

on the Steinem --CIA connection

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Who's Who in America
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"Redstocking" press
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This is Gloria Steinem's background from the late 1950's and early 60's. She functioned as a secret representative of the American government abroad. At least she was representing certain American interests and her activities in the "Independent Research Service" involved her inextricably with the US domestic political intelligence network. Another fact, exhumed by the "Redstockings", is the group's publication of a pamphlet in 1959 called "A Review of Negro Segregation in the United States." Steinem's name is listed on the inside cover, this time as Co-Director of the "Independent Research Service."

The pamphlet focuses on the supposed advances made by Black people in the US. For example, 1968 when Ramparts broke another story. This time they disclosed that the CIA had plans for their own for

another World Youth Festival to be held in Sofia, Bulgaria. A scandal involving some confidential letters implicating the CIA which found their way into print before the festival had the effect of curtailing the CIA's plans for youths in Sofia.

It was during the following year, 1969-70, that Gloria Steinem first began publicly identifying herself with the women's movement. Around this same time "Redstocking" researchers noted, there was a change in the biographical information listed about Steinem in Who's Who. Reportedly, Who's Who sends data sheets to their subjects, requesting them to furnish the details.

The 1968-69 edition was the first issue ever mentioning Steinem and at the time she was listed as "Director, educational foundation, 'Independent Research Service,' Cambridge, Mass., NYC,

1959-62, now member Board of Directors, Washington."

By the 1970 edition Who's Who, this entry was shorted to "Director, educational foundation...1959-60." No mention of her position in Washington on the Board of Directors appears and she abbreviated her term of employment with the "Independent Research Service" to one year. The censored version appears in each successive edition of Who's Who.

There does seem to be an attempt, on Steinem's part, to mislead Ms. Readers and conceal parts of her past. For instance, her bio-blurb in the June, 1973, Ms. is even vaguer: "Gloria Steinem has been a freelance writer all her professional life...Ms. magazine is her first full-time salaried job."

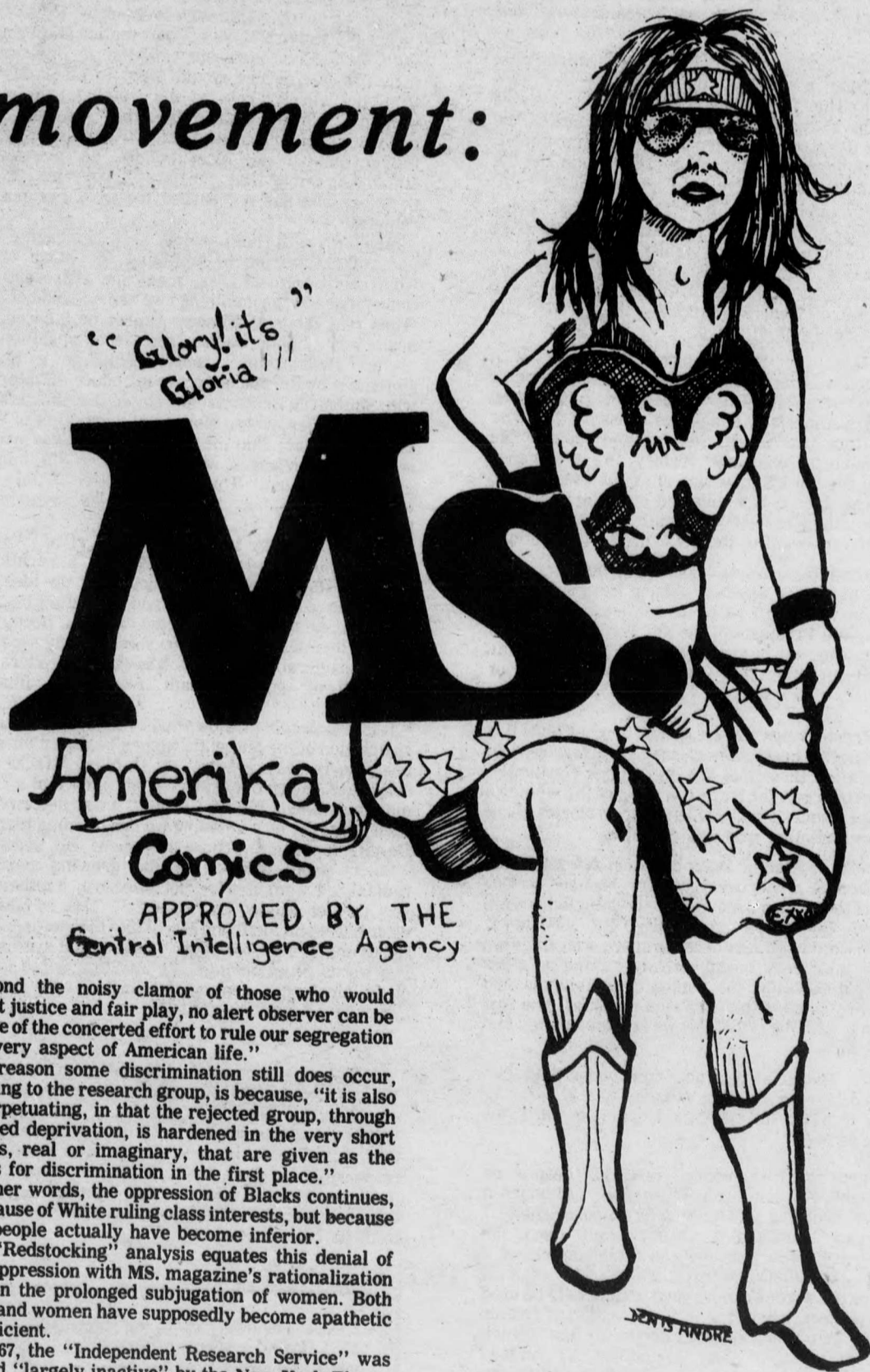
Then there is Gloria Steinem's mysteriously swift rise to national prominence so soon after the 1967 exposures. It is a common complaint among ex-CIA agents that past involvement with the Agency often impedes their ability to find other forms of employment. This was not the case for Steinem. Again, according to the "Redstockings:"

