

# WHO IS LEO WANTA

by J. Orlin Grabbe August 24, 1997

Who is Leo Wanta?

PART 1 OF 3



Vince Foster and the Children's Fund ... The Great Ruble Scam

Meet Leo Emil Wanta. At one point Wanta had bank accounts at Metishe Bank in Moscow, Avenue Bank on the Champs-Elysee in Paris, Credito Italiano in Milan, Anker Bank in Geneva, Swiss Bank Corporation in Geneva, the Algemeine Spaar in Brussels, the Zentralsparkasse und Kommerzialbank in Vienna, Creditanstalt Bankverein in Vienna, and--a favorite of money launderers-- Citibank in Milan, New York, and Los Angeles.

Meet Leo Emil Wanta, a man accused of, or praised for, crashing the Russian ruble over 1990-1. Certainly he was a currency trader, placing orders for 100 billion rubles at a time. Then there is the matter of gold--Russian gold.

One of the orders faxed around the world from his New Republic/USA Financial Group Ltd. (2101 North Edgewood Avenue, Appleton, WI 54914, Tele/Fax: (414) 738-7007), dated Feb. 4, 1991, is an offer to buy/sell/effect 2000 metric tons of gold bullion, with rollovers under London good delivery. At the time of this offer, Wanta was in constant phone contact with Roberto Coppola in Rome, where Coppola served as Ambassador of the Russian Republic.

Was Wanta just another trader specializing in illiquid currencies and flight capital in the form of bullion? Or was he a big time money launderer? Either would explain the 14 percent commissions at which he dealt. Or was neither the case? Let's look closer. Because something doesn't add up.

Wanta, an erstwhile travelling companion of Vernon Walters, was arrested by Swiss authorities on July 7, 1993, in Geneva, Switzerland. He was held for four months, then extradited to Wisconsin to stand trial for state taxes owed for the years 1982 and 1988. The grand total of taxes owed--\$14,000.

>BR>Curious that. Extradited for \$14,000? In taxes? From Switzerland? The story gets weirder.

Wanta was sentenced to 22 years in prison. (Better he had killed a few people than that he owed taxes.) Afterward, on Jan. 10, 1997, Wanta received a letter from Erskine Bowles at the White House.

Mr. Leo E. Wantac/o Kettle Moraine Correctional Institute P.O. Box 31 Plymouth, WI 53073

11

Dear Mr. Wanta:

Thank you for your letter. I appreciate hearing from you.

To give your concerns the proper attention, I have forwarded your letter to the Office of Agency Liaison within the White House. You can be certain that your concerns will be carefully reviewed.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Erskine B. Bowles

[View Letter From Erskin Bowles](#)

On February 1, 1997, after Bowles "checked with W.H. Agency Relations", Leo Wanta was released on \$90,000 bail.

So here's what we know about Wanta so far: Extradited from Switzerland on a triviality. Sentenced to 22 years on the same triviality. But then sprung after the White House checks with Agency Liaison.

Then there's the Russian currency/gold issue. And--how did Wanta get to be Ambassador from Somalia?

Claire Sterling's not-so-reliable book *Thieves World* contains a good bit of information (and mis-information) on Leo Wanta. (Sources include a mysterious Mr. X, an investment banker, and an unnamed FBI agent. Sterling's credits, however, may identify the latter source: she gives special mention to "Jim Moody of the FBI"--a man better known to the rest of us as the man who married Lisa Foster, the widow of Vince Foster.)

Depending on your point of view, Wanta is a con artist or a hero: bilking the crumbling Soviet empire of its currency and resources, helping pushing the wounded bear over the cliff. Wanta's operation has been called the Great Ruble Scam. One of the few not engineered by the Russian central bank/Russian government itself.

Wanta presented his credentials in Moscow in October 1990. He was a member of Reagan's "President's Club" (meaning he had given \$50,000 to the campaign). He also headed the "New Republic Financial Group" located in Appleton, WI, and registered in Vienna, Austria (New Republic/USA Financial Group, GES.m.b.H., Kartnerstrasse 28/15, Telefon: 414-738-0229, A-1010 Wien). New Republic had declared capital of about \$17,000. On this basis, Wanta wanted to swap \$5 billion for 140 billion rubles, rising over five years to \$50 billion for 300 billion rubles.

You never make money unless you think big, right? The proposal (one of three similar ones from seemingly disparate sources) was to be a mini-Marshall plan to import into Russia consumer goods like frozen chickens and Tampax. Or that was the story. Boris Yeltsin approved the deal, but it fell through, according to Sterling, when the State Department reported that Wanta "had major debts and some credit card problems". (Wanta denies that



the State Department ever issued such a statement.)

To one investment banker who worked with Wanta, the objective was quite different: "I knew there would be a possibility of a Western privately orchestrated economic Jihad that could help crush the communist ruling powers by destroying their unstable ruble. Unilaterally and privately, I decided to play a catalytic role to crash the ruble."

During the previous year Wanta's group bought sold and traded rubles. Many of the orders/offers appear bogus--calculated to cause a run on the ruble.

And--coming forward to October 1990--Wanta's deal of \$5 billion for 140 billion rubles, or 28 rubles to the dollar, would have been transacted at double the value of the dollar relative to its black market rate which was closer to 14 rubles to the dollar. If executed, the plan would have effectively given Wanta a free 70 billion rubles with which to help himself to the natural resources of a crumbling empire. Not bad. Who was Wanta representing? Himself? Or the U.S. government?

