

Date: Friday, February 13, 1998 10:40:22 AM  
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Subj: "I Believe"  
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>From: daniel bartholomew <osdhallb@spinach.mscc.huji.ac.il>  
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>Subject: "I Believe"

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>> Washington Post  
>> February 4, 1998  
>> I BELIEVE

>> By Michael Kelly

>> I believe the president. I have always believed him. I believed him  
>> when he said he had never been drafted in the Vietnam War and I  
>> believed him when he said he had forgotten to mention that he had been  
>> drafted in the Vietnam War. I believed him when he said he hadn't had  
>> sex with Gennifer Flowers and I believe him now, when he reportedly  
>> says he did.  
>> I believe the president did not rent out the Lincoln Bedroom, did not  
>> sell access to himself and the vice president to hundreds of  
>> well-heeled special pleaders and did not supervise the largest, most  
>> systematic money-laundering operation in campaign finance history,  
>> collecting more than \$3 million in illegal and improper donations. I  
>> believe that Charlie Trie and James Riady were motivated by nothing

>> but patriotism for their adopted country.  
>> I believed Vice President Gore when he said that he had made dunning  
>> calls to political contributors "on a few occasions" from his White  
>> House office, and I believed him when he said that, actually, "a few"  
>> meant 46. I believe in no controlling legal authority.  
>> I believe Bruce Babbitt when he says that the \$286,000 contributed to  
>> the DNC by Indian tribes opposed to granting a casino license to rival  
>> tribes had nothing to do with his denial of the license. I believed  
>> the secretary when he said that he had not been instructed in this  
>> matter by then-White House deputy chief of staff Harold Ickes. I  
>> believed him when he said later that he had told lobbyist and friend  
>> Paul Eckstein that Ickes had told him to move on the casino decision,  
>> but that he had been lying to Eckstein. I agree with the secretary  
>> that it is an outrage that anyone would question his integrity.  
>> I believe in the Clinton Standard of adherence to the nation's  
>> campaign finance and bribery laws, enunciated by the president on  
>> March 7, 1997: "I don't believe you can find any evidence of the fact  
>> that I had changed government policy solely because of a  
>> contribution." I note with approval the use of the word "evidence" and  
>> also the use of the word "solely." I believe that it is proper to  
>> change government policy to address the concerns of people who have  
>> given the president money, as long as nobody can find evidence of this  
>> being the sole reason.  
>> I believe the president has lived up to his promise to preside over  
>> the most ethical administration in American history. I believe that  
>> indicted former agriculture secretary Mike Espy did not accept \$35,000  
>> in illegal favors from Tyson Foods and other regulated businesses. I  
>> believe that indicted former housing secretary Henry Cisneros did not  
>> lie to the FBI and tell others to lie to cover up \$250,000 in  
>> blackmail payments to his former mistress. I believe that convicted  
>> former associate attorney general Webster Hubbell was not involved in  
>> the obstruction of justice when the president's minions arranged for  
>> Hubbell to receive \$400,000 in sweetheart consulting deals at a time  
>> when he was reneging on his promise to cooperate with Kenneth Starr's  
>> Whitewater investigation.  
>> I believe Paula Jones is a cheap tramp who was asking for it. I  
>> believe Kathleen Willey is a cheap tramp who was asking for it. I  
>> believe Monica Lewinsky is a cheap tramp who was asking for it.  
>> I believe Lewinsky was fantasizing in her 20 hours of taped  
>> conversation in which she reportedly detailed her sexual relationship  
>> with the president and begged Linda Tripp to join her in lying about  
>> the relationship. I believe that any gifts, correspondence, telephone  
>> calls and the 37 post-employment White House visits that may have  
>> passed between Lewinsky and the president are evidence only of a  
>> platonic relationship; such innocent intimate friendships are quite  
>> common between middle-aged married men and young single women, and  
>> also between presidents of the United States and White House interns.  
>> I see nothing suspicious in the report that the president's intimate,

>> Vernon Jordan, arranged a \$40,000-per-year job for Lewinsky shortly  
>> after she signed but before she filed an affidavit saying she had not  
>> had sex with the president. Nor do I read anything into the fact that  
>> the ambassador to the United Nations, Bill Richardson, visited  
>> Lewinsky at the Watergate to offer her a job. I believe the  
>> instructions Lewinsky gave Tripp informing her on how to properly  
>> perjure herself in the Willey matter simply wrote themselves.  
>> I believe that The Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times, The New  
>> York Times, Newsweek, Time, U.S. News & World Report, ABC, CBS, NBC,  
>> CNN, PBS and NPR are all part of a vast right-wing conspiracy.  
>> Especially NPR.

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----- Headers -----

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Received: from relay25.mail.aol.com (relay25.mail.aol.com [172.31.109.25]) by  
air12.mail.aol.com (v38.1) with SMTP; Fri, 13 Feb 1998 11:40:17 -0500

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