

IPS Pays Kickbacks To Phoenix Probe Publishers

The *Executive Intelligence Review* has been informed that the Institute for Policy Studies, the "mother" political intelligence agency responsible for direction and funding of the Fund for Investigative Journalism (FIJ) and Investigative Reporters and Editors (IRE) groups in their attacks on Sen. Barry Goldwater and southwest conservative politicians, is itself making direct payments to newspaper publishers who run the "Arizona Story." Reports indicate the payments have been made to various small papers and so-called underground press, from a California bank account in the name of IPS.

As the Arizona series broadened out recently to include the International Brotherhood of Teamsters in its smear campaign linking prominent figures to organized crime, a United Press International survey showed that more than one-third of the newspapers originally contracting for the series had cancelled out during its first week. The lower level networks of this particular IPS operation, particularly the IRE, are a shambles.

Who Is Robert Greene?

A few things should be said about the pedigree of IRE Arizona team leader Robert Green of Long Island's *Newsday*. Greene "defended" his work to *Editor and Publisher* in an interview March 26 by admitting that the team uncovered "nothing criminal per se" against Goldwater, "but we found that (Sen. Goldwater) publicly associated with organized crime figures...and this condoned their presence in the state." Greene was promptly attacked by the widow of murdered investigative reporter Don Bolles, whose death while investigating Arizona crime in 1976 became the "cause" around which IPS networks built the Arizona probe. Rosalie Bolles charged Greene with "using" her husband's name to "give credibility to (the team's) work," and flatly challenged Greene to let the story "stand on its own merits to the test of responsible journalism."

The IRE's Arizona story is basically a rehash of Green's earlier attempts at a hatchet job on Sen. Gold-

Augusta Paper Hits FIJ

The following editorial appeared in Georgia's Augusta Chronicle-Herald, Friday, April 1. The paper circulates to about 75,000 of Augusta, Georgia's 100,000 population, and is part of the southern-based Morris newspaper chain.

OBJECTIVITY SUFFERS

It was former Vice President Spiro Agnew who, in recent years, drew attention to the practice of too many journalists subtly salting "objective" news with their own opinions.

Mr. Agnew, in several speeches a few years ago, especially urged professionally edited newspapers of this Nation — regardless of their shade of opinion — to confine editorial comments to the editorial page, while assigning straight news to its rightful and separate place in news columns.

Along comes the so-called Fund for Investigative Journalism, however, with the type of reporting that the former Vice President — and no doubt millions of Americans — should find objectionable.

According to writer Fay Sober, the FIJ — backed by such luminaries as journalists Jack Anderson and Seymour Hersh — is promoting something called "precision journalism." The idea behind this "new trend," says Sober, is to make "objective

reporting more subjective, to appeal to one's 'natural feelings' and 'psychological needs.'" In fact, the FIJ has gotten several big journalism schools — most notably Ohio State and Northeastern — to include "precision" training programs for its students.

One signal for this interpretative reporting scheme was given by Seymour Hersh, when he reportedly told friends last year that "conservative editors and publishers are the biggest enemy facing investigative journalism today." To fight these "conservatives," Hersh says a shift is needed away from "straight news" to the setup of "alternative investigative press." Furthermore, the FIJ points to at least one major chain that has already integrated the use of "precision journalism" for "long-range investigative stories" on topics like Third World commodity cartelization, police crime and corruption, and the forecasting of terrorism.

So, the question — as it was in Agnew's era and as it is now — remains: Have the media tossed out objectivity and used the news to propagandize for liberalism?

We have not seen any attempt by some of the big newspapers such as the *Washington Post* to demonstrate that Agnew isn't at least still basically correct. And the activities of groups like the FIJ don't remove any doubts, either.