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Subject: James Pinkerton, courtesy of the Konformist

NOTE: Either you requested to receive a subscription to this e-mail, or someone else recommended you to be placed on this list. If you are interested in a free subscription, please e-mail Robalini@aol.com with the subject: I NEED TO KONFORM. (Okay, you can use something else, but it's a cool catch phrase.) Please e-mail me back with subject: CANCEL KONFORMIST if you're not interested in receiving this. Thanks, Robert Sterling.

The following comes from James Pinkerton, who for some bizarre reason has decided to have his reputation smeared by even being remotely associated with me. He's a consistent supplier to the "Column Right" of the L.A. Times. I think the label of "right" may be a bit unfair: all and all, he's more of a libertarian than a conservative, although some consider that a minor distinction. More problematic than his alleged right-wing beliefs is the fact that the L.A. Times even prints his stuff: after all, that makes him mainstream. That being the case, I suggest you trust this guy only a little more than you would the Dallas Cowboys with a kilo of coke, a private hotel, and the number to a nearby "escort service". But seriously, I'm not one to bite the hand that feeds me. Okay, maybe I am. But I'd like to thank Mr. Pinkerton anyway for his encouraging words, his info and leads on a prospective piece on KGB and communist operations in America, as well as these two articles. "Mainstream" or not, I'll say this for Mr. Pinkerton: if his writing is nothing more than right-wing BS, at least he's excellent in writing it. And at least he doesn't have that annoying habit of pretending to like baseball to fake that he's a man, like other writers I will not mention here. Well, enough said. Take it away, Mr. Pinkerton.

Anthony Lake wants to be the next Director of Central Intelligence. As the title suggests, the job consists of more than just running the CIA; the director is, by statute and tradition, charged with coordinating the flow of data from across the civilian and military "intel community." In the wake of the Aldrich Ames case, counter-intelligence--catching foreign spies--is particularly vital. And so Lake's own words should disqualify him for the post of DCI. On the November 24 "Meet the Press" Lake was asked: "Do you believe Alger Hiss was a spy?" To which he responded, "I've read a couple of books that certainly offered a lot of evidence that he may have been. I don't think it's conclusive." To most people, the Hiss case--which dates back to 1948, when Whittaker Chambers accused Hiss, a former high-ranking State Department official, of being a Soviet agent--is ancient history. But ancient or not, if anything on this earth is conclusive, it's Hiss's guilt. Although never tried for espionage, he was convicted of perjury and through years of appeals, some 20 judges let that verdict stand. Decades later, Smith College academic Allen Weinstein set out to prove that Hiss, as he had claimed all along, been framed by red-baiting witch hunters at the FBI. Yet the evidence was so overwhelming that Weinstein changed his mind. In his 1978 book, Perjury: The Hiss-Chambers Case, the author concluded, "The

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