

Tab 28

Tab. 28

OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

Date of transcription 08/14/98

MONICA S. LEWINSKY was interviewed under the terms of an immunity agreement between the Office of the Independent Counsel (OIC) and her. LEWINSKY was interviewed at the Office of the Independent Counsel, 1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20004. Present for the interview were Associate Independent Counsel (AIC) MICHAEL EMMICK, AIC KARIN IMMERGUT, and AIC CRAIG LERNER. Present representing LEWINSKY was her attorney, PRESTON BURTON. LEWINSKY provided the following information, beginning at approximately 11:13 a.m.

LEWINSKY advised that the first time she mentioned the United Nations to President WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON as a possible employer was during her July 3, 1997 letter to CLINTON. LEWINSKY advised that KATHY HERTZ, a former Pentagon employee, had transferred to the United Nations and liked her job. LEWINSKY thought if the United Nations was a good place for HERTZ to work, it might be a good place for LEWINSKY. LEWINSKY advised that a job at the United Nations was her idea, not CLINTON's.

After raising the idea of the United Nations job on July 3, 1997, LEWINSKY did not pursue the United Nations job any further during the Summer of 1997. LEWINSKY advised she left the July 4, 1997 meeting with CLINTON with the understanding that CLINTON was going to bring her back to the White House.

LEWINSKY advised that she spoke with CLINTON on September 30, 1997. The subject of jobs could have come up during that conversation. CLINTON may have mentioned ERSKINE BOWLES being involved in finding LEWINSKY employment during this conversation.

LEWINSKY was shown a transcript of LRT-018. LEWINSKY is not sure this conversation took place on October 3, 1997, but it could have.

When LEWINSKY spoke with LINDA TRIPP on October 6, 1997, TRIPP mentioned that TRIPP's friend KATE, who worked at the National Security Council (NSC), had heard rumors that LEWINSKY would never get a job at the White House which required a blue pass. LEWINSKY was furious when she heard this and left work. At that time, LEWINSKY again thought about pursuing the United

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by CI [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 08/14/98

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Nations as a potential employer. But, LEWINSKY was mostly resolved to look for a job in the private sector in New York.

LEWINSKY could have talked to TRIPP about the United Nations between July 3, 1997 and October 6, 1997, but LEWINSKY's recollection is that LEWINSKY only brought the United Nations back up after October 6, 1997.

As of October 6, 1997, LEWINSKY had only spoken to CLINTON about White House jobs. In one of her conversations with CURRIE in September, LEWINSKY mentioned a former intern who got a job working for PAUL BEGALA. CURRIE said CLINTON told her CURRIE could speak to JOHN PODESTA about finding LEWINSKY a job. From that day, until October 6, 1997, LEWINSKY did not hear from anyone at the White House about a job.

LEWINSKY referred to KATE's comments in a note to CLINTON, but she did not specifically mention KATE by name.

LEWINSKY and CURRIE got into a fight about CURRIE not speaking to CLINTON about a position for LEWINSKY in the White House. Shortly thereafter, on October 9, 1997, LEWINSKY and CLINTON spoke by telephone.

LEWINSKY assumes CLINTON called her from the White House Residence.

On October 10, 1997, LEWINSKY spoke with BETTY CURRIE, who said CLINTON was on the White House putting green with ERSKINE BOWLES. At that time, LEWINSKY thought CLINTON may be talking to BOWLES about a job for LEWINSKY.

LEWINSKY thinks CURRIE would do whatever CLINTON wanted her to do. LEWINSKY thinks that CLINTON could think that, by CURRIE speaking to PODESTA, it would be the same as CLINTON speaking to BOWLES.

LEWINSKY is not sure when VERNON JORDAN's name first came up in relation to LEWINSKY's job search. LEWINSKY recalls speaking to LINDA TRIPP and TRIPP said that JORDAN was on the Board of Directors of many companies. LEWINSKY advised she never spoke with CLINTON regarding MAX CHAPMAN or SUSAN THOMASES. LEWINSKY advised THOMASES was a "HILLARY [CLINTON] person," and it would not make sense for LEWINSKY to want THOMASES to find her a job.

