floor. As she had glanced down into the briefcase, she caught sight of "something yellow" which she took to be yellow Post-It notes she knew FOSTER to like to have with him, a dark gold file folder (the type that is open on three sides, but not the pale vanilla file folders common in the Counsel's office), and, in a different section in the briefcase, a single white sheet of paper. She could not see and does not recall seeing any writing on either the folder or the piece of paper. She did not remark to anybody about this, because she did not attach any significance to it. She moved the briefcase again about an hour later and put it against the wall behind FOSTER'S desk.

It was after that that NEUWIRTH came out of the office with the briefcase, looking hurried, harried, and upset. He went straight into NUSSBAUM'S office. He came right out again asking where NUSSBAUM was and saying abruptly, "beep him". NUSSBAUM rushed in about ten minutes later, went into his office with NEUWIRTH and closed the door. NUSSBAUM came right out again and ran out the door in the direction of the Men's Room-- which is also the direction of the Women's Room, HILLARY CLINTON'S Office, and MAGGIE WILLIAMS Office, or the Domestic Policy Office with CAROL RASCO (phonetic) and BOB RUBIN. He looked emotionally upset.

Meanwhile, NEUWIRTH came out and asked POND to page BILL BURTON. GORHAM said she has maybe a vague memory of seeing HILLARY CLINTON arrive. One or two days later POND told her a note of some sort had been found in the briefcase. At the time nobody was saying anything to the executive assistants.

*Unredacted*

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With regard to the torn up note, to this day GORHAM has avoided acquainting herself with its contents. It is a way of insulating herself from emotional distress. Her only knowledge of its contents stems from NEIL EGGLESTON asking her if FOSTER had ever discussed the issue of the FBI having lied to the Attorney General about anything. He asked her that when he thought the FBI was going to be conducting interviews on the allegation, which GORHAM understood was one of the items in the torn note FOSTER wrote. She was never interviewed on the matter by the FBI or anybody else.

Additionally, GORHAM stated that she never saw any lists FOSTER had written of things that troubled him. He kept "To Do" lists, which had business items listed separately from personal items. Her reaction to the torn-up note was that FOSTER was, "not a tear-up type of guy. He was a pitch and toss guy." Things for the burn bag he would lay in the bottom of the bag. Other things he wanted to throw away he would crumple up and toss into the waste basket.

Following FOSTER's death and the discovery of the items in the briefcase, GORHAM said that NUSSBAUM asked her to open the safe in his office on possibly 4-6 occasions. He had given her an envelope (very thin) some time after July 26 and told her not to look at it, but to place it in the front of the safe. It was never recorded onto the inventory, but it was kept in the safe. GORHAM advised that NUSSBAUM asked for the envelope 3-4 times during the two weeks following FOSTER's death. At the end of the second week, NUSSBAUM told her to get the envelope and bring it to him as he was meeting with JAMES HAMILTON and LISA FOSTER in VINCE FOSTER's office. GORHAM saw him pass the envelope to LISA as she closed the door and it was never returned to her to replace in the safe. She has no idea what was in the envelope, but said it had the weight and thickness of a single sheet of Xerox paper.

Also a couple days after the discovery of the items in the briefcase NUSSBAUM called GORHAM into his office and "grilled" her about what she'd seen in the briefcase. It was like being cross-examined by a prosecuting attorney. GORHAM advised that she is very certain about seeing the folder and the piece of paper that was in the briefcase. She stated that she has no idea who, when, or how the pieces of note came to be in the briefcase, and in fact, did not recognize them as pieces of

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torn paper at the time.

To her knowledge, NUSSBAUM and she had the only keys to the bolt on the door. She never "lost" her key, but NUSSBAUM may have misplaced his. He asked to use GORHAM's key sometime during the three days following the day the note pieces were found in the briefcase. She does not know if he was missing his key or asked her for hers merely for convenience sake.

At about 2:00pm on either Tuesday or Wednesday (July 27th or 28th), GORHAM and NUSSBAUM were in FOSTER's office. GORHAM opened the top center drawer right under the center top of FOSTER's desk and saw a life insurance policy for \$700,000, several personal checks from people to FOSTER (for small amounts) which he had not yet cashed or deposited, his personal stationery, and other miscellaneous items. GORHAM was surprised at seeing the insurance policy and asked NUSSBAUM, "Didn't they look in this drawer?" He said, "No--what's in there?"