Without a doubt, Wanta dealt the fading Soviet apparatus a body slam or two. Does that make Leo Wanta an American hero? And if so, why was he incarcerated? Was it just to keep him off the streets because of what he knew (a standard maneuver in the intelligence community)? Does that explain Wanta's bogus extradition from Switzerland? Or was Wanta just a clever con artist who could somehow come up with the contacts and billions of dollars necessary to deceive a crumbling superpower? Either way, Wanta ain't your average used-car salesman. Wanta may be a victim railroaded by the government he served.

Leo Wanta was appointed Ambassador of Somalia for Switzerland and Canada in March 1993. In July, Wanta had been in Switzerland to make \$250,000,000 available for the Children's Defense Fund at the request of Deputy White House Counsel Vince Foster. Children's Defense Fund? Whose idea was that? What was going on there?

Shortly after Wanta's arrest, and following his daughter's birthday on July 20, 1993, the Superintendent for the Swiss prison where Wanta was being held came by and told Wanta that Wanta's friend Foster had been murdered.

Curiously, Wanta also knew well the man who would marry Foster's widow. Wanta used to visit FBI Director William Sessions at his office through a secret entry known as the "back of stage". There he would nearly always meet with a Mr. Gonzalez and a Mr. Jim Moody, who were the FBI enforcers for RICO and organized crime issues. Jim Moody is now married to Lisa Foster.

Can any of this shed some light on the death of Vince Foster? An old Mafia adage says that when you kill a man, you get his gun and his girl. Not that that would apply in this case, of course.

**But what does Wanta think?**

3/

Coming in next update: Kok Howe Kwong.

*Please Tell Me More About Leo Wanta*

*Go to BlackOps Reporter HomePage*



4/

[www.FreeRepublic.com](http://www.FreeRepublic.com)

---

[Login](#)   [Register](#)   [New Topic](#)   [Post Article](#)   [More Articles](#)   [Search](#)

---

**Topic: White Water**

**Who is Leo Wanta?**

**The Home Page of J. Orlin Grabbe**

08/23/97 J. Orlin Grabbe

## Who is Leo Wanta?

### Vince Foster and the Children's Fund

#### *The Great Ruble Scam*

Meet Leo Emil Wanta. At one point Wanta had bank accounts at Metishe Bank in Moscow, Avenue Bank on the Champs-Elysee in Paris, Credito Italiano in Milan, Anker Bank in Geneva, Swiss Bank Corporation in Geneva, the Allgemeine Spaar in Brussels, the Zentralsparkasse und Kommerzialbank in Vienna, Creditanstalt Bankverein in Vienna, and--the money launderer's favorite-- Citibank in Milan, New York, and Los Angeles.

Meet Leo Emil Wanta, a man accused of, or praised for, crashing the Russian ruble over 1990-1. Certainly he was a currency trader, placing orders for 100 billion rubles at a time.

One of the orders faxed around the world from his New Republic/USA Financial Group Ltd. (2101 North Edgewood Avenue, Appleton, WI 54914, Tele/Fax: (414) 738-7007), dated Feb. 4, 1991, is an offer to buy/sell/effect 2000 metric tons of gold bullion, with rollovers under London good delivery.

Was Wanta just another trader specializing in inconvertible currencies and blocked bullion? Or was he a big time money launderer? Either would explain the 14 percent commissions at which he dealt. But let's look closer. Something doesn't add up.

Wanta, an erstwhile travelling companion of Vernon Walters, was arrested by Swiss authorities on July 7, 1993, in Geneva, Switzerland. He was apparently convicted for laundering money through the Charleston Bank in Panama. He was held for four months, then extradited to Wisconsin to stand trial for state taxes owed for the years 1982 and 1988. The grand total of taxes owed--\$14,000.

Curious that. *Extradited for \$14,000? In taxes? From Switzerland?* The story gets weirder.

5/



Wanta was sentenced to 22 years in prison. (Better he had killed a few people than that he owed taxes.) Afterward, on Jan. 10, 1997, Wanta received a letter from Erskine Bowles at the White House.

Mr. Leo E. Wanta  
c/o Kettle Moraine Correctional Institute  
P.O. Box 31  
Plymouth, WI 53073

Dear Mr. Wanta:

Thank you for your letter. I appreciate hearing from you.

To give your concerns the proper attention, I have forwarded your letter to the Office of Agency Liaison within the White House. You can be certain that your concerns will be carefully reviewed.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Erskine B. Bowles

On February 1, 1997, after Bowles "checked with W.H. Agency Relations", Leo Wanta was released on \$90,000 bail.

So here's what we know about Wanta so far: Extradited from Switzerland on a triviality. Sentenced to 22 years on the same triviality. But then sprung after the White House checks with Agency Liaison.

Then there's the Russian issue. And--how did Wanta get to be Ambassador from Somalia?

Claire Sterling's not-always-reliable book *Thieves World* contains a good bit of information on Leo Wanta. Depending on your point of view, Wanta is a con artist or a hero: bilking the crumbling Soviet empire of its currency and resources, helping pushing the wounded bear over the cliff. It's known as the Great Ruble Scam. One of the few not engineered by the Russian central bank/Russian government itself.

Wanta presented his credentials in Moscow in October 1990. He was a member of Reagan's "President's Club" (meaning he had given \$50,000 to the campaign). He also headed the "New Republic Financial Group" located in Appleton, WI, and registered in Vienna, Austria (New Republic/USA Financial Group, GES.m.b.H., Kartnerstrasse 28/15, Telefon: 414-738-0229, A-1010 Wien). New Republic had declared capital of about \$17,000. On this basis, Wanta wanted to swap \$5 billion for 140 billion rubles, rising over five years to \$50 billion for 300 billion rubles.

You never make money unless you think big, right? The proposal (one of three similar

6/

ones from seemingly disparate sources) was to be a mini-Marshall plan to import into Russia consumer goods like frozen chickens and Tampons. Or that was the story. Boris Yeltsin approved the deal, but it fell through when the State Department reported that Wanta "had major debts and some credit card problems".

