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OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

Date of transcription 2/3/98

REBECCA JANE COOPER, white female, born [REDACTED], Social Security Account Number [REDACTED], home address [REDACTED], telephone [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was interviewed in the offices of her attorneys, JUSTIN D. SIMON and ELAINE MITLAN of the firm Dickstein, Shapiro, Moren & Oshinsky, 2101 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037, telephone 202-828-2211.

After being advised of the personal and official identities of the interviewers and the purpose of the interview, COOPER provided the following information:

COOPER is currently employed as Chief of Staff to the United States Mission to the United Nations, 2201 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., telephone [REDACTED] and has been so employed since September of 1997. Prior to this employment, COOPER was employed by CNN Cable Network, assigned in Washington, D.C.

COOPER first became aware of MONICA LEWINSKY in about October of 1997 when LEWINSKY's name appeared on Ambassador RICHARDSON's schedule as a job interview in Washington, D.C. Either MONA SUTFIN, Executive Assistant to the Ambassador, or ISABEL WATKINS, Administrative Assistant to the Ambassador, would have set up the interview and prepared the schedule.

COOPER was aware that LEWINSKY had formerly worked in the White House and that LEWINSKY had been referred to the Ambassador by someone in the White House. Thest position for which LEWINSKY was being considered was a political appointment formerly held by GINA GRIEGO in the Washington Office; however, GRIEGO had submitted her resignation and the Ambassador was attempting to redefine the position and move it to the New York Office.

The interview of LEWINSKY was conducted in the hotel suite of Ambassador RICHARDSON at the Watergate Hotel on October 31, 1997. Those present were Ambassador RICHARDSON, MONA SUTFIN, possibly a diplomatic security agent and COOPER. Ambassador RICHARDSON remained in the sitting room for only a short period of time and then excused himself to go into the next room to

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prepare for later meetings. LEWINSKY's actual interview was conducted by COOPER and SUTFIN.

COOPER did not have the impression that the Ambassador previously knew LEWINSKY. It is the Ambassador's policy to personally meet each potential political appointee.

The interview was only about thirty minutes, after which LEWINSKY departed the hotel suite. Later in the car, Ambassador RICHARDSON and COOPER discussed LEWINSKY and the interview. COOPER told the Ambassador she was favorably impressed with LEWINSKY's demeanor, resume, some of LEWINSKY's ideas and the work LEWINSKY had done at the Pentagon. COOPER recommended the hiring of LEWINSKY at a salary somewhere in the 30's.

Approximately two weeks later, MONA SUTFIN told COOPER that Ambassador RICHARDSON had made the decision to hire LEWINSKY. SUTFIN notified LEWINSKY by telephone of the job offer and apparently was told by LEWINSKY that LEWINSKY would like some time to consider the offer since LEWINSKY was pursuing other jobs at the time.

In approximately mid-December, 1997, COOPER discussed LEWINSKY's possible employment with Ambassador RICHARDSON and after their talk Ambassador RICHARDSON instructed MONA SUTFIN to recontact LEWINSKY and obtain a firm answer. SUTFIN reported back that LEWINSKY had declined the job offer stating that she wanted to pursue a job in the private sector.

Later when the LEWINSKY news articles began appearing in the newspapers and on television, COOPER either heard or read that LEWINSKY had been referred to Ambassador RICHARDSON by VERNON JORDAN and that LEWINSKY's interview had been conducted in LEWINSKY's apartment at the Watergate Apartments.

COOPER knew the interview site information, as reported, was wrong but was unaware of who in the White House had originally recommended LEWINSKY. COOPER talked with Ambassador RICHARDSON and was told that LEWINSKY's recommendation had been made by JOHN PODESTA and BETTY CURRIE.

COOPER was aware of who PODESTA was but, was not aware

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of who CURRIE was, but assumed that CURRIE worked in the White House.

No one connected with the White House or the CLINTON Administration has contacted COOPER regarding LEWINSKY or this interview.

