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ONE HUNDRED FIFTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

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INDEPENDENT

May 11, 1998

The Honorable Dan Burton  
Chairman  
Committee on Government Reform and Oversight  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Burton:

I am writing to express my concerns over a report in today's *Roll Call* newspaper that the Committee released documents relating to Webster Hubbell to the Office of Independent Counsel Ken Starr, in apparent violation of Committee rules and protocols.

According to *Roll Call*, "A GOP committee aide said Burton's committee printed out his database of information on Hubbell a few months ago and handed it to Starr's investigative team." In the same article, your former investigative coordinator, David Bossie, confirmed that the Committee provided information to Mr. Starr's office, stating, "There is a one-way communication street from us to them." ("Bossie's Departure May Hurt GOP Pipeline to Starr's Team," *Roll Call*, May 11, 1998)

As you know, the Committee's Document Protocol requires you to "notify the Ranking Minority Member" of your intention to release Committee documents. To date, the only authorized release of Hubbell documents were the November 6, 1997, unanimous consent request to release 23 depositions to the Independent Counsel and Mr. Shay's December 9, 1997, unanimous consent request to make public "records relating to Webster Hubbell as it relates to \$100,000 of the Lippo payments and his withholding of information." A copy of the request for the depositions from the Independent Counsel is enclosed. On April 15, 1998, you announced your intent to release "all Committee records relating to Webster Hubbell," but this was done over the objection of the minority and without a meeting of the Document Protocol Working Group.

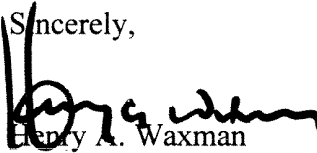
If the database was provided to the Independent Counsel "a few months ago," it is likely that the release of the database to the Independent Counsel occurred before the April 15 release. It is also likely, given the breadth of your subpoenas and document requests relating to Mr. Hubbell, that the material provided to the Independent Counsel was much greater than that which was authorized under the December 9 unanimous consent request.

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I am therefore asking that you provide the minority with a complete accounting of the materials provided to the Independent Counsel by the Committee. This accounting should include the identical printout from the database of information referred to in the *Roll Call* article.

Mr. Chairman, as I stated at the November 6, 1997, Committee hearing, I have no objection to releasing relevant information to the Independent Counsel. I do believe, however, that the Committee has an obligation to safeguard documents and other materials received pursuant to Committee information requests, and that this information should only be released in accordance with Committee rules and protocols. This information belongs to the Committee, and cannot be released to anyone, including former employees, except as provided by Committee rules and protocols.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman  
Ranking Minority Member

Encl.

cc: Members of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight



**Office of the Independent Counsel**

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November 5, 1997

The Honorable Dan Burton, Chairman  
Committee on Government Reform  
and Oversight  
United States House of Representatives  
2157 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-1406

Dear Chairman Burton:

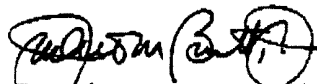
By letter dated October 14, 1997, we requested copies of certain depositions which we promised to identify and which were taken in the course of the Committee's investigations into the White House Travel Office, FBI Background Investigation files, Webster L. Hubbell and campaign finance matters. We are now prepared to offer at least a preliminary listing of those individuals whose deposition testimony we are seeking:

- Truman Arnold
- Michael Berman
- James Blair
- Dimitri Boutris
- Michael Cardozo
- John Emerson
- Vernon Jordan
- Michael "Mickey" Kantor
- James Lewin
- Bruce Lindsey
- Richard Maze
- Thomas "Mack" McLarty
- Richard Morris
- Robert Nash
- John Phillips
- Bernard Rapoport
- Gina Ratliff
- Evan Ryan
- Michael Schaufele
- Marsha Scott
- Susan Thomases
- Margaret "Maggie" Williams
- Vernon Weaver

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If you have any questions or concerns with respect to this request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 514-8688. Thank you for your kind assistance in this matter.

Respectfully yours,



Jackie M. Bennett, Jr.  
Deputy Independent Counsel

cc: Congressman Henry Waxman