To one investment banker who worked with Wanta, the objective was quite different: "I knew there would be a possibility of a Western privately orchestrated economic Jihad that could help crush the communist ruling powers by destroying their unstable ruble. Unilaterally and privately, I decided to play a catalytic role to crash the ruble."

For a year Wanta's group bought sold and traded rubles. Many of the orders/offers appear bogus--calculated to cause a run on the ruble.

And--coming forward to October 1990--Wanta's deal of \$5 billion for 140 billion rubles, or 28 rubles to the dollar, would double the value of the dollar relative to the black market rate which was closer to 14 rubles to the dollar. If executed, the plan would have effectively given Wanta a free 70 billion rubles with which to help himself to the natural resources of a crumbling empire. Not bad.

The original plan, skuttled by the U.S. State Dept., was resurrected under a different proposal, and this time the Russian Deputy Prime Minister Filshin went for it. And got himself fired as a result. Filshin met at the Hotel Savoy in Zurich with various proponents of the scheme on Jan. 28, 1991. Present were Wanta, and Wanta's associates Jack Tremonti (whose social contacts included the Sicilian Biondon Family), and Martin Gulewicz, an ex-football player with a conviction for drug trafficking. A Russian Commission of Inquiry decided that Filshin was selling out the government, and Russia's Supreme Soviet fired Filshin in a decree signed by President Boris Yeltsin.

Without a doubt, Wanta dealt Russia a body slam or two. Does that make Leo Wanta an American hero? And if so, why was he incarcerated? Was it just to keep him off the streets because of what he knew (a standard maneuver in the intelligence community)? Does that explain Wanta's bogus extradition from Switzerland? Or was Wanta just a clever con artist who could somehow come up with the contacts and billions of dollars necessary to deceive a crumbling superpower? Either way, Wanta ain't your average used-car salesman.

Leo Wanta, who was appointed Ambassador of Somalia for Switzerland and Canada in March 1993, had been in Switzerland to make \$250,000,000 available for the Children's Defense Fund at the request of Deputy White House Counsel Vince Foster. Children's Defense Fund? Whose idea was that?

Shortly after Wanta's arrest, and either on his daughter's birthday on July 20, 1993, or (more likely) the following day, the Superintendent for the Swiss prison where Wanta was being held came by and told Wanta that Wanta's friend Foster had been murdered.

Curiously, Wanta also knew well the man who would marry Foster's widow. Wanta used to visit FBI Director William Sessions at his office through a secret entry known as the "back of stage". There he would nearly always meet with a Mr. Gonzalez and a Mr. Jim Moody, who were the FBI enforcers for RICCO and organized crime issues. Jim Moody

71



is now married to Lisa Foster.

Can any of this shed some light on the death of Vince Foster? An old Mafia adage says that when you kill a man, you get his gun and his girl. Not that that would apply in this case, of course.

But what does Wanta think?

*To be updated shortly.*

<http://www.aci.net/kalliste>

---

**See also:**

[Are the Beans About to Be Spilled?](#)

**08/14/97 - Tom of Venice on George Putnam Show**

[ODDS & ENDS: White House Fellows](#)

**08/16/97 - Clinton Scandals Mailing List**

[Leo Wanta May Be In Danger](#)

**08/19/97 - Doug from Upland**

[Leo Wanta: Explosive Evidence in Foster Case and Corruption in Washington](#)

**08/21/97 - Tom from Venice**

[Wanta's Attorney: Wisconsin Ripping Off Treasury](#)

**08/21/97 - Doug from Upland**

[Leo Wanta Loses House: What's Going On Wisconsin?](#)

**08/23/97 - Doug from Upland**

**Historical Documents of the Bush/Clinton Era relating to Wanta:**

[In the matter of Credit Suisse Banque](#)

[Resume of Lee E. Wanta](#)

[Question Posed by Ambassador Wanta](#)

[Letter from Wanta to Hillary Clinton](#)

[Letter from Wanta to William J. Casey](#)

[Is this document a 'Smoking Gun'???](#)

['Smoking Gun' Document detail](#)

---

8/



'White Cloud' Petroleum Oil Letter

Letter to Leo Wanta from Erskine Bowles

Letter to Wirtschaft Bank from Frank B. Ingram

Letter to Leo Wanta from President George Bush

6 Pages of Miscellaneous

---

**These documents found at David Feustel's website:** <http://feustel.mxi.net/>

**Posted by: Jim Robinson** ([jimrob@psnw.com](mailto:jimrob@psnw.com))

**08/23/97 20:43:04 PDT**

**Reply**

---

**To: Jim Robinson**

Thanks for drawing this story together here, Jim. I didn't attempt to repost Orlin's article since he once requested reference to his page instead. I have been reading Orlin's work for a long time, and whatever your arrangements, I am assuming he doesn't mind your reposting it here.

But, to help the forum readers determine the validity and seriousness of this story, I am sharing e-mail I traded with Orlin to confirm any relation to many of the things I've read in his writings. I'm sure he wouldn't mind, for if these occurrences are true, as they seem to be, it lends credence to the accuracy of his information. And if it all were a hoax, then it is a hoax that all Americans should be aware of so we all can laugh together.

