RESTORE JOHN FORD!!!

1) UFO RESEARCHER ACCUSED OF PLOT AGAINST POLITICIANS
Key Figure In "Radium Plot" Heads Long Island UFO Network

RIVERHEAD, N.Y. (Reuter) - Investigators uncovered an apparent plot to assassinate several Long Island, New York, local politicians with radioactive material, Suffolk County authorities said on Thursday, June 13.

District Attorney James Catterson told a news conference that two men had been arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit murder. The alleged plot was "something out of a novel," he said, with radioactive material and weapons discovered in a house in Bellport, Long Island.

Catterson said one of the suspects, 47-year-old John Ford, was soliciting people to use radium isotope against Suffolk County Republican Party leader John Powell when an informant alerted the District Attorney's office on Wednesday. Ford was then recorded on tape outlining the plot.

Catterson described Ford as a former court officer and president of the Long Island UFO Network [LIUFON]. The other man arrested was identified as 42-year-old Joseph Mazzachelli of Manorville, but no further information was available on him.

"The plot was where an individual obsessed with hatred for mainstream political figures, with ballistics people would spread radioactive material in the seat of [the victim's] car, in his food or some proximity to him in the hope that he would contract incurable diseases and cause his death," Catterson said.

Apart from Powell, others targeted included two other Republicans, county legislator Fred Towle and Brookhaven public safety director Anthony Gazzola.

Long Island is the political stronghold of Republican Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, but he was not on the plotters' list.

Investigators found five canisters of radium, a low-level radioactive material, in Ford's home, Catterson said.

"Any potential threat to public health and safety has been eliminated, "Catterson said in a statement. "There is no danger to the community and the material has been removed to a facility capable of its proper disposal."

Investigators also found a cache of rifles and handguns, ammunition, a mine sweeper, gas mask and assorted militia literature, the Suffolk County District Attorney said. It was not known whether the men belonged to a militia.

A third suspect was arrested Friday [June 14] in the alleged plot. Police found a small quantity of radium and weapons in the Medford, New York home of Edward Zabo, who was taken into custody, officials said.

Further arrests were expected, officials said.

The John Ford Affair
From The Unopened Files of UFO Magazine

John Ford founded the Long Island UFO Network in 1985. He investigated UFO sightings and alleged abductions; he

held public meetings and sponsored conferences; leafleted and organized demonstrations. He also produced The Long Island UFO newsletter, which was regularly received and enjoyed by enthusiasts around the globe.

It was in this newsletter that he first wrote of an extraordinary incident, which alleged that a UFO had been shot down in 1989 by American military forces over Moriches Bay in Long Island. He later claimed that he uncovered details of a similar crash in 1992 in South Haven Park and when an unidentified object reportedly came to grief in the Pine Barrens region of Long Island.

Three years later, he insisted that flares in the region had been deliberately lit to act as a diversion. Despite consistent details by the authorities that there was anything untoward in any of these incidents, John persisted I his claims, insisting that his sources were real and his sources sincere.

He spoke of having gleaned his information from the officials within the New York City Police and Fire Departments; of members of the public who claimed to have seen a fireball descend into South Haven Park. John Ford simply wouldn’t take no for an answer and became a genuine thorn in the side of the authorities. He repeated his allegation through public meetings and demonstrations held outside police headquarters.

The Arrest

On 12 June 1996, John Ford was arrested in what police later described as a classic "sting operation" this followed the use of telephone taps and a paid police informant who was wired to monitor and record conversations. The story is long and very complex.

To make the long story short, John was arrested for possessing uranium without a license and conspiring to murder John Powell, leader of the Suffolk County Republican Party by placing radioactive radium in Powell’s toothpaste!

New York UFO activist John Ford is languishing in jail awaiting trial for conspiracy. The circumstances of his arrest and past involvement with as alleged UFO crash-retrieval incident at Moriches Bay, Long Island, are profoundly disturbing.

