

EDITORIAL RESPONSE
TO TOM PAUKIN EDITORIAL ON
"TALKIN' WITH PAUKIN"
July 23, 1985
Given by John Ben Sutter

TOM PAUKIN'S EDITORIAL COMMENTS OF
JULY 18TH CENTERED AROUND THE ANNOUNCEMENT
THAT DISTRICT ATTORNEY VIC FEAZELL HAS
HIRED AUSTIN ATTORNEY ROY MINTON TO
SERVE AS HIS COUNSEL IN A DEFENSE AGAINST
INVESTIGATIONS INTO FEAZELL'S OFFICIAL
ACTIVITIES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
SAFETY, THE FBI AND AN ASSISTANT U.S.
ATTORNEY. DISTRICT ATTORNEY FEAZELL
FLATLY STATES THAT NEITHER HE
NOR ANY MEMBER OF HIS STAFF HAVE
BEEN INVOLVED IN ANY OFFICIAL
MISCONDUCT. THE D.A. SAYS THE
INVESTIGATIONS ARE RETALIATORY
MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST HIM BY
OFFICIALS OF THE DPS AND FBI
FOR HIS INITIATING AN INVESTIGATION
INTO THE HENRY LEE LUCAS CONFESSION
SPREE...AN INVESTIGATION WHICH
PROVED, THROUGH DOCUMENTED EVIDENCE,
THAT LUCAS COULD NOT HAVE COMMITTED
THE MANY MURDERS TO WHICH HE
HAS CONFESSED. D.A. FEAZELL'S
LUCAS INVESTIGATION STEPPED ON
THE TOES OF SOME MIGHTY INFLUENTIAL
PEOPLE, AND SUDDENLY EVERY AGENCY
FROM THE WACO POLICE DEPARTMENT
TO THE DPS AND FBI IN TURN ARE
INVESTIGATING THE D.A. IT'S
SOMEWHAT REMINESCENT OF THE OLD
SCHOOL-YARD TACTIC WHERE IF YOU'RE
CAUGHT BY THE TEACHER DOING SOMETHING
WRONG, YOU IMMEDIATELY POINT
TO SOMEONE AND ACCUSE THEM TO
TAKE THE HEAT OFF YOU.

MR. PAUKIN HAS MADE MUCH OF THE FACT THAT ROY MINTON WAS THE LAWYER WHO DEFENDED STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL JIM MATTOX AGAINST GROUNDLESS CRIMINAL CHARGES EARLIER THIS YEAR. NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT, EXCEPT WHEN YOU START LOOKING AT THE SORT OF LANGUAGE MR. PAUKIN USES TO DESCRIBE THE LEGAL WORK MINTON DID FOR MR. MATTOX AND HAS BEEN HIRED TO DO FOR MR. FEAZELL. ACCORDING TO TOM PAUKIN, MINTON "GOT MATTOX OFF" IN THE CASE AND MINTON HELPED MATTOX "BEAT A CRIMINAL CHARGE." "GOT MATTOX OFF?!?" "BEAT A CRIMINAL CHARGE?!?" NOW DOES THAT CONJER UP CERTAIN NEGATIVE IMAGES IN YOUR MIND ABOUT THE OUTCOME OF THAT TRIAL? PAUKIN SAYS MATTOX "GOT OFF"...RATHER THAN "HE WON THE CASE." PAUKIN SAYS HE "BEAT THE WRAP"...RATHER THAN SAYING "HE WAS FOUND INNOCENT." MR. PAUKIN DOESN'T CARE TO MENTION THAT THE JURY TOOK ONLY 15 MINUTES TO FIND ATTORNEY GENERAL MATTOX INNOCENT OF THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM. HE DOES ENJOY POINTING OUT THAT IT COST MATTOX TWO-HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS TO DEFEND HIMSELF AGAINST THESE BASELESS CHARGES. NO, YOU CAN REALLY GET THE IMPRESSION THAT TOM PAUKIN DOESN'T LIKE JIM MATTOX OR VIC FEAZELL FROM HIS CHOICE OF NEGATIVE WORDS. WHY??? WELL, AS RADIO COMMENTATOR PAUL HARVEY MIGHT SAY, LET ME

TELL YOU "THE REST OF THE STORY."
MR. PAUKIN IS A LAWYER, NOT A
NEWSMAN. MR. PAUKIN IS ALSO
A POLITICIAN...AND AN UNSUCCESSFUL
CANDIDATE FOR PUBLIC OFFICE.
TOM PAUKIN ^{TWICE} RAN FOR CONGRESS
IN DALLAS ~~TWICE~~...HE WAS TWICE
SOUNDLY, ROUNDLY DEFEATED. MR. PAUKIN'S
OPPONENT WAS A FELLOW NAMED JIM
MATTOX. APPARENTLY THERE WASN'T
A LOVE LOSS BETWEEN TOM AND JIM
BACK THEN EITHER--THEN CONGRESSMAN
MATTOX DESCRIBED TOM PAUKIN AS
"A YOUNG NAZI" FOR SOME OF PAUKIN'S
CAMPAIGN TACTICS.

NOW WHAT HAPPENED IN A COUPLE
OF ~~TWICE~~ CONGRESSIONAL RACES *IN DALLAS*
A FEW YEARS AGO SHOULDN'T MATTER
HERE THAT MUCH, EXCEPT THAT NOW
TOM PAUKIN HAS A RADIO COMMENTARY
SHOW AND FOR 5 DAYS A WEEK, HE
CAN BLAST AWAY AT WHOMEVER HE
CHOOSES UNDER THE GUISE OF
JOURNALISM. NOW THAT D.A. FEAZELL
HAS BECOME INVOLVED WITH ATTORNEY
GENERAL MATTOX THROUGH THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL'S COOPERATION IN THE
LUCAS INVESTIGATION, IT SEEMS
THAT MR. PAUKIN...A RECENT IMMIGRANT
TO WACO FROM DALLAS VIA WASHINGTON...
HAS TRANSFERRED SOME OF HIS DISTASTE
FOR MR. MATTOX TO MR. FEAZELL.

TOM PAUKIN HAS BEEN FLYING UNDER
FALSE COLORS. MANY FOLKS WHO
LISTEN TO "TALKIN' WITH PAUKIN"
THINK TOM IS A JOURNALIST REPORTING
THE NEWS. WRONG, FELLOW WACOANS.

WHAT WE HAVE HERE IS A POLITICIAN
WHO HAS CLOAKED HIMSELF IN THE
GUISE OF A JOURNALIST TO PROMOTE
HIS OWN PERSONAL POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY
AND ATTACK HIS OWN POLITICAL
ENEMIES...ALL UNDER THE PROTECTIVE
BANNER OF A NEWSCAST.

TOM, YOU WERE AN UNSUCCESSFUL
CANDIDATE BEFORE. WHY NOW TRY
TO REPEAT THE PERFORMANCE AS
AN UNSUCCESSFUL JOURNALIST?