**Subject: Re: Leo Wanta**

**Date:** Sat, 23 Aug 1997 20:09:54 -0700

**From:** "J. Orlin Grabbe" <[kalliste@aci.net](mailto:kalliste@aci.net)>

**To:** RoarNLion <[\\_lionhart@niia.net](mailto:_lionhart@niia.net)>

**References:** 1

RoarNLion wrote:

>  
> *Orlin,*  
>  
> *There has been several postings on this subject in the Free Republic*  
> *Forum. Is this in any way related to Charles Hayes, the Fifth Column,*  
> *or any of the information they supposedly have obtained through computer*  
> *hacking and the use of PROMIS-based software?*  
>  
> *~~Lion*  
>  
> **References:**  
> <http://www.freerepublic.com/forum/a1663.htm>  
> <http://www.freerepublic.com/forum/a2015.htm>  
> <http://www.freerepublic.com/forum/a1925.htm>  
> <http://www.freerepublic.com/forum/a2277.htm>

The Wanta documents are being released by Wanta and friends. Many of the ones posted so far are innocuous.

9/

The is an overlap in that some of these people have been involved in common operations for the U.S. gov/ and its agencies. That is, Wanta was one of the real operators who did stuff, and who knew too much.

Yes, there is a relation to Charles Hayes and the 5th Column. The whole money-laundering/espionage/political bribery story has as a central figure George Bush (with subfigures Clinton and others). Wanta knows a lot about some aspects of this and currently has a common interest with Hayes and others in getting out the truth, if only for self-protection.

I dismissed Wanta about two years ago. However, I've come across two serious confirmations of his bona fidas in the last few days.

Orlin

---

I say get the word out and let's bring some public attention to this.

**From: RoarNLion** ([lionhart@nfla.net](mailto:lionhart@nfla.net))

08/23/97 22:19:22 PDT

Reply

---

**To: RoarNLion**

Thanks, RoarNLion. Orlin's liable to take my scalp, but I prefer to post the articles when I can, get them backed up off-line, and spread out via mail, fax and email. (Sometimes these things have a way of disappearing when you least expect it) So spread the word. If this is a hoax, I'll be run out of town like Drudge was. If it's true, I'll probably get a one way car trip to Ft. Marcy Park rolled up in a carpet. By the way, I'm very healthy and no depression.

**From: Jim Robinson** ([jimrob@psnw.com](mailto:jimrob@psnw.com))

08/23/97 22:56:12 PDT

Reply

---

**To: RoarNLion**

About three dozen additional documents can now be found on David Feustel's website: <http://feustel.mxi.net/>

**From: Jim Robinson** ([jimrob@psnw.com](mailto:jimrob@psnw.com))

08/27/97 00:24:47 PDT

Reply

---

**To: RoarNLion**

The latest on Leo Wanta is that he has been "requested" to meet with the lawyers "Shellow, Shellow, and Glynn, S.C." in Milwaukee, WI at 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning (Dec. 7) located at 222 East Mason St., Milwaukee. They are located near the corner of N. Water St. and East Mason St. It's apparently near the center of town and near many city landmarks. (between the river and N. Milwaukee St.) He is to be picked up at 4:30 A.M. and driven by car to the meeting at 9:00 A.M. We do not know how long the meeting will last, and at what time he will return home. It would be great if somebody out there in Wisconsin can check on Leo's progress during Sunday. We wish Leo a lot of luck. Please pass this information onto anyone interested in this case.

**From: Dante** ([dante@mdc.net](mailto:dante@mdc.net)) \*

12/06/97 14:04:31 PST

Reply

---

**To: Dante**

Hmmmm... this sure peaks my curiosity. Sounds like someone wants to compromise a bit. Somehow, Wanta is key to the market instability lately. Thanks for posting that info.

**From: RoarNLion** ([lionhart@nfla.net](mailto:lionhart@nfla.net)) \*

10/



Who is Leo Wanta?

Page 7 of 7

12/06/97 20:13:52 PST

Reply

---

To: RoarNLion

Tuesday is looking very interesting, indeed . . . .

From: Scotsman (isleofman@webtv.net) \*

12/06/97 21:13:44 PST

Reply

---

[www.FreeRepublic.com](http://www.FreeRepublic.com)

11/

[www.FreeRepublic.com](http://www.FreeRepublic.com)

---

[Login](#)   [Register](#)   [New Topic](#)   [Post Article](#)   [More Articles](#)   [Search](#)

---

**Topic: Foster**

## **Interview with Christopher Ruddy on Quinn Show, Mon. 9/22/97**

**Quinn in the Morning Show - WRRK 97 FM, Pittsburgh, PA**

*9/22/97 Transcribed by a Quinn Fan*

Christopher Ruddy interviewed on the *Quinn in the Morning Show*, WRRK 97 FM, Pittsburgh, PA, Monday Sept. 22, 1997

Q = Jim Quinn, host; R = Christopher Ruddy, guest; Rose = show producer

[Quinn does a lead-in promotion of Ruddy's new book and announces that on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, Christopher Ruddy will be making a personal appearance at Pop Edward's in Bridgeville. He will be autographing copies of his new book, *The Strange Death of Vincent Foster*. He will also bring some video footage which has never been shown publicly before.]

Q: I guess we might as well ask him [about the video]. He's on the phone, for crying out loud.

Rose: Yes, let's ask him.

Q: Are you there, Chris?

R: Well, now that I've been categorized as anal retentive [by Rose for letting the phone ring for so long when he was trying to reach her the night before the interview], I'm not going to do anything for Rose. [they laugh] I'll do it for you, Jim, but not for Rose.

Rose: Oh, now you're getting yourself into a little *more* trouble.

Q: Let me tell you something, Chris. Never draw up the battle lines. Just capitulate, okay? [more laughs] Just bend over--

R: After she last accused me of hiding out in New York when I was actually in California--

Rose: No, I believe that was Patrick Knowlton.

R: And I told her then I wasn't going to allow her to give me electric shock treatments.

Rose: [laughs] That was Patrick Knowlton who accused you.