If allegations of a conspiracy to discredit John Ford have any foundation at all, it must mean that what he and other colleagues stumbled across as UFO researchers was of such tremendous significance that the authorities HAD to shut them up!

UFOs/Aliens with Loy Lawhon

John Ford, former president of the Long Island UFO Network (LIUFON), graduated from St. John's University in Queens in 1971 with a degree in philosophy. After graduation, he started to work at the Brooklyn criminal court while earning a master's degree in public administration. In 1982, he transferred to Riverhead courts in Suffolk County, Long Island.

Ford's friends depict him as the type of person who adopted dogs from the pound and who wept when he accidentally ran over a cat. He is said to have delivered supplies when Hurricane Gloria hit the east coast. Ford dated and was engaged

twice, but he never married. He lived with his mother, Catherine Ford, at Bellport, Long Island.

In the 1970s, Ford became active in local Suffolk County politics, forming a Conservative Party group and supporting his mother in her bids for highway superintendentand county legislato. By 1985, however, he had become frustrated with Republican-dominated Suffolk County politics and turned his attention elsewhere.

In the mid-eighties, after reading reports of the Hudson Valley UFO sightings and the local UFO wave in the press, Ford decided to launch the Long Island UFO Network with his friend Richard Stout and others. The group investigated UFO sightings and abduction cases, held public meetings and sponsored conferences, and passed out leaflets and organized demonstrations. They also produced the Long Island UFO Newsletter.

"Beginning in 1982, the counties of Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Duchess and Westchester in this up-state region were inundated with some 5,000 reports of large boomerang-shaped flying objects."

In 1987 and 1988, Ford and Stout investigated a series of animal mutilations on Long Island, includingstrange mutilations of dogs, cat, sheep, deer, goats and cows. Reports came in to LIUFON of mutilated animals that had been drained of blood. Ford claimed that he had discovered that the Federal Government, the FBI, and local police were working with the District Attorney's office to determine the cause of the mutilations. According to him, soon afterward the 42nd Aviation Battalion of the New York State National Guard began holding night exercises in areas where the mutilations and UFO activity had been reported.

One of Ford's more important investigations was that of the story that the military shot down and then retrieved an alien spacecraft at Moriches Bay, Long Island on September 28, 1989. Moriches Bay is the same area in which TWA Flight 800 exploded in 1996.

In April 1990, Ford purportedly met with a Brookhaven Research Laboratory scientist known only as Dr. 'Nick'. A second meeting took place in August of that year. At both meetings, Dr. 'Nick' stated that the United States had shot down a boomerang-shaped UFO over Moriches Bay on the night of 28 September 1989.

Apparent UFO activity on Long Island began to increase. In 1993, Ford claimed that an alien space craft had crashed into a remote area of Southaven Park in Shirley on the night of November 24, 1992. This time, he had a video that he claimed was made by a fireman who was involved in the crash recovery. The poor quality video showed some men examining a bright reddish, metallic-type object about four feet square.

In 1995, an unidentifiedobject reportedly crashed in the Pine Barrens region of Long Island. Ford insisted that fires in the region had been deliberatelylit to act as a diversion while a UFO was recovered.

Ford became increasinglyparanoid in 1996, claiming that his phone was tapped and that he and his colleagueswere being harassed by local police and other, unknown persons.

The Arrest

In June 1996 Ford was arrested on charges of conspiracy to murder local Republicanofficials John Powell, Fred Towle and Anthony Gazzola by doctoring their toothpaste and their cars with radium. Ford was right about his phone being tapped - the main evidence against him was a taped phone call to a police informant. People who have heard the recording say that Ford and the informant discuss the radium poisoningscheme and then laugh heartily as if it were a joke. Arrested with Ford was Joseph Mazzachelli, and the next day a third suspect, Edward Zabo, was arrested in Medford, New York. Zabo was an electrical inspector at military contractor Northrop Grumman. The three men were all members of the Long Island UFO Network. The group has accused the government of covering up sightings of extraterrestrials. Zabo, a former Defense Department employee, had provided the radium, and Ford was supposed to plant it.