During LEWINSKY's October 11, 1997 visit with CLINTON,

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LEWINSKY thinks she mentioned needing a good reference from someone in the White House, such as JOHN HILLEY. CLINTON said he would take care of it.

LEWINSKY advised that CLINTON asked her to write a list of potential employers, or jobs she was interested in, and to give it to him. On October 16, 1997, LEWINSKY sent CLINTON the list, which she refers to as a "wish list." On the "wish list," LEWINSKY wrote that she did not want a job at the United Nations.

At some point, LEWINSKY gave CLINTON a "deadline" as to when she needed a job. LEWINSKY told CLINTON she had to be out of her apartment by the end of October, 1997. LEWINSKY advised she did this to get CLINTON moving and into finding her a job.

When BILL RICHARDSON called LEWINSKY on October 21, 1997, LEWINSKY was initially surprised. After the call, LEWINSKY was upset because LEWINSKY did not want to work at the United Nations, no one had called her to tell her RICHARDSON would be calling, and she did not want to get stuck working there with no other opportunities. LEWINSKY was aware that it was RICHARDSON she was speaking with because a secretary called and said "hold for Ambassador RICHARDSON."

LEWINSKY was shown a transcript of LRT 002, pages 10-12. In response to the transcript excerpt, LEWINSKY advised she did not think it would be a good idea for someone from within the White House to get her a job in the private sector, due to appearances. LEWINSKY advised she was always concerned about the appearance of things. LEWINSKY did not talk to CURRIE about CURRIE helping LEWINSKY versus CLINTON helping LEWINSKY find a job. LEWINSKY stated that it was understood that it would look better for CURRIE to do the "leg work" to find LEWINSKY a job.

LEWINSKY recalls buying a card regarding the "emergency insanity system," but she does not recall whether she sent it to CLINTON.

LEWINSKY kept track of the number of days remaining until the election in 1996. LEWINSKY used a printout of a computer calendar and filled in the days by hand.

LEWINSKY was shown a transcript of LRT 013, pages 17-18. After reviewing the transcript, LEWINSKY advised she had been concerned CLINTON would pressure her to accept the job at the United Nations, because it would be easier to find a government employee a job at another government agency than it

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would be to find them a job in the private sector. LEWINSKY feared the White House would railroad her into taking the job at the United Nations.

LEWINSKY felt CLINTON owed her a job for several reasons. First, LEWINSKY's relationship with CLINTON was the reason she was transferred from the White House. Second, CLINTON had promised LEWINSKY a job back at the White House. Third, CLINTON had not procured her a job at the White House. Fourth, LEWINSKY left the White House "quietly," without mentioning her relationship with CLINTON to anyone.

LEWINSKY was shown a copy of LRT 015, pages 31-38. LEWINSKY recalls CLINTON calling on October 23, 1997. LEWINSKY probably mentioned that RICHARDSON had called. LEWINSKY advised that during her conversations with TRIPP, LEWINSKY gave LEWINSKY's interpretation of what CLINTON said more so than exact quotes of what he said.

LEWINSKY recalled that CLINTON, as to the job at the United Nations, never insisted or pressured her to take the job. LEWINSKY recalled CLINTON mentioning LEWINSKY having options, with the United Nations being one option, in relation to employment opportunities. LEWINSKY was aware CLINTON had a good relationship with RICHARDSON.

LEWINSKY was concerned her future employer may be concerned about rumors about LEWINSKY being a "stalker." At some point, LEWINSKY believes was during their October 30, 1997 conversation, CLINTON gave LEWINSKY a few "pointers" on what to say to RICHARDSON during her interview. LEWINSKY probably mentioned to CLINTON her fear of being stuck at the United Nations. During this telephone call, LEWINSKY may have mentioned the antique paperweight she purchased for CLINTON.

LEWINSKY told her father about RICHARDSON's call and he was impressed.

LEWINSKY felt it was inappropriate to conduct an interview in RICHARDSON's hotel room. LEWINSKY does not recall telling CURRIE that, though LEWINSKY may have. LEWINSKY may have told CURRIE that LEWINSKY was unversed in United Nations affairs and wanted CLINTON to call her before her interview.

LEWINSKY was shown a transcript of LRT 011, page 61.