Q: Are you guys going to mud wrestle at Pop Edward's.

Rose: [laughs] Well, okay.

R: She would enjoy it, I know.

12/



Q: Anyway, you're going to be there and you're going to be signing your book-- if people want to buy the book at Pop Edward's, you will autograph the book, is that correct?

R: That is absolutely true. And maybe we can do a book signing the night before somewhere and we can rope you in for that, Jim.

Q: Well, good. That sounds like fun. October 11<sup>th</sup>. The doors open at 6:30 [p.m.], there's going to be dinner. And you have some never seen before tape, is that true?

R: Yes, I'm going to bring some video interviews that were done with some interesting people. Paula Jones was interviewed once on television and told her story. And I'm going to bring a copy of that. I'm going to bring a copy of the interview with Jane Parks, never gone on television before.

Q: Now that's Jerry Parks' wife and Jerry Parks, of course was gunned down in Arkansas shortly after he demanded payment from the Clintons for his work as campaign security advisor during the election in '92, right?

R: Right. He was murdered--assassinated very soon after Vince Foster's death. And we've covered this in the *Tribune-Review* where the Little Rock police just say they're going to have this as a permanent unsolved mystery. She tells a very devastating story, having worked at the apartment complex where Roger Clinton had an apartment, and Bill Clinton used to go up and young girls used to be there and drugs used to be quite common. And in addition to that we're going to show the interview with Sharleen Wilson who is a prison inmate in Arkansas who was Roger Clinton's girlfriend and she had relationships with a number of ranking individuals in Arkansas. This has never been shown publicly before and it will be very interesting I think for people to see it and hear it.

Q: Boy, I can't wait for that! Okay, that's going to be October 11<sup>th</sup> at Pop Edward's in Bridgeville. Now those of you who want to make a reservation--and you can walk in--but I would suggest that this time it may be a good idea to let us know ahead of time [he gives the phone number for reservations] to make a reservation. [Quinn repeats the number and during that time there is a very audible clicking on the phone line] I hear the phone clicking there.

R: I am here.

Q: Yeah, is that just the wire tap?

R: That's right. It's the NSA.

Q: [laughs] Why don't they just listen to the show for crying out loud. It's a lot easier. So anyway, the book comes out today and you're excited, right?

R: I am very, very excited because today is the official publication of the book. And, as you know, over the weekend, Thomas Sowell's nationally syndicated column came out encouraging people to get the book. He is a convert now. He had never written about this subject and basically says that the evidence is overwhelming that there are a lot of things that the White House wants to cover up, in this case, that the body was moved and he even says, which very few people say but is true, that the evidence is consistent with the fact that Foster was killed somewhere else and that the body was moved.

Q: Or that he committed suicide somewhere else.

R: Well, what Sowell is saying is actually the evidence is *consistent* with the fact that Foster was murdered somewhere else. Now I'm not saying that--

Q: No.

R: But two New York City homicide investigators for the first time in my book I sort of detail what they think happened to Foster which is that he died somewhere in or around the White House compound because the evidence shows that he wasn't anywhere else. So they believe he died somewhere around there, that he was afraid for his life in the closing days

13/



of his life--not depressed--and that he was lured somewhere. He had a luncheon meeting, not in his office as the White House claims. But he died probably--and this is what the New York detectives say--probably of poisoning or some other means, and that his body was transported and that the gunshot was a cover for another form of death.

Q: Well, to your credit, one of the things you have done in your book apparently, if Dr. Sowell is to be believed, and of course I'm sure he is, is that you have avoided any conspiracy theories. You've avoided trying to make a guess at why Vince Foster might have been murdered, and instead you simply raise the questions and the issues that need to be raised that were never addressed. And leave it to others to speculate as to what really went on. And I read an interview this morning between a guy in California with a fellow by the name of Leo Wanta, and I'm going to make sure that you get a copy of this question and answer here because during the question and answer segments with this Leo Wanta character, the name Vince Foster comes up in connection with George Bush, in connection with the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, in connection with attempts to destabilize the Soviet Rubel. The name comes up in connection with trips to Switzerland. Remember Ambrose [Evans-]Pritchard and how he discovered the trips to Switzerland? And somehow ties this together with the Children's Defense Fund which is Hillary's baby, and the possibility that there may have been upwards of *\$201 billion* in the Children's Defense Fund. So I'll send this to you. I don't want to go through it now, but I think you'll find it interesting.

R: Well, if you fax it, I'm going to see--Clinton's here in New York today at the Waldorf, so I'll probably pop over and I'll give it to him and see, you know, what happened to the millions of dollars.

Q: Yeah, well, don't tell him I sent it, okay?

R: [laughs]

Q: Oh, by the way, he's going to be in town for the big union conclave which is going on right now. Now, this thing hits the book stores today, does that mean it will actually be on the shelves?

R: It should be. People have told me that they've seen it around. Sometimes it's out on the new release desk, sometimes it's hidden in the back--

Q: Depending on the ideology of the store owner?

R: --with the coloring books rack or something, I guess depending I guess on the manager, when they see it they either like it or are in a state of shock. But it does have a lot of new revelations in it, and most of the people who see it say, hey, this is a tremendous narrative that puts together the whole story about what happened in one, which is hard to do just reprinting news clips which we have done in the past. And the book has been endorsed by the former FBI director, William Sessions. So it's not something that can be easily dismissed. You can't get any higher than an endorsement by the former top cop, as they would call him, in the country.

Q: Yeah, who was fired in an unprecedented manner, what, just two days before old Vince decided to check into the 'wooden Waldorf'?

