

My Unificationist Memoirs - Chapter 9

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As I worked in the Vietnamese community, my sense of mission and purpose deepened. So many Vietnamese and Americans had died in the struggle against communism, and in the end, we had simply abandoned our ally and dismissed their sacrifice. Because of my family ties to the Marine Corps (as much as the Catholic Church, the Corps was my community) I felt very strongly I was their representative as I pursued my "Home Church" mission. Let me digress...

I cannot emphasize enough, my own spiritual commitment, the heart I felt for God's providential struggle, had deep familial roots. Once, after I finished reading Whittaker Chambers' *Witness*, a memoir of his days as a Soviet spy and his association with the traitor and spy, Alger Hiss, I called my father and asked him if he had read the book. He recounted to me that, upon its publication in 1952, he had in fact, devoured it. At that time, China continued to suffer through Mao's bloody purges, the Korean War ground on, and the confrontation with the Soviets in Europe had become increasingly tense. After reading *Witness*, my father determined he would stay in the Marine Corps and make the struggle against communism his career. Everything in my family that followed, sprang from his commitment to this historical and providential task.

From that root, other circumstances in my family developed. After President Reagan was sworn into office, January 20, 1981, my younger sister, left her job in Congress and joined the White House Social Secretary's Office as the Deputy, a political appointment she would keep for the next 12 years, serving under both Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush. During the Clinton years, she happily went into exile, working first for the Japanese Ambassador in Washington D.C. and then Christine Todd Whitman in New Jersey. When George W. Bush took office in January 2001, my sister returned as the White House Social Secretary. Because of the demands of the job, she told President Bush she would only serve four years. If he were to be re-elected, she would not continue in that position. Her responsibilities allowed her to participate in some of history's most significant events at the close of the Cold War, including the Reagan-Gorbachev, and Bush-Gorbachev summits. On September 11, 2001, she was working in the White House in the administration of George W. Bush. She continued working as the White House Social Secretary until January 31, 2005.

As I have mentioned elsewhere, my younger brother, a Marine officer, served at Marine Barracks 8th and I, in Washington DC. Subsequently, he was sent to Notre Dame Law School, where he studied law from 1982-85. In the final semester of his course of study, he obtained a legal internship on the National Security Council, where he shared an office with another Marine, Lt. Col. Oliver North. After graduation, my brother received orders to the NSC legal shop for the next three years. He could not have been thrown into the thick of it at a more tumultuous time. He and Lt. Col. North continued to share an office, and a secretary, Fawn Hall. As the Iran-Contra scandal exploded, none of the investigators could believe that two Marines could be so close and not be complicit. My brother went through a living legal hell as the FBI, the Department of Justice, congressional investigators subjected him to rounds of depositions and interrogations. A critical bit of exonerating evidence came from the testimony of North and Hall that, when they were shredding documents on that infamous Saturday morning, he walked into the room, said nothing and walked out. The prosecutors were looking for even the smallest action on my brother's part to incriminate him. After three years navigating the NSC inferno, a truly grueling ordeal as he had to continue to work on assigned legal matters while defending himself, he asked to return to the fleet. Happily, he shipped out to the 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton, where he served with the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade during Operation Desert Storm. After several intermediate assignments, my brother ended up advising the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Charles "Chuck" Krulak, on environmental and Land Use matters. Interestingly, my father had served with Lt. General Victor "Brute" Krulak, the Commandant's father, a WWII, Korea, and Vietnam Marine. The son had then served with both my father (and my mother, in the office of Senator John Warner of Virginia), and now my brother was serving with the son. In 1998, my brother took command of the Marine Security Guard Battalion which included 20 US Embassy and Consulate Marine Security Guard Detachments for Central Europe and the former Soviet Republics, including Central Asia. Ultimately, my brother stood up 12 new security detachments in addition to the initial 20, as the Central Asian governments established relations with the United States. In 2000, with broad experience in the nations emerging from the dissolution of the Soviet Union, my brother returned to the National Security Council as deputy legal counsel, then director, until he assumed the role as chief counsel of the House International Relations Committee in April 2003, under Chairman Henry Hyde, Republican of Illinois. My brother remained there until 2006, when he became Deputy Director of Citizenship and Immigration Services. In April 2008, he became Acting Director of CSIS until the end of the Bush Administration.

At one point, during the Reagan Administration, there were three Scharfens working in the White House. My sister, my brother, and my father. After retiring from the Marine Corps in 1973, my father went to work first for Stanford Research Institute and then another "think tank," Titan. In his capacity as a "contractor," he labored in the basement of the White House, in the White House Situation Room. He has never discussed with us the details of his work, however, his expertise being Soviet Military Doctrine and Urban Warfare, as well as Economic Warfare, one could make a few assumptions. His works on those

subjects are still available on Amazon. Photos below.



To: Jack Scharfen 6-12-92
We think the world of Cathy!! Happy Birthday
on our shared day of birth! C. B. L.



To Jack
With our best wishes Nancy & Ronald Reagan



To Jonathan Scharfen - With Appreciation + Very
Best Wishes - Sincerely
Ronald Reagan