Some time during the week following the finding of the items in the briefcase when NEUWIRTH was still inventorying FOSTER's office, GORHAM was in FOSTER's office with NEUWIRTH when MAGGIE WILLIAMS came in. They went to the top far right drawer where the Presidential files are kept. GORHAM noted that the "drop sheet" that she prepared and always kept in the front of the drawer which lists the contents of the drawer was not in place. It was odd that it was missing. MAGGIE WILLIAMS took what she wanted from the drawer. It was packed up in two boxes with the help of TOM CASTLETON. There was no list or index created of what was taken. A man GORHAM did not recognize carried them out and GORHAM does not know where they were taken. A record of the drop sheet was on the hard drive of GORHAM's computer. She told NEUWIRTH it was there. When GORHAM left the Office of Counsel to the President her stand-alone computer together with its hard drive were moved to the Old Executive Office Building to the office of CHERYL MILLS. Back-up tapes and all her back-up diskettes were given to BILL KENNEDY.

GORHAM provided the following personal information:

Name: DEBORAH L. GORHAM

DOB: [REDACTED]

POB: [REDACTED]

SS#: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

FOIA (b) 6



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Telephone #: FOIA(b) 6  
Current Position: Legal Secretary, DOW, LOHNES & ALBERTSON, 1255  
23rd Street NW, Washington D.C.  
Position as of 7/20/93: Executive Assistant to the Deputy Counsel  
to the President, held from 3/18/93 - 11/17/93.

VF  
Rec Secretary  
in Seattle  
meetings

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 6/7/94

On June 1, 1994, DEBORAH GORHAM former Executive Assistant to VINCE FOSTER, Jr. and currently a legal secretary at the law firm of DOW, LOHNES and ALBERTSON, 1255 23rd Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20037, telephone 202-857-2865 was interviewed with regard to a production of materials made by The White House that involved files of hers. Also present during the interview was DAVID E. MILLS of the law firm DOW, LOHNES and ALBERTSON. Having been advised of the nature and purpose of the interview and being already acquainted with the interviewing special agent, GORHAM provided the following information:

GORHAM advised that she was not a part of the inventory of FOSTER's office on July 23, 1993, either before or after it took place, and she therefore knows nothing about what materials were placed in what piles. Later the following week, possibly the following Tuesday, BERNARD NUSSBAUM called GORHAM into FOSTER's office and asked her to help NUSSBAUM figure out what was in each drawer. GORHAM advised that two drawers in FOSTER's office had an index list which she was responsible for preparing and maintaining. The location of the first drawer was in the large cabinet to the left as one is sitting at FOSTER's desk in the bottom of the cabinet. It is the top right drawer of the four in that location. GORHAM advised that there should have been a file index list in the very front of the drawer and it was missing. The second drawer that usually has an index list is one containing what GORHAM characterized as slightly sensitive documents pertaining to individuals. For example, MAC MCLARTY and WEBB HUBBELL.

GORHAM said that when she was helping NUSSBAUM go through the file drawers, she read off "1992 1040", the "Arkansas Bar Continuing Legal Education Program", at which point NUSSBAUM told her to stop and he said that he would have MAGGIE WILLIAMS take a look at what was there and take what she wanted. A little later, after GORHAM had gotten NUSSBAUM's lunch and he had eaten it, WILLIAMS came into the office and took two boxes of documents away. GORHAM also recalls that it was at that time that she looked in the middle drawer of FOSTER's desk and found numerous

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by SA FOIA(b)7 - (C) Date dictated 6/6/94

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personal papers including an insurance policy at which time she asked NUSSBAUM if they had looked in that drawer. He said, "No. What's in there?" and she concluded from that that those papers had not been included during the inventory.

With regard to black binders in FOSTER's office, GORHAM said she had a very vague recollection that perhaps there were black binders which contained materials used in preparing the health care report for HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON. She said that an unidentified young lady who said she was working on health care matters came and got the binders. She could not recall if this was before or after FOSTER's death.

GORHAM said that it was more likely that people were referring to black binders holding names and backgrounds of potential appointees to judgeships which the office of RON KLAIN, Associate Counsel, had sent over to the Counsel's office. One binder held Supreme Court candidates or nominees and the other held Circuit Court of Appeals candidates or nominees. GORHAM considered them sensitive in the sense that they held background information on the individuals and the very fact that the individuals names were in the binders was in itself sensitive. But they were not kept under lock and key. She has no idea who else would have an interest in having those binders. She made a set of binders for FOSTER and also for NUSSBAUM. She assumes that RON KLAIN's office kept a set for themselves. She also typed up an index for the front of each binder. She does not remember seeing the binders on or about July 20 and so does not recall whether or not they were in FOSTER's office immediately after his death.

With regard to the production of documents made by The White House, GORHAM noted that she left the West Wing on September 4, 1993 and from then until November (when she left the employ of The White House), any lists that she had been responsible for were not updated by her or to her knowledge. She questioned whether or not there was any kind of an accounting of what documents were added or subtracted from the inventory.