R: Well actually it was [laughs] the day *before* Sessions got a call and they literally threw him out of the office. It's interesting what happened with him because Clinton calls and says, "You're fired," and Sessions thought that he was going to have at least that day to finish out his day and clear out his desk. And twenty minutes later Philip Heymann and the Assistant Attorney General shows up at his door with a group of FBI guards and Clinton gets on the phone and says, "You're terminated immediately. Please vacate your office." And they literally--

Q: Clinton *personally* got on the phone and said that?

R: Twice. Yeah.

Q: You're kidding!

R: Oh, this is an absolutely true story. They wanted him out of there in a *bad* way. And this wasn't just a firing, this was an evacuation. And he was escorted under armed guard from the building. So they wanted him out--

14/



Q: Boy, I'll bet he's not a happy fellow, is he?

R: Well, Sessions is not the type to be angry or sour grapes or anything like that. He never had a history, of all of the things that happened with him in the press that began in the Bush administration. He's a pretty no nonsense, honest guy and one of the reasons he is still widely respected, still goes on a lot of TV shows, is that he has always remained above the fray and he tells it like it is.

Q: We gotta get him on this show. Because, I mean, if he really is an honest guy, *that* was his problem.

R: Well, I think that most of the problems he has, if you look back in the record, when the real problems start hitting the fan--actually starts before Clinton--was when he was arguing that Banco Nationale, LAVORNO (Ph.), the Atlanta branch, needed to be clearly investigated, that there were CIA intelligence links to money laundering there. Almost from that day onward it was decided that he was going to be out.

Q: Well, [laughs] Mr. Clinton knows about *all* of that stuff! You can take that to the Banco Nationale. I'll tell you what, I've got to take a break here, Chris, and keep you over another break, okay?

R: Oh, sure.

Q: Chris Ruddy who works for the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, formerly of the *New York Post*, and author of *The Strange Death of Vincent Foster*, which hits the news stands today. We'll be right back.

[FIRST BREAK]

Q: And back to Chris Ruddy, the author of *The Strange Death of Vincent Foster*, hitting the book shelves today. You'll probably be able to find it at, well, let's see, there's Borders and Barnes & Nobel is another one.

Rose: I like that. That's a nice store.

Q: Yeah, anyway, so Chris, has the *New York Times* got their copy yet?

R: Absolutely, and I will be reviewed next Sunday in the *New York Times*.

Rose: Mmm!

Q: They're going to do it on Sunday?

R: They're going to do it this coming Sunday, so they obviously feel that the book is important enough that they need to address it. It's a little unusual. Usually the publisher, Simon and Schuster said to me they never request books that early and they were requesting very early on a copy of *my* book.

Rose: Don't you think that very early on they wanted to discredit you in some way? [Ruddy laughs]

Q: [laughs] Yeah, come on.

R: Well, they've been busily doing that for a couple of years now, so why stop, right? I mean, they're having so much fun.

Q: I think they think your book is important, but I think they think the cover up of this is more important than the book.

R: Well, I'm sure they're not going to address any of the serious issues I raise, or instances or issues--for example, I confirm in the book that Webster Hubbell on the night of Vince Foster's death when he was walking around Vince's house in Georgetown with his remaining family, Vince's family, his loved ones. He was on a cell phone calling people

15/

in Arkansas telling them that Foster was murdered and not to believe for a second--there was a quote in *Esquire Magazine* and he did say that, to not believe for a second that Foster committed suicide. And I called one of the gentlemen that Hubbel called. His name was Phil Carroll at the Rose Law Firm. Phil said, yeah, we *all* believed that Foster was murdered. Now the senior partner at the Rose Law Firm is saying this to me.

Q: When did he say this?

R: During my interview with him.

Q: Well, when was it?

R: On the night of Foster's death.

Q: Okay, all right.

R: Now Phil claims that everybody's had this dramatic change of heart. Now everybody in the world claims that he committed suicide. One of the interesting things is that I've gone through all the FBI statements of interviews. Even though everyone had these doubts, nowhere is it in the FBI statements. There's not one shred of evidence [laughs] that anyone had a doubt about this suicide. You know, it's *absolutely* a suicide.

Q: So what you're saying is that the night of the suicide, everybody was convinced it was murder, and then all of a sudden they all changed their minds.

R: Right. And no one has any doubts.

Q: Right, and now everybody's *sure*! [sarcastically]

R: Hundreds of people who know Vince Foster--everybody's *absolutely* sure that he committed suicide.

Q: Um hmm.

R: And in fact what I show is that in the FBI statement for Phil Carroll and Webster Hubbell, the FBI manipulated it so that they didn't have to mention this phone call. They omitted the fact that Hubbell called. And in Carroll's FBI statement they start talking about how he meets Hubbell at the funeral in Hope, Arkansas, and how they discuss then, they quote Carroll as saying, "Hubbell expressed no doubt about Foster's suicide at that time." They forget to mention what Hubbell was doing just two or three nights before. And of course Hubbell has said that Foster believed that his phones were tapped. Hubbell clearly showed in his statements that there was nothing unusual about Foster in the closing days of his life. David Watkins said there was nothing unusual. William Kennedy--these were people intimately involved with Foster. No one noticed anything unusual. And what I show is that the White House, about a week after Foster's death, created a cock & bull story, created or concocted this story that Foster was depressed.

Q: And that he had lost weight.

R: That he had lost weight, that he was upset about the Travel Office. They put the forged note into his briefcase, which was apparently forged and planted there. And they created this whole story which everybody has bought into. But if you go back and look into the press clippings and what happened in the White House and the White House press conferences, which I did. The first week no one knew what happened. And I think they were getting concerned because Sarah McClendon was sitting there yelling at the back of the press conference things like, "I think he was *murdered* and a lot of people out in the country do, too." [Quinn laughs] They knew they had to invent--and I even have the clippings of Dee Dee Myers with Brit Hume about five or six days after the death, and Dee Dee Myers says,

"Well, you know, he *was* actually a little depressed."