LEWINSKY was shown a draft of a November 2, 1997 letter

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to CURRIE regarding Ambassador RICHARDSON. LEWINSKY believes she sent CURRIE a different version of this note. LEWINSKY thinks the note she sent had to do with MARCIA LEWIS's book, The Three Tenors. LEWINSKY recalls sending the book to CURRIE to give to CLINTON. LEWINSKY put yellow post-it notes on the pages referring to PLACIDO DOMINGO's charity work and on the books "raciest" page, which, in LEWINSKY's opinion, was not very racy. LEWINSKY advised she was trying to assure CLINTON that the book was not a "kiss and tell."

LEWINSKY does not know whether CLINTON ever received the book.

LEWINSKY is sure she told CURRIE about getting offered the position at the United Nations and that she did not want the job. LEWINSKY believes she also told CLINTON that the United Nations offered her a job.

LEWINSKY was shown a transcript of LRT 016, page 110.

LEWINSKY only recalls speaking to RICHARDSON twice by telephone; once to arrange the interview and once when RICHARDSON extended the job offer to LEWINSKY.

LEWINSKY recalls telling MONA SUTPHEN, RICHARDSON's assistant, that she wanted to find a job in the private sector. LEWINSKY advised that salary was never mentioned in relation to the position at the United Nations.

LEWINSKY's impression is that the position she was offered was open prior to her being considered for it and it was not that big a deal for it to be vacant for so long. LEWINSKY recalls some discussion with the individuals from the United Nations about the differences between a contracting position and a political appointment.

On November 10, 1997, LEWINSKY sent CLINTON a note and mentioned wanting to see him and mentioned the paperweight she wanted to give him. LEWINSKY has no recollection of sending the note, but if sending it is mentioned in a conversation she had with TRIPP, then she sent it.

LEWINSKY was mad that CLINTON did not see her on Veteran's Day, 1997, because she felt he would have been able to. LEWINSKY advised that holidays are like weekends at the White House in that fewer people are around than on work days. In addition, HILLARY CLINTON was out of town on Veteran's Day, 1997.

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LEWINSKY was shown a transcript of LRT 026, pages 27-28.

LEWINSKY advised CLINTON called her in the middle of the night on November 12, 1997. LEWINSKY recalls CLINTON mentioning NANCY HERNREICH testifying on Capitol Hill the next day. CLINTON mentioned this to let LEWINSKY know she could see him then. CLINTON told LEWINSKY to call CURRIE in the morning to arrange the meeting. CLINTON mentioned the fact that he liked zinc lozenges and currently did not have any.

On November 13, 1997, LEWINSKY called CURRIE in the morning and CURRIE advised HERNREICH had already left and CLINTON was in the East Wing. LEWINSKY continued to call CURRIE who said she kept missing CLINTON. Later in the day, LEWINSKY called CURRIE who advised CLINTON had left the White House to play golf.

LEWINSKY got upset and told CURRIE she would come to the White House to give CURRIE CLINTON's ginkgo stuff, his zinc lozenges and CURRIE's birthday present. CURRIE told LEWINSKY to come to the Southwest gate and wait in CURRIE's car. LEWINSKY advised it was raining that day.

When LEWINSKY got to CURRIE's car, the door was locked. LEWINSKY waited in the rain for awhile before CURRIE came out to get her. LEWINSKY advised she and CURRIE made a "bee-line" to the Oval Office study, to avoid seeing any White House employees.

LEWINSKY advised she waited alone in the study for one half hour before CLINTON came back there. LEWINSKY gave CLINTON the paper weight. CLINTON said he liked the paperweight. LEWINSKY advised the meeting lasted only a few minutes. CURRIE took LEWINSKY home that evening.

[At this point during the interview, LEWINSKY asked to speak with AIC IMMERGUT, outside the presence of male investigators/attorneys. The contents of that discussion are documented in a memorandum.]

LEWINSKY had mixed emotions about this visit. On one hand, LEWINSKY thought CLINTON looked very cute. On the other hand, LEWINSKY was sad the meeting did not last any longer than it did. LEWINSKY advised it felt weird to wait in the study that long. LEWINSKY advised CLINTON had some gifts she had given him in his study. LEWINSKY did not complain to CURRIE after this visit with CLINTON because she at least got to see him.

