

come up with. (Special Prosecutor) Starr saw there were patterns that matched up in his investigations — giving people high-paying jobs to keep them quiet; disappearance of vital documents; patterns of how husbands and wives were involved in Whitewater."

"I also wouldn't be surprised if Monica Lewinsky wasn't sent to set Clinton up," Hampton said. "Early stories out of Portland said she knew she was going to D.C. to his get his Presidential knee-pads. Who knows? Paula Jones' lawyers were after him from the time it happened, whereas Starr was a couple of years down the line before he started investigating. I guess the key here is how a 22 year old intern gets to get private with a President."

He said the bombing of Iraq was "almost predictable" because Hussein wasn't cooperating. "The main thing was that Clinton was in the Middle East and he informed the Israelis and perhaps the Palestinians indirectly that Iraq was going to be bombed. Certainly the Saudis knew. That part of the world was amazingly informed about the recurrent bombing of Iraq. He said that as soon as he was gone the bombing would happen. He was there to assure that the peace process was not going to end. Though it seems as if he accomplished nothing, it didn't fly apart. As for the actual attack, planning had already been done. If they had let it pass it would get worse. The U.S. military prowess was ready to strike! The carrier *Vincent* was only two days away, ready to come in before missiles on hand were exhausted. The fleet was totally outfitted to continue for a couple of months if necessary. How would they fight back? Our fleet at sea is hundreds of miles away; we keep a whole country between us and them. It was also a moderate attack — it wasn't to get Saddam; word was that Ben Ladin and his group were about to commit terrorism so we struck to curtail it."

"I think Clinton should be impeached (only by those) who voted for him both times," Todd Milliren said. "And the bombing of Iraq was needed. The card was not played until the most appropriate and political time, when it was least expected."

"These Republicans talk about the rule of law," Jim Wilkins, contractor, Uniontown Cafe proprietor, musician and former Astoria City Councilman said. "Henry Hyde was quoted as saying an example of ignoring the rule of law is what happened in Nazi Germany, implying that would happen here and we would become a fascist society. That is patently ridiculous. The Jews were slaughtered by the rule of law. Instead, the rule of law needs to be modified by a rule of men and common sense."

Wilkins knows first hand the trials of political persecution. "I have been targeted and it gives me a unique and rather special perspective," he says. "A certain element of the local society wanted me off the City Council. I put myself in a position that allowed them to do that. Hundreds of column inches were written for a 20 minute interlude..."

"I was recalled from my seat on the Astoria City Council [because one summer night in 1996] I found myself in a room with topless dancers and various substances," Jim wrote in an article for this newspaper [Marpril '97]. "The investigation resulted in a police report containing mostly false statements, suppositions and inconsistent gibberish which the D.A. assured my attorney was to be confidential information. Almost immediately, however, this report was leaked by the police to the daily newspaper. It was then, with the relentless momentum of a tsunami, that stories, rumors, distortions and outright lies began to appear in local media and to circulate through the community. I found myself confronted by a group of people who seemed to feel that the allegations regarding my private non-harmful activities that one evening in July were an outrage almost beyond comprehension."