And Brit Hume says, "What do you mean, '*depressed*'? You're changing your story." [Note: Here Ruddy does a great impression of Brit Hume's incredulous tone when pressing some difficult questions on White House representatives--

16



something all too rare in the Washington press corp.]

And she says, "No, we're not."

"You said that he wasn't depressed."

"Well, we never said that."

"Dee Dee, you said that he wasn't depressed. That no one noticed any problems with him." [Another great impression of Brit Hume's intonations and style.]

And she had to back down and said, "Well, we're not really changing our story," but she says, "if a suicide note or something *like* that were to suddenly turn up, I guess that would explain something." And on the day she's saying that, sure enough the suicide note "or something like that" turns up in his briefcase in his office.

Q: Oh, yeah! Well, look--go a head.

R: The whole thing was orchestrated.

Q: Look, I mean, you've got all these things like there's a gun with no fingerprints on it, there's no blood, there's no bullet, there's no brain fragments, there's no keys in his pocket until after Craig Livingstone and William Kennedy show up to identify the body that's already been identified--you can go through all of this stuff, okay? But, *please!* Is there *anybody* out there that believes that a briefcase can be searched and turned upside down and then six days later twenty-seven yellow fragments of a note that they didn't find show up in the briefcase and be believable. Is there anybody out there who believes it's possible? If you do, I have some land along the White River in Arkansas that's going for a song. [Ruddy laughs] I mean, *excuse* me, but this is just absolutely--

R: But the funny thing is, Jim, that people bought their stories--the White House stories--and dozens like it hook line and sinker including Robert Fiske and Ken Starr.

Q: Well, Fiske--

R: And here you have them and the FBI and the "official investigators", and one of the things I go into in the book is just what type of patsies these guys were like Fiske. Fiske was known--they never discussed this in the press--in the five years he was U.S. Attorney in New York, he never prosecuted one politician and he was cited by *New York Magazine*, they did a cover story called, "Why Politicians Never Go to Jail." Robert Fiske was on the cover. And this is the reason why Rudy Giuliani became famous. He comes in and he starts indicting everyone and he becomes a well respected prosecutor.

Q: Well, I'll tell you what. We've got to let you go because we're out of time here, but I'm looking forward to reading the book and it is available and we will see you on October 11<sup>th</sup> for some book signing and some groundbreaking video that nobody's seen yet at Pop Edward's.

R: And you're going to get the mud ready for Rose and me.

Q: The mud? Ah, yes, the mud for Rose and you [Rose laughs], we'll get ready.

R: I think that would attract more people to the event than these interviews [Rose laughs again].

Q: Well, actually we're getting a thong bikini for you. I can't wait to see that, big fellow. [Ruddy laughs] We'll see you later, Chris.

R: Okay.

Q: Christopher Ruddy, author of *The Strange Death of Vincent Foster*. We'll be right back.

171

[END OF INTERVIEW]

---

Word is that the reservations for Ruddy's appearance at Pop Edward's on October 11th is selling out fast!

Bev

**Posted by: Beverly Specht** ([bespecht@westol.com](mailto:bespecht@westol.com))

09/25/97 07:58:42 PDT

[Reply](#)

---

**To: Beverly Specht**

Bev, thanks for transcribing and posting this great interview. And thanks for getting the Wanta stuff to Quinn. Maybe Ruddy will be able to track down the facts on Wanta.

**From: Jim Robinson** ([jimrob@psurw.com](mailto:jimrob@psurw.com))

09/26/97 00:43:47 PDT

[Reply](#)

---

**To: Beverly Specht**

DITTO what he said.

**From: Bob Ireland** ([corair9@cycal.com](mailto:corair9@cycal.com))

09/26/97 10:06:55 PDT

[Reply](#)

---

**To: Jim Robinson**

You're very welcome. I loved the part where Ruddy talked about Sarah McClendon shouting from the back of the news briefing, "I think he was murdered!" Good old Sarah. And she still can't figure out why she's had to go through three intensive IRS audits! But I think she's finally waking up about her fair-haired Boy-Clinton.

IMHO, Bev

**From: Beverly Specht** ([bespecht@westol.com](mailto:bespecht@westol.com))

09/26/97 17:53:52 PDT

[Reply](#)

---

[www.FreeRepublic.com](http://www.FreeRepublic.com)

18/



[www.FreeRepublic.com](http://www.FreeRepublic.com)

---

Login

Register

New Topic

Post Article

More Articles

Search

---

## Topic: Leo Wanta Updates

### UPDATE: Ambassador Leo Wanta

#### CONSPIRACY NATION ARCHIVES

October 13, 1997 *Brian Redman*

Conspiracy Nation -- Vol. 11 Num. 22

=====

("Quid coniuratio est?")

-----

#### UPDATE: AMBASSADOR LEO WANTA

=====

By "Tom in Venice" (former Democratic Party operative)

-----

(Further background: See CN 10.92)

- 1) Ambassador Leo Wanta remains under house arrest in Wisconsin.
- 2) According to Wanta's attorney, Pat Cammeron, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue has until October 24th to produce the court and legal documents that would prove the Department of Revenue's case. Cammeron says they have no case at all \*vis a vis\* \$14,129 supposedly owed in taxes.
- 3) Now with the frame-up against Ambassador Wanta falling apart, a new frame-up has been brought against Wanta by Wisconsin.
- 4) The Wisconsin Department of Revenue is claiming that Wanta owes \$675,000, referencing Falls Vending Machine (a reputed Mafia operation.)
- 5) Falls Vending, a company that Wanta helped lead a sting on in 1981, has ties to former FBI agent Mike DeMarco, federal judge Russell Eisenberg, and current FBI Director Louis Freeh.
- 6) Freeh has yet to respond to Cammeron's demand that his agency account for the contents in "Wanta's" briefcase.
- 7) According to Cammeron, a source in Switzerland claims that former-President George Bush will work with Louis Freeh to create more Wanta frame-ups, in order to keep Wanta from telling the truth.