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LEWINSKY advised she thinks she told TRIPP that she gave the gifts she received from CLINTON to LEWINSKY's mother. LEWINSKY told TRIPP she told her mother to get rid of the gifts or put them away. LEWINSKY does not recall telling TRIPP about speaking to CLINTON about getting rid of the gifts.

During their December 28, 1997 meeting, CLINTON did not specifically mention which gifts to get rid of. LEWINSKY was concerned about the hat pin and the book, The Leaves of Grass, the Black Dog dress, and the Black Dog t-shirt with the Presidential Seal on it and the broach. LEWINSKY remembers telling CLINTON she was concerned because the subpoena specifically mentioned the hatpin.

LEWINSKY might have told TRIPP she was concerned about the hatpin, The Leaves of Grass, the Black Dog dress, the Black Dog t-shirt with the Presidential seal. The gifts became a topic of conversation with TRIPP after LEWINSKY was subpoenaed.

LEWINSKY advised she does not have a clear memory of how she determined what gifts to give CURRIE, what gifts to give FRANK CARTER and what gifts to keep. LEWINSKY advised the pin with the skyline of New York may have made it into the box she gave CURRIE because jewelry was mentioned expressly in her subpoena.

LEWINSKY does not recall CLINTON mentioning the recently found ROSE LAW FIRM billing records during her January 7, 1996 visit with him. CLINTON did not mention Whitewater to LEWINSKY.

LEWINSKY used a calling card when she called CURRIE from the Wilshire Boulevard COURTYARD by MARRIOTT.

On July 14, 1997, CLINTON told LEWINSKY he trusted her and he trusted her judgement when it came to LEWINSKY dealing with LINDA TRIPP. LEWINSKY told CLINTON that TRIPP was a big supporter of his.

At her December 31, 1997 meeting with VERNON JORDAN LEWINSKY brought up TRIPP's name to lay the groundwork with JORDAN so that CLINTON and his team were at least aware of TRIPP. LEWINSKY told JORDAN she used to trust TRIPP, but did not anymore. LEWINSKY may have mentioned TRIPP in relation to KATHLEEN WILLEY. LEWINSKY does not recall JORDAN indicating he was familiar with TRIPP's name.

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LEWINSKY did not discuss the details of the JONES case that did not pertain to LEWINSKY with CLINTON, except on January 17, 1997, when LEWINSKY mentioned the possibility of CLINTON settling the case. CLINTON said JONES wanted too much money.

When LEWINSKY and TRIPP ate at the CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN on October 9, 1997, LEWINSKY probably paid for the meal with cash.

LEWINSKY advised she had SCI clearance at the Pentagon, which is higher than the "secret" clearance she held at the White House. LEWINSKY advised she did not recall an additional background investigation being conducted on her in conjunction with her transfer to the Pentagon.

LEWINSKY described the notebook she had that referenced her relationship with CLINTON as a six inch by nine inch spiral notebook. LEWINSKY advised it was in her apartment on January 22, 1998, but it was not seized as evidence. LEWINSKY recalls putting the notebook in an envelope she intended to give to NATE SPEIGHTS. LEWINSKY may have given the notebook to SPEIGHTS or WILLIAM GINSBURG.

LEWINSKY advised the notebook is not dated and the writing was done for therapeutic purposes. LEWINSKY wrote in the notebook approximately six times, beginning soon after November 15, 1995 and ending sometime prior to April 7, 1996. LEWINSKY advised she cannot find the notebook, but will continue to look for it.

LEWINSKY is not sending CLINTON any messages by wearing her straw hat.

LEWINSKY advised she is not a part of a joint defense agreement.

Sometime in the Spring of 1998, LEWINSKY told GINSBURG, who at one time represented her, to tell DAVID KENDALL, CLINTON's attorney, that BAYANI NELVIS was wearing one of the ties LEWINSKY had given CLINTON. This was on a day NELVIS testified at the grand jury. NATE SPEIGHTS said KENDALL told GINSBURG and SPEIGHTS he thought he had three or four of them and was looking for the rest.

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The interview ended at approximately 3:30 p.m.

