

NEWS



# How foreign cash made Bill and Hillary 'filthy rich'

By [Bob Fredericks](#)

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Hillary Clinton and Bill Clinton  
Photo: AP

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[Hillary Rodham Clinton](#) used her clout as secretary of state to do favors for foreign donors who gave millions to her family foundation — and who paid millions more to her husband, [Bill](#), in speaking fees, a new book charges.

Records show that of the \$105 million the former president raked in from speeches over 12 years, about half came during his wife's four-year tenure at the State Department.

The claims in "Clinton Cash: The Untold Story of How and Why Foreign Governments and Businesses Helped Make Bill and Hillary Rich" come just a week after she launched her presidential campaign.

They raise questions about shady foreign money flowing into the [Clinton Foundation](#) — and what actions Hillary took in her official capacity in exchange

for the cash.

"During Hillary's years of public service, the Clintons have conducted or facilitated hundreds of large transactions," writes author Peter Schweizer, according to [The New York Times](#), which first reported the story.

"Some of these transactions have put millions in their own pockets."

Schweizer — a former speech-writing consultant for President [George W. Bush](#) — said

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he found a clear “pattern of financial transactions involving the Clintons that occurred contemporaneous with favorable US policy decisions benefiting those providing the funds.”

One example of an alleged quid pro quo cited by the Times and other sources involved the State Department’s backing of a free-trade agreement with Colombia that benefited a company founded by a big donor to the Clinton Foundation.

Hillary opposed the trade deal when running for president in 2008 because of the South American country’s poor record on workers’ rights.

But then the company, Canadian-based Pacific Rubiales, and its founder, Clinton Foundation board