The intended victims of the plot could not say why the three wanted to kill them. Mazzachelli was a convicted burglar, and Zabo had been arrested twice for driving

while intoxicated and may have had some tax troubles. In the raid on Ford's home in Bellport, police seized dozens of weapons and thousands of rounds of ammunition. Friends said Ford was a gun collector. Police also found what they and the media described as "militia" literature. However, actual militia ties are dubious.

In 1997, a Suffolk County Court judge ordered that Ford be sent to an upstate New York mental hospital, where he remains today. Three psychiatrists and a psychologist, two hired by District Attorney James M. Catterson Jr.'s office, examined Ford and all four concluded that he was not competent to stand trial. Robert H. Berger, director of Forensic Psychiatry at Bellevue Hospital Center, said that while Ford seemed to understand his legal predicament, he thought the criminal case against him was in reality an intelligenceoperation being run by the CIA together with the Israeli intelligenceagency *Mossad*.

Respondingto an article about himself in Saucer Smear, Ford wrote:

My case is a frame-up and a smear tactic to destroy my UFO organizationand to neutralize my effectiveness.

The main reason I'm sitting here is due to the fact that I hadinformation indicating that the 1995 East End Forest Fires had been deliberatelyset to cover up the crash of a large disc near Suffolk Community College, south of Riverhead (Long Island). The County was asked to set fires near the crash site, to keep people out of the area; but dirty politics being the case, the Republicanleadership , in an effort to gain control of Pine Barrens properties, set Forest Fires South of Sunrise Highway in populated areas near the coveted land. I was able to document some of this. While doing so, I was targeted for eliminationby the politicians . I had several attempts on my life fail, due to the intervention of Israeli intelligence, which protected me for some 3 1/2 months.

Yes, it's true what I said. There is a heavy intelligencepresence involved in my case. The man to talk to about it all is Preston Nichols. ... He can give you a briefing on the various aspects of the case ...

Preston Nichols, also a LIUFON member, is the same Preston Nichols of Montauk Project fame.

What happenedhere ? Was Ford getting too close to something he shouldn't have, or had he been delusionalfor years ?

The Brookhaven Connection by Wade Gordon

One story that has emerged in the national press in the U.S. concerns the crash of Flight 800 in July 1996. Two investigators got themselves into trouble by revealing there were traces of a reddish-orange residue on the seat fabric that was consistent with rocket or missile fuel. The suspicion was that the Brookhaven complex was using some sort of particle beam weapon to activate or explode a missile which brought down the airliner. Then there was the curious case of another investigator, UFO researcher John Ford, who was supposedly working on a book exposing corrupt political connections at Brookhaven. He was arrested and accused of a plot to kill powerful RepublicanwheelhorseJohn Powell. He was never given a proper trial and was incarcerated in a psychiatric hospital where he remains to this day, very likely a victim of his own curiosity about what is really hidden at Brookhaven. Something to do with UFOs certainly, and perhaps even explorations into hyperspace and time travel as well.

From: **Alfred Lehmberg <Lehmberg@snowhill.com>**
Date: Sat, 04 Sep 1999 14:50:47 -0500
Fwd Date: Sun, 05 Sep 1999 11:55:14 -0400
Subject: Re: John Ford?

>From: Martin Jeffrey <martin-j@lineone.net>
>To: <hauntedscotland@listbot.com>
>Subject: John Ford?
>Date: Sat, 4 Sep 1999 16:30:28 +0100

>I am currently writing an article about people involved with the
>paranormal who have become suspects or have been convicted of
>murder or related crimes.

>I have enough information for my article but I have a number of
>questions about John Ford of the Long Island UFO Network and the
>South Haven "UFO crash".

>Has anybody seen or know of anybody who has seen the footage
>allegedlysent to the LIUFON containing footage of the alien
>crash and alien retreival? Where has the video and photographs
>gone?