With regard to the first document in the production, comprised of three pages beginning with a page number 6 at the top and titled, "OFFICE OF VINCE W. FOSTER, Jr." and ending on the third page with a notation updated 10/25/93 (tagged "Part 1"), GORHAM said that she recognized this document as a font that she used in order to create the indexes. She did not recognize

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the fax information listed across the top of the page except to recognize one of the fax numbers as The White House Counsel's office fax number. She said that pages 1-4 would have listed outer cabinet contents and she does not know what page 5 would have been. GORHAM said that cabinet 1 was the cabinet on the left in FOSTER's office and was the cabinet that held the documents on people that she considered slightly sensitive. Cabinet 2 was the cabinet holding documents relating to the First Family's personal and legal materials. She noted that she has a firm recollection of the first 11 entries but starting with the 12th (which reads CLINTON-Campaign 92' correspondents), she does not have a firm recollection of the following documents being in that particular drawer. In addition she did not recall typing the word "remove" after the documents which have that notation following it.

With regard to the listing under cabinet 3 and cabinet 4, GORHAM does not recall the location of these cabinets but recalled the files were, indeed, kept in the cabinets in FOSTER's office.

The way that GORHAM would use this list which comprises Part 1 would be to insert a "hard return" to generate separate pages to put individual indexes in the front of each file drawer. When she wanted to update the list she would simply delete the "hard returns", update the list, print new pages and use them to replace the old ones. She was unable to tell if the production corresponded to the list as she had last updated it. She noted that the date 10/25/93, was after she had already left the West Wing, and so she suspected that it was updated after she left.

Part 2 of the production is an 8 page collection of typed lists of various lengths. The first one reads "DEBORAH GORHAM's desk contents:" and is followed by 7 items. GORHAM explained that CLIFF SLOAN asked her to listen to all of FOSTER's tapes that she could find and transcribe whether they were garbled or not. She does not know what they were looking for. "VINCE's tapes" were transcriptions of all of the micro-cassette dictation tapes which she could locate. She does not recall what the following three items were. She did not comment on the "travel" file or the "miscellaneous" file and she said that "FOSTER Printed Rolodex" was maintained in a black binder. The 2nd page, entitled "VINCE FOSTER's desk files" were the files located in the large bottom right desk drawer filled with numerous manila folders. She said that she herself did not

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create this list and does not know who did.

All of the subsequent lists to the end of part 2 are lists of files which were located in the cabinets in front of DEBORAH GORHAM's desk outside of FOSTER's office. With regard to box number 4 which lists, among other things, the RTC, GORHAM said that these files would have held things that were non-sensitive in nature, perhaps newspaper clippings.

Part 3 of the production is a handwritten list entitled, "Privileged and confidential attorney/client work product VWF-working files-desk-right middle drawer". GORHAM was not able to identify the handwriting, but guessed that possibly it was STEPHEN NEUWIRTH's. It looks like it might be an approximate duplicate to what was in the large bottom right desk drawer but not exactly, citing, as an example, item number 12 - "DEBORAH GORHAM" (her own name), which is not on the typewritten listing in part 2 of the production. She was unable to comment further on what this document may have entailed. This part of the production was 6 pages long.

Part 4 of the production is comprised of 11 pages and appears to be hard copy printouts of directories from floppy disks. At first, GORHAM suggested that the entries for circuit lists and district lists are possibly the indexes which were kept in front of the black binders holding the lists of nominees or candidates received from RON KLAIN's office. She advised that the document called Fayette was a copy of FOSTER's commencement speech that he made at the Arkansas Law School.

The 2nd page is a file called "Medical" and she advised that it was the final Medical report which was sent to HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON. The 3rd directory holds "Budget VWF" and "Budget 1 VWF". GORHAM advised that this was the budget for the Counsel's Office and it was outdated in that FOSTER stopped editing it to update it as of April 1993.

The next two, titled Disk 4 and 5 respectively, begin lists of entries which GORHAM suggested are back-up files to documents which were on the hard drive to her stand-alone computer. She characterized them as various letters memos and itineraries, etc. which GORHAM typed for FOSTER. She recognized most, but not all, titles as her work, noting that she started work on 3/8/93 and left the West Wing on 9/4/93. She also did not recognize documents from 7/19/93 to 9/2/93, and 10/6/93 to

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10/25/93.

Disk 6 hold printouts of sub-directories, CLINTON, Health, and Speeches. Disk 7 holds Data (calendars), and PL, which are execution files, never actually used at all. She was not able to identify the significance of any of the check marks by the file titles.