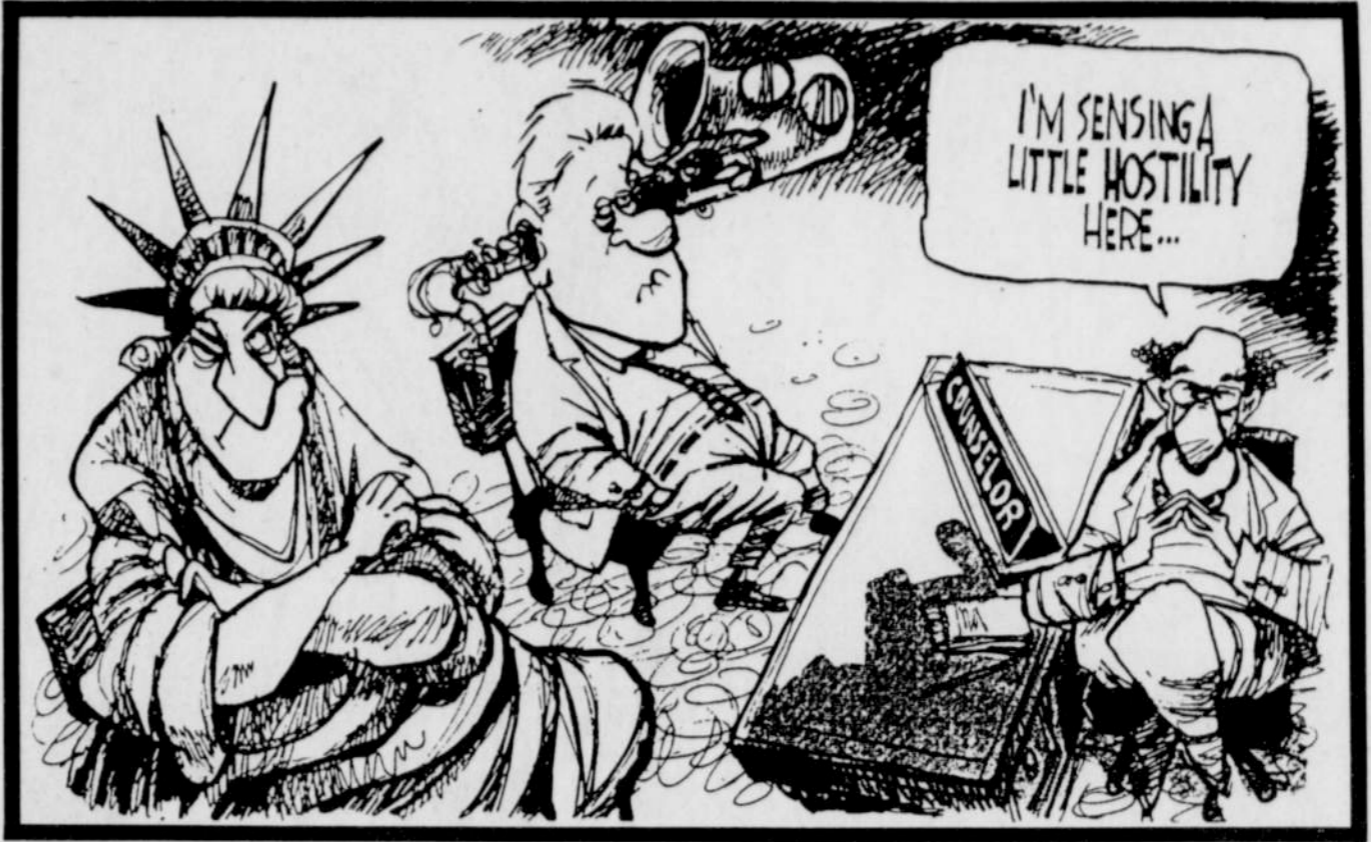
"The actual articles (of Clinton's impeachment) revolve around perjury before the grand jury and that he lied to the American public," Jim says. "I looked up sexual relations in the dictionary — all definitions of sexual relationships are 'coitus'. In other words, inserting 'Tab A' into 'Slot B'. Never did Clinton insert Tab A into Slot B. That being the case, no perjury occurred. If they had asked Clinton if he felt her up or stuck his cigar in her, and he said 'No' — then he's lying. The impeachment is obviously a partisan political attack like I endured and is spurious at best. And by the way — I never inserted Tab A into Slot B."

In regard to the bombing of Iraq, Jim says, "I would think that if Clinton wanted to do an air strike to save his Presidency he would have targeted Congress instead of Baghdad."

Cynthia Brown, a prospective teacher studying at Western Oregon University, disagrees that Clinton should be impeached because "he's a normal person living a normal life." She says his affair with Monica Lewinsky was a "mistake" but that "he's been doing a good job as President, especially with the economy." As for Iraq, she says that "Clinton made a wise decision. I thought the Gulf War was a legitimate reason to be in a war. If we had not rescued Kuwait from Saddam Hussein much worse might have happened. He needs to be stopped."

Sol Rosenberg, logger, fisherman and tugboat crewman, says Clinton, "is an American citizen subject to the country's laws. Basically, he took an oath as President to support the Constitution and he has the rights and obligations of that oath." He thinks Iraq "might be a smokescreen to throw off attention to his problems, but in the long run he probably did what he should have."

Commercial fisherman Paul Kujala's opinion is that Clinton's impeachment is up to the Senate. "He impeached himself" by lying to the Paula Jones grand jury and he has "tried to obstruct justice." Paul says Clinton's only real defense is that



GABLE (TORONTO GLOBE & MAIL)

"he accuse Republicans that it's a completely partisan witch-hunt." "You don't reprimand a President," he said, "You either fully support the President or fire him." As for the bombing of Iraq, Paul thinks Clinton "should have done it a year and a half ago. Iraq has been playing games for a long time and we should have stopped him a long time ago."

Paul's brother Mark Kujala, who manages a seafood business, is adamant that Clinton be impeached. "It's not about sex. It's about perjury and obstruction of justice which undermines our legal system," he says. "If the President can't live by the same laws as citizens he is not fit to hold office." And "I think Clinton's motivation to bomb Iraq is purely political," Mark says. "He waited for what he thought was the right time to win public support."

Jeff Gardner, who attends Washington University as a business major, also believes Clinton must be impeached to keep Constitutional "checks and balances in place. If he doesn't tell the truth to the legislative or judicial branches of government then he negates those checks and balances." He is somewhat ambiguous about the Iraq bombing: "In my heart I don't want to link the bombing to political motives, but I can't help think there's something there. Time after time we hear about our inspectors pushed out of Iraq but nothing is done — so the bombing seems to be right in time (with) Clinton's problems with Congress."