>What has happenedto Joe Mazzuchelli and Edward ------- ?
>who was arrested along with John.
>
>Is there facts relating to this case that I should know? I wish
>to give a balanced account of John's arrest and would be
>grateful for any information sent.
>
>Cheers
>
>Martin Jeffrey
>Mystery Magazine

Sir -- a search turns up precious little. I'm morethan a little interested in this myself. If you hear anything please echo it to the list, or in an E-mail to me.

John Ford's accuser, and the impetus behind his incarceration, John Powell, is involved in an imbroglio of his own regarding criminal conspiracy and the racketeering of his unethical political machine. This is proven, and not contested, while the facts, conditions, and situation of John Ford remains to be extremely bizarre, contrived, and unlikely. Powell had a reason to avoid investigation of _any_ type. Ford was only taking advantage of a constitutional right to perform that lawfully executed investigation. I think it's enough to stroke your beard and say -- "hmmm."

Please let me know what you find.

Lehmberg@snowhill.com

There's been some reference here regarding the incarcaration of LIUFON's John Ford. While browsing Graham Birdsall's UK UFO Magazine at:

http://www.ufomag.co.uk/

I came across the following.

ebk

THE JOHN FORD AFFAIR

As you read this, New York UFO activist John Ford is languishing in jail awaiting trial for conspiracy. The circumstances of his arrest and past involvement with an alleged UFO crash-retrieval incident at Moriches Bay, Long Island, are profoundly disturbing.

BACKGROUND

John Ford founded the Long Island UFO Network in 1985. He investigated UFO sightings and alleged abductions; held public meetings and sponsored conferences; leafleted and organised demonstrations. He also produced the Long Island UFO Newsletter, which was regularly received and enjoyed by enthusiasts around the globe.

It was in that newsletter that he first wrote of an extraordinary incident which alleged that a UFO had been shot down in 1989 by

American military forces over Moriches Bay in Long Island.

He later claimed to have uncovered details of a similar crash in 1992 in South Haven Park and when an unidentifiedobject reportedly came to grief in the Pine Barrens region of Long Island three years later, he insisted that fires in the region had been deliberatelylit to act as a diversion.

Despite consistent denials by the authorities that there was anything untoward in any of these incidents, John persisted in his claims, insisting that his sources were real and their stories sincere.

He spoke of having gleaned his information from officials within the New York City Police and Fire Departments; of members of the public who claimed to have seen a fireball descend into South Haven Park.

John Ford simply wouldn't take no for an answer and became a genuine thorn in the side of the authorities. He repeated his allegationsthrough public meetings and demonstrations held outside police headquarters.

THE ARREST

On 12 June 1996, John Ford was arrested in what Police later described as a classic 'sting' operation. This followed the use of telephone taps and a paid police informant who was 'wired' to monitor and record conversations.

Almost a year earlier, Ford had confided to close friends and associates that he was convinced he was the victim of a deliberate plot to harass him. He went so far as to claim that the plot might entail his penultimate murder.

Shortly after his arrest, Suffolk District Attorney James Catterson, told journalists gathered for the press briefing that Ford had been charged with conspiracy to murder and possession of radium without a license.

The intended murder victim was alleged to be none other than John Powell, leader of the Suffolk County RepublicanParty. The means by which Ford intended to carry out the act? By placing radioactive radium in Powell's toothpaste...

District Attorney Catterson held two press conferences and compared the significance of Ford's arrest to that of the infamous Unabomber. Other charges made at the time against Ford were subsequently dropped, but the conspiracy to murder charge was deemed serious enough for the Judge in the case to deem that Ford's bail would be set at half-a-million dollars. Needless to say, neither he nor his friends could raise such an amount and Ford remains incarcerated in jail awaiting trial.

Surprisingly to some, he has issued no statement other than to plead "not guilty" when the charges were first put to him.

Towards the end of last year, several concerned parties invoked greater public awareness of Ford's plight by placing supportive articles in prestigious UFO publicationssuch as America's MUFON (Mutual UFO Network) Journal (November 1996 issue) and the Internet. They formed the aptly named John Ford Defence Committee and began a fund raising campaign to help with his legal defence. They also publicly appealedfor an expert psychiatrist, professional audiotape analyst and Long Island-based private investigator to volunteer their efforts.

