

Confederates behind the impeachment coup

The leading actors in the assault on the U.S. Constitution, going under the cover of impeachment proceedings against President Clinton, are for the most part, Southerners with openly Confederate, racist pedigrees, and leanings. We provide here thumb-nail sketches of some of the ringleaders, for whom documentation is immediately available.

It is likely relevant that three other of the House managers (prosecutors) of impeachment are also Southerners of the Conservative Revolution stripe: Reps. Ed Bryant (R-Tenn.), Charles Canady (R-Fla.), Lindsay Graham (R-S.C.).

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.), leader of the impeachment effort in the Senate, has a long track record in government, having been elected to the House of Representatives in 1972, and to the Senate in 1988. He has a reputation as a “modern” Republican.



But Lott has not overcome his roots from one of the most racist sections of Mississippi, a stronghold of the White Citizens Council. Twice the scandals have come out on his contact with these groups. In 1982, he spoke at a rally of the White Citizens Council, which caused a big scandal at the time. More recently, he was exposed as a member of the Council of Conservative Citizens, a group devoted to stopping what it calls “white genocide” through racial intermarriage. Lott told a meeting of the CCC in 1992, that it “stand[s] for the right principles and the right philosophy.” He is known to have met with the CCC leaders in his Washington office in 1997.

Lott, who was tapped to make his first bid for the House by a group of Mont Pelerinites (economic feudalists), was even more explicit in an interview with the *Southern Partisan* in 1984: “I think that a lot of the fundamental principles that Jefferson Davis believed in are very important to people across the country, and they apply to the Republican Party.” Lott said that the Republican agenda, “from tax policy, to foreign policy, from individual rights to neighborhood security are things that Jefferson Davis and his people believed in.”

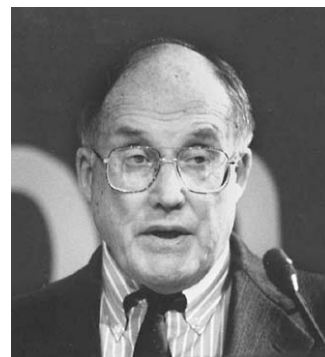
House Majority Whip Tom DeLay (R-Tex.), played the critical role in blackmailing House Republicans into voting for impeachment. Delay was elected in 1984 from a district in the Houston suburbs.

Noted primarily for his ability to raise money from political action committees (PACs), DeLay appears to be a typical example of the Conservative Revolution, opposing government regulation of all sorts. Scandals appear rare. One exception that underscores his Confederate ideology, was just recently recalled in a local Houston paper: In 1988, DeLay made a statement at a press conference outside the New Orleans Republican Party National Convention, in which he claimed that he, like former Vice President Dan Quayle, had been a victim of racial discrimination; he was referring to the alleged filling of all well-paying military positions by minority youth back in the early 1970s.



DeLay is also a rabid opponent of any government protections against slave labor, a view that became evident in his promotion of the economic system of the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. DeLay has fought any attempt to extend Federal protections to those islands, and, instead, proposed extending the system to the 50 states. This would mean absolutely no minimum wage protection, among others, for immigrant workers in the United States.

U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist, since 1986, has played a key role already in the buildup to the impeachment in several ways. First, his court upheld the constitutionality of the unconstitutional Independent Prosecutor statute. Second, in 1992, Rehnquist chose to make Judge David Sentele—a member of the racist Scottish Rite branch of Freemasonry in North Carolina—the head of the three-judge panel that appoints independent counsels. Now, Rehnquist will preside over the Senate trial, although his decisions can be overruled by a majority of Senators.



Rehnquist is a professed admirer of the principles of the Confederate Constitution, and of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Roger Taney, who wrote the *Dred Scott* decision in 1857, which held that citizens could not be deprived of their property—in this case, slaves—without due process, and that the black descendants of slaves (i.e., Dred Scott) had no standing in the courts. Rehnquist also has a history as a racist, which he has never disavowed. “It is about time the court faced the fact that white people in the South don’t like the colored people,” Rehnquist said in 1952. In the 1960s, he campaigned in Arizona against desegregation measures. He has never disso-

ciated himself from this campaign.

Judge David Sentelle, on the U.S. Appeals Court for the District of Columbia, heads the Special Division for Appointing Independent Counsels, and thus was on the three-judge panel that chose Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr to head the investigation of President Clinton.

Sentelle comes from North Carolina, where he became a U.S. District judge in 1985. In 1987 he was chosen to sit on the Federal appeals court, and in 1992 was tapped by Rehnquist for the three-judge panel that chooses Independent Counsels.

Americans got a glimpse of Sentelle's Confederate pedigree during his 1987 confirmation hearings in the Senate, when Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) challenged Sentelle for his membership in an all-white, all-male Masonic Lodge of the Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite.

Rep. Bob Barr (R-Ga.), one of the House managers for impeachment, was the first Congressman to introduce a bill to launch the impeachment back in 1997. A former Federal prosecutor, as a member of the House Judiciary Committee, he took the point in the effort to prevent passage of the McDade-Murtha Citizens Protection Act in 1998.



Aside from various risqué sexual adventures, which hit the press following Barr's virulent attacks on President Clinton, Barr has expressed an openly racist Confederate streak. As recently as June 6, 1998, he addressed the semi-annual convention of the Council of Conservative Citizens, the same anti-Semitic, racist group which Trent Lott has been associated with. Barr's claim — after his appearance became public — that he didn't know the group's character, is totally disingenuous.

Rep. Asa Hutchinson (R-Ark.) is one of the House managers for impeachment. Hutchinson, also a former Federal prosecutor, was elected to Congress in 1996. With Barr, he also took the point in opposing the Citizens Protection Act, arguing that it would undermine the rights of "law enforcement" officials if they were compelled to give citizens their rights.

W. Hickman Ewing, Deputy Independent Counsel to Kenneth Starr, has been with the Justice Department for over a quarter-century, since 1972, beginning as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Western District of Tennessee; in 1981, President Reagan appointed him as U.S. Attorney for that district, and he remained in that position until 1991. He went into private practice until he was picked up by Starr in 1994.

Ewing is known by politicians in Tennessee as a viciously racist prosecutor. He is best known for his role in the targeting and prosecution of Rep. Harold Ford, the popular black Congressman from Memphis, who underwent a ten-year ordeal

of abuse and prosecution, from 1983 to 1993, most of which took place under Ewing's tenure as U.S. Attorney.

Rep. Bill McCollum (R-Fla.), one of the House managers of the impeachment trial, was a leading spokesman for impeachment on the House Judiciary Committee, and a leading opponent as well of the Citizens Protection Act in 1998. He was first elected to the House in 1980.



McCollum's commitment to Confederate ideas—outside the areas mentioned above—has been most evident in his promotion of prison slave labor. McCollum sponsored a bill which would reinstitute the "convict labor" system of the post-Reconstruction South. Called the "Free Market Prison Industry Reform Bill," it would allow private industry, for the first time in American history, to bid on labor, facilities, and private industrial projects in the Federal prisons, and to sell goods produced therein on the open market. The bill would also turn over management of the Federal prison industry program to private interests. The prison labor would be fully slave labor: Prisoners would receive no compensation whatsoever.

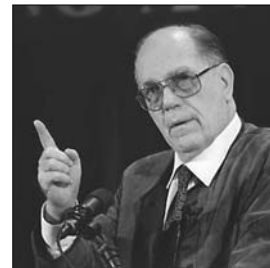
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