"I don't think (Clinton) ought to be impeached but he should pay a price," says insurance agent Jeff Canessa. "He should admit he lied and disgraced his office as President. He's a sleaze; I'm disappointed he's never admitted he told a lie. He should look his wife in the eye and admit the truth, and take what's coming to him. But I think impeachment is a disruption of the country." He agrees "completely" that Clinton timed bombing of Iraq for his political survival. "The Iraqis have hampered our inspections for seven years and Clinton had to pick now — a complete joke!"

"Having an affair is not an impeachable offense and lying to protect your family and yourself might not be ethical but is understandable," says Phyllis Heilman, co-owner with her husband of the Labor Temple Bar & Cafe. "I think if you polled Congress it would be interesting to see how many have had affairs and admit it to their spouses." She believes Clinton's impeachment is partisan. "I think the public has made it very clear they don't want him impeached. His approval rating rose past 70% when the House of Representatives impeached him — higher than before and more than Reagan's ever was." She said that past Presidents had affairs "though it might have been common knowledge at the time" and that "in no way would any of them have been called on the carpet."

Phyllis said that "what happened in Iraq was inevitable because Saddam was not planning to agree with continuing inspections of his weapons systems. I'm not convinced of the timing. There's no way to know if impeachment influenced the decision to bomb."

Phyllis' husband Robert Heilman, newly elected Astoria City Councilman, says that Clinton's impeachment resembles a "coup d'état" and that "there is absolutely no 'high crimes or misdemeanors' about it. It was set out from the very beginning to get something aroused about" in regards to investigations of Clinton since he became President. As far as the perjury count against Clinton, "he was asked a question he should not have been asked in a lawsuit that should not have occurred," Robert said. "What we need to do is hold a Constitutional convention to revise the electoral process and its financing. Nixon's biggest sin was to undermine the electoral process — now we have a Congress trying to subvert it. We need to undermine Congress'

power to dissolve elections. I believe the Senate should be dissolved. We don't need a Senate that acts like Parliament's House of Lords. I think we need a government of the people instead of the state. We should be protecting people and people's rights, and corporations should never be allowed to intervene with money. Corporations, like the tobacco companies, donate millions of dollars to political campaign and we have the best government money can buy as a result. We should have a long-term legislature of people elected by the people for the people, with terms of six years. It's probably not practical right now. We have a long way to go. Right now we have a government by the PACs rather than the people."

Anthony Sales, owner of Tony's Tavern, said there is "no question (Clinton) perjured himself. There are hundreds of people sitting around in jails because they perjured themselves. It would have been immensely easy for him to say, 'I lied before the grand jury.' He took an oath to uphold the Constitution and therefore he should have spoken the truth." He also thinks the bombing of Iraq was "an unconscionable sin. He used bully tactics against Saddam Hussein, whom I happen to respect more than I do Bill Clinton because he stands up for what he believes in. The one President who refused to go into the military has ordered more military actions than any other President."

Chris Corbell believes Clinton's impeachment valid but not for any of the articles brought against him or for his liaison with Monica Lewinsky. "I want to see him impeached for signing NAFTA (the North American Trade Agreement) which I think was a 'high crime' against American workers." Chris, a noted musician and volunteer programmer for KMUN as well as a bartender at Tony's Tavern, also wants Clinton impeached "for the 'misdemeanor' of defiling Jeffersonian democracy. He definitely defiles us all in his values as President. He is the servant of capital interests, not the interests of the American people." Though he regards the bombing of Iraq as a "convenient coincidence," Chris says that it was "a continuation of the past 50 years (of U.S. policy) in the Middle East."

Pete from Gearhart considers it "ridiculous to hold Clinton as a bad President for screwing around. To be self-righteous about sexual indiscretions is bullshit. I think 99% of consenting adults are doing it — and lying about it also. I feel the only ones out to get Clinton are Congress and the media. The rest of us think it's a joke. That's my feedback from people. Leave the guy alone! He's apologized and groveled enough."

Pete thinks Clinton might have waited a couple of months to bomb Iraq if it hadn't been for impeachment. "If he wasn't thinking of it he's a lot less astute a politician than I think he is."

"I don't think Bill Clinton should be impeached because I think half the members of Congress are hypocrites and are probably doing the same thing they accuse him of," Dirk Beaufeu, brewer at the Wet Dog Cafe & Pacific Brewing Company. "I think they should focus on domestic priorities such as employment, minority opportunities, megacorporate megatakeovers, racism and poverty." He doesn't think Clinton bombed Iraq to divert opinion. "I think it was an unfortunate circumstance of timing. I'm tired of us playing world policeman and I think we should come with a new MidEast policy. I favor diplomacy over force."

John Seaman, Alaska pilot and Astoria realtor says "I think if (Clinton) cared anything for this country he would resign

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