Those on the Committee are convinced of Ford's innocence and cite numerous incidents and strange occurrences which led them to that conclusion.

According to Committee Member Elaine Douglas, none of the media mentioned claims of harassment by Ford and other LIUFON members at the time of his arrest, nor she says, a higher than average rate of auto-accidents experiencedby Ford and his colleagues. Members had their vehicles vandalisedand one in particular, Joe Mazzuchelli, is said to have been dragged out of his vehicle the previous winter and physically beaten by four men who told him to "stay out of our business". Mazzuchelli was arrested with John Ford on 12 June.

WHAT DID JOHN FORD UNCOVER?

Ford, like many UFO researchers the world over, could only have dreamed of the possibility that he might one day stumble across a major UFO incident on his 'patch', at which he could assume the role of leading investigator. The 1989 Moriches Bay incident appeared to have afforded him such an opportunity.

His investigation of that particular affair contained a suggestion that the technology used to bring down the purported alien spacecraft originated at Brookhaven National Laboratory, based on Long Island.

Elaine Douglas avoids the re-telling of what Ford uncovered about the three incidents in her campaign literature, preferring instead to concentrate on the man, and what she perceives to be a case of injustice.

She does include a curious coincidenceabout Moriches Bay, which may or may not offer food for thought. It was here that Ford alleged a UFO had been brought down in 1989, but it is also the spot where TWA Flight 800 mysteriously crashed in August last year.

The cause of that disaster has thus far eluded Federal Law enforcement and aviation investigators, despite twenty eye-witness accounts from people who claim to have seen an unaccountablelight streaking towards the 747 aircraft moments before it exploded.

Ford's knowledgeof the legal system, put to such good effect in his legitimate street demonstrations, stemmed from a career as a court official working at the Suffolk County Court. Those who knew him are adamant he was not capable of conspiring to murder anyone - it simply wasn't in his character.

"You can't believe how many people have called me to say they can't envision John Ford killing anyone, or even conceiving the intention," said his attorney John Rouse.

He scoffs at the suggestion that Ford could covertly enter the Powell householdof four people , select the particular toothpaste used by the man of the house and implant radium in order to kill him.

Elaine Douglas points out that in the 1920's, radium-dial painters used to lick their brushes out of habit and it took 40 years before anyone contracted cancer.

She asked: "Was Ford going to break in and put radium in Powell's toothpaste every week for 40 years until he got cancer?"

The prosecution's arguments are further strained she argues by their contention that the illegal radium was kept hidden by Ford in the back of his pick-up truck, which was always parked at the front of his house.

District Attorney Catterson labelledFord a "mastermind " at the press briefings, at which he raised further serious charges where no indictments were subsequently returned.

"This," said John Rouse, "is called poisoningthe jury pool."

The police arrested Ford immediately following a conversation that took place between their informant, Ford and Mazzuchelli. The informant was 'wired' and, it's claimed, recorded a discussion in which Ford and Mazzuchelli both spoke about doing away with Powell and another local politician through the use of radium in toothpaste. A copy of the tape was eventually handed over to Ford's attorney and according to LIUFON's Preston Nichols "is unintelligible". Nichols said, "All I can clearly hear on that tape is the informant talking and John laughing, like whatever they're talking about is a big joke."

Attorney Rouse is hoping to get the tape enhanced, but admits the plight of both men is serious. If found guilty, either could be jailed for between 25 and 75 years in an upstate New York prison.

Elaine Douglas has had run-ins with the Suffolk County Police before. In April 1993 she wrote to them complainingof police violation of LIUFON member's civil rights.

Apparently they had been prevented from leafleting near South Haven Park by the police who told them they must leave the area. The house to house leafleting had been organised to seek out potential witnesses in what was described by Douglas as a "witness-constitutionally protected activity".