"Her career skyrocketed a year after the 1967 exposures. Much of the credit for this must go to Clay Felker, publisher of New York magazine. Recently in the news for his acquisition of the Village Voice, Felke, immediately fired its two remaining founders from their jobs as publisher and editor.

"Felker was Steinem's editor at Esquire where her first free-lance pieces were published. He hired her as contributing editor to New York magazine in 1968 and booked publicity spots for her on the radio and TV talk shows. Felker put up the money for the preview issue of Ms. in January 1972, a large part of which appeared as a supplement to the 1971 yearend issue of New York magazine.

"In effect, it was Felker who made Steinem famous by giving her a platform from which to establish her women's liberation credentials. These facts are all part of the public record. What has not been widely known up to this time are the earlier political roots of the Steinem-Felker collaboration. Felker was with Steinem at the Helsinki Youth Festival, editing the English language newspaper, put out by the CIA-financed delegation."

Misleading the women's movement:



"...beyond the noisy clamor of those who would obstruct justice and fair play, no alert observer can be unaware of the concerted effort to rule our segregation from every aspect of American life."

The reason some discrimination still does occur, according to the research group, is because, "it is also self-perpetuating, in that the rejected group, through continued deprivation, is hardened in the very short comings, real or imaginary, that are given as the reasons for discrimination in the first place."

In other words, the oppression of Blacks continues, not because of White ruling class interests, but because Black people actually have become inferior.

The "Redstocking" analysis equates this denial of Black oppression with MS. magazine's rationalization to explain the prolonged subjugation of women. Both Blacks and women have supposedly become apathetic and deficient.

By 1967, the "Independent Research Service" was declared "largely inactive" by the New York Times. Steinem, however, was still a Director in September

By Gabrielle Schang
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In addition to Steinem's initial boost from Clay Felker, the "Redstockings" were able to determine two other major sources of funds for the then fledgling Ms. magazine. One resource was Katherine Graham, owner and publisher of the Washington Post and Newsweek. She bought \$20,000 worth of stock before the first issue of Ms. was ever published. According to perfect Ms. "ideology," Graham was recently featured on the magazine's cover, depicted by the headline as "The Most Powerful Woman in America." (10-74)

It should be noted in conjunction to this fact, that Newsweek became the most enthusiastic mass circulation magazine promoting the "Independent Research Service" and later Gloria Steinem as an individual. (See early article of 5-10-65 and cover story of 8-16-71.)

The second major money source for Ms. was Warner Communications, Inc. They purchased \$1 million worth of Ms. stock, after the preview issue appeared. Warner's allegedly put up nearly all the money and only took 25 percent of the actual stock holdings. Even the Ms. editors admitted that this was a trifle odd: "We are especially impressed that they took the unusual position of becoming a major investor, but minority stockholder; thus providing all the money without demanding the decision vote in return." (Ms. Reader, p. 226)

Warner Communications is a mammoth operation, now owning Warner Brothers movies and records besides having large holdings in cable TV, publishing, building maintenance and construction, parking lots and other companies. What was their vested interest in women's liberation which inspired them to make such an unlikely business deal with Ms? Well, Warner is also the owner of National Periodical Publications, which publishes the Wonder Woman comic books.

Warner bought the Ms. stock in May 1972. In July 1972, the first regular issue of Ms. appeared on the stands, featuring a cover story on Wonder Woman. Wonder Woman as a feminist heroine, no less. The