19/

8) This individual in Switzerland who fingered Bush just recently survived an assassination attempt against him by car bomb.

9) So what we have here is a criminal conspiracy to obstruct justice being orchestrated by Governor Tommy Thompson (Wisconsin), former-President George Bush, and current FBI Director Louis Freeh. (USCA Title 18 Section 35; Section 241 & 242)

10) Freeh, a Bush man himself, seems more interested in pursuing Vice President Albert Gore, Jr.'s phone calls than the financial misconduct of both President Clinton and former-President Bush involving the AmeriTrust account in Switzerland. Ambassador Wanta could shed light on this subject, as it dovetails to the death of Vince Foster, Jr.

11) Ambassador Wanta's testimony in front of the Senate Intelligence panel is needed not only to bring Clinton and Bush to justice, but expose key "bunko man" Kenneth Starr for what he is.

-- Afterword by Conspiracy Nation --

Kenneth Starr is one of the much-vaunted Special Prosecutors we've seen in the past decade or so. Another was Lawrence Walsh, who drew a comfortable salary while he wiled away lazy afternoons sipping lemonade and investigating Iran-Contra. Walsh finally issued his report, but by then no one cared. Starr too is enjoying a comfy job and will issue some sort of (yawn) report. Now Janet Reno is under pressure to appoint yet another of these comfortable fellows, these Special Prosecutors. Latest theory on these "independent" appointees is that they are part of political blackmail operations: they have wide-ranging special powers to dig up dirt, and the dirt then gets held over the opposition party's head -- give us (politically) what we want, \*or else\*! Note how when President Clinton used his line-item veto to cut out military pork previously destined for Newt Gingrich's state of Georgia, we "coincidentally" had a week of fuss over "discovered" Clinton videotapes: Is there a connection between the two events?

Conspiracy Nation normally shuns predictions, and itself has almost never made any. From time to time, however, predictions from others are passed along. Here is what I'm hearing from others, that is sufficiently corroborated to deserve notice.

Things seem about to blow in that modern "Rome on the Potomac," Washington, DC. Recall that in past issues of Conspiracy Nation (CN 10.79, CN 10.80, CN 10.81, ca. early August 1997) various sources foresaw trouble in October for Bill Clinton and his gang. "Ru Mills" warned that "Thanksgiving" would come early this year, with "the turkey," Bill Clinton, to be carved in late September or early October. Human Events magazine was predicting indictments and possible ouster of Mr. Bill Clinton. R. Emmett Tyrrell, Jr. of American Spectator magazine echoed Human Events: "...the Clinton White House is going to go sky-high... several

20/



major scandals are certain to rock the Clinton White House this year."

I am still hearing the same general thing from my sources. "Ru Mills" sees upheaval by the end of October. Sherman Skolnick hints at a stock market crash on or about October 20th. "Tom in Venice" feels that things are heating up.

And what does Conspiracy Nation say? (1) Be cautious with these types of predictions; we've heard them for years now. (2) But who knows? I'm hearing these dark forebodings from several sources. (3) \*If\* Clinton gets in hot water, he can just send missiles against "punching bag" Saddam Hussein's Iraq or some other nation that can't too effectively fight back. (Subtext of Clinton missile fury is, "And if I can do it to them, I can do it to you.") Clinton also, notably, is doing the "representing you all in a foreign land" stunt: you don't want "our" President to look bad in front of the neighbors, do you? Bottom line: Clinton the Weasel will get out of it; you will keep getting poorer; you will have to work longer hours; nothing will change insofar as by some great magic the truth will be forced into public consciousness. But it's Monday morning and we all need hope, right?

+ + + + +

For related stories, visit:

<http://www.shout.net/~bigred/cn.html>

<http://feustel.mixi.net>

---

Views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of Conspiracy Nation, nor of its Editor in Chief.

---

I encourage distribution of "Conspiracy Nation."

---

New mailing list: leave message in the old hollow tree stump.

---

Want to know more about Whitewater, Oklahoma City bombing, etc?

(1) telnet prairienet.org (2) logon as "visitor" (3) go citcom

---

Aperi os tuum muto, et causis omnium filiorum qui pertranseunt.

Aperi os tuum, decerne quod justum est, et judica inopem et pauperem.

-- Liber Proverbiorum XXXI: 8-9

---

Is Saint George getting his halo dirty again?

Posted by: RoarNLion ([lionhart@ania.net](mailto:lionhart@ania.net))

10/13/97 23:33:13 PDT

[Reply](#)

---

[www.FreeRepublic.com](http://www.FreeRepublic.com)

21/

[www.FreeRepublic.com](http://www.FreeRepublic.com)

---

[Login](#)   [Register](#)   [New Topic](#)   [Post Article](#)   [More Articles](#)   [Search](#)

---

## Topic: Wanta

### The Leo Wanta Story

- **FreeRepublic**

11/18/97

Does Leo Wanta hold the key to solving the mystery of Vince Foster's death? Will Clinton and Bush be implicated? Is Hillary and the Children's Defense Fund involved? If true, this scandal has the potential of blowing the lid off of the Washington Mafioso!

Web Posted: 11/18/97 18:38:57 PST

---

[www.FreeRepublic.com](http://www.FreeRepublic.com)

22/