The John Ford Defence Committee's support for Ford "..is based on our conviction that he did not, would not, and could not conspire to murder anyone," said Elaine Douglas. "On this point our support is complete and total," she added.

What though of Ford's claims that a low intense military conflict exists between the United States and aliens? Is that possible? "Yes, it is," according to Douglas.

"I speak only for myself and not for other members of the Defence Committee," she said. "I always found John's allegationshard to believe but impossible to dismiss because he had evidence what he claimed was perfectly possible.

"Just because John's allegations'fit' doesn't make them true, but the fact is John had evidence. He claimed three events on Long Island - even if he was wrong on two of them, if he was right on only one, John had a tiger by the tail. If so, it's no surprise somebody would try to destroy John Ford."

"He is the first UFO investigator to be seriously persecuted by the authorities. Shall we sit idly by while our colleague's life is destroyed? If John Ford is silenced, who is next?"

AN INDEPENDENT VIEWPOINT

We invited New York resident Alan Raven to offer his opinions about the affair and he wrote the following:

I did attend a one-day presentation in the summer of 1994 given by the Long Island group about the 1992 (South Haven Park) incident.

As I expected, it was overly long at nine hours and was ragged, rambling and generally unprofessional. However, the group had done a tremendous amount of work, beginningon the evening of the incident.

At the time of the presentation the investigation was still on-going, and involved mapping, interviews, collection of what might have been bits of wreckage, on-ground searches, surveys, and even a couple of aerial searches.

The group claimed there was a collision of sorts at 90,000ft. At

least two vehicles came to earth and wreckage was spread over a wide area.

One object crashed near the South Shore in South Haven Park (which in reality is a pine forest) after passing low over a main highway (Sunrise Highway) and was seen close-up by several motorists.

The object (described as a rod) passed out of sight. Shortly afterwards there was an explosion followed immediately by a large fire that lit up the night sky.

A second object came to earth in the grounds of Brookhaven National Laboratory, a few miles to the north of the South Haven Park site. After being grounded for several hours the object exploded as it tried to take off.

The Long Island group obtained videotape from a source which they refused to name. The first video was taken at the South Haven Park by (they claimed) a fireman who was one of the first on the scene. These firemen arrived before government forces came and the video was of course confiscated.

The group's copy came (they say) from a government source. The video, which is of very poor quality and taken at night, shows figures being moved and laid out. It also purports to show (in part close-up) an insectoid figure.

The second video clip, from the same source, shows an explosion of some sort that appears to be associated with a building, or object, or craft. The group claimed it was a disc or lifeboat type of craft that came down in the grounds of Brookhaven.

I have seen both video clips several times. They were interesting but unfortunately not definitive, even after enhancement.

After sitting through the presentation I came away having no doubt that something very important did happen that night, and that the government came down with an iron-fist within one hour of the event. There was in addition, a great deal of trace evidence spread over large areas.

CONSPIRACY? WHAT CONSPIRACY?

All those closest to John Ford have demonstrated beyond any reasonabledoubt that his track record as a UFO 'activist' is probably second to none.

'He investigated UFO sightings and alleged abductions; held public meetings and sponsored conferences; leafleted and organized demonstrations. He also produced the Long Island UFO Newsletter, which was regularly received and enjoyed by enthusiasts around the globe.'

Some find it rather odd therefore, that a man who argued so vociferously to make his point, who proclaimed he was being harassed by the authorities, should now utter nothing more than two words following his arrest. Other than "not guilty" he has issued no statement which could have been used by the Defence Committee to bolster their campaign.

Of course Ford might well be acting on instructions issued by his defense attorney to 'say nothing until the trial' - a perfectly reasonableand common practice.

Elaine Douglas raises claims of harassment, beatings, burglaries, auto accidents and vandalism, but where is the corroboration? Were reports filed to the police in all these instances?

How much radium did the police find? High quantities might just

take slightly less than 40 years to have lethal effects.

Were the police acting unconstitutionallyin preventing leafleting campaigns? Some say not - especially if a neighbourhood had signs that prohibited such activity. If a resident complainedto the police they would be duty bound to act.

Until the trial takes place, one can only speculate as to what might emerge in terms of evidence presented by both defence and prosecution attorneys which will hopefully answer these and many other questions.

If allegationsof a conspiracy to discredit John Ford have any foundation at all, it must mean that what he and other colleagues stumbled across as UFO researchers was of such tremendous significance that the authorities had to shut them up.

So what exactly did happen? The UnopenedFiles re-traced the events as reported by Ford and his colleaguesseveral years ago. Few listened to him at the time, but now you have an opportunity to make a balanced judgement for yourselves...

JOHN POWELL WAS DIRTY!!!

Powell Sentenced to 27 Months

Former Suffolk GOP leader silent as prison term is handed down

By Edward W. Lempinen
Staff Writer

HE WAS A BRASH and outspoken political leader whose words once fired the passions of his troops, but John Powell was quiet today as a federal judge sentenced him to two years and three months in prison on corruption charges.

As Powell listened without expression and his wife Linda wiped away tears in the gallery behind him, U.S. District Judge Jacob Mishler gave Powell the minimum term for his involvement in a truck-theft ring and extortion at the Brookhaven landfill.

Powell attorney Benjamin Brafman sought leniency for the former Suffolk Republicanleader , describing him as "a fundamentally good person who has committed a bad act."

But Assistant U.S. Attorney George Stamboulidis accused defense attorneys of wrongly painting Powell as the fallen hero of a "Greek tragedy."

"Sadly, this is the same old story of a political boss' betrayal of public trust and an abuse of power driven by greed," he told the court. Powell "engaged in systematic corruption for personal gain, abused his leadershiprole and sold out the trust he had solicited and gained from the hardworkingpeople of Suffolk County."

Under terms of the sentence, Powell must also give up his interest in four Mack trucks that had been stolen and purchased for GP Trucking Inc., owned by Powell's brother George. He must also pay $16,000 restitution to a company that insured one of the trucks that was stolen and later recovered.

Powell will be free until June 5, when he must report to federal authorities for assignment to a minimum security prison. But he may actually spend much less than 27 months behind bars.

With time off for good behavior the sentence could be reduced to about 23 months, and Powell could be eligiblefor release to a halfway house in the year before his term ends.

from: Kinging the Kingmaker
Suffolk seeks a new GOP chairman
By David North

The last power broker for Suffolk's GOP was former Chairman John Powell of Bellport. Before his fall and imprisonment on charges of extortion and racketeering (involving pay-offs at the Brookhaven landfill and his association with a stolen car-and-truck parts operation), Powell was also chairman of the GOP in Brookhaven, Suffolk's largest town (as big as all of Nassau County). No one currently on the scene has the sort of clout Powell enjoyed as chairman of both committees. Town organizationstoday are powerful and less influenced by the county chair.

Is Suffolk's D.A. doing his job or abusing power?

Dear Editor:

Your coverage of the trial of Douglas Jacob and Ron Kluesener was both fair and well done. I did not attend the trial but felt that your reporting portrayed it so that I had a good sense of what was going on.

The political abuses of James Catterson seemed to reach so far in this case that I could not accept the process without further comment. Catterson's zeal when it comes to getting Supervisor Richard Schaffer surfaced throughout this entire episode. Here he decided to use his position uncaring about the effect on the families and reputations of the people involved. He simply did not have a case.

Now it appears that he is trying to get two other political foes, Suffolk County Sheriff Patrick Mahoney and former Undersheriff Edward Morris.

It must be asked why he continues to hound his political enemies while the abuses of John Powell went unheededall the while, so much so that the federal government had to step in and take action from Washington to uncover that corruption.

He seems to have unlimited funding from our taxes to "get" people and break them while they deplete their savings in their own defense. Catterson's taint really deserves a further look by his own party, who will share that stain as long as they continue to back him.

His reputation for wanton abuse of power is such that I ask you to do something I have never asked before. Please withhold my name.

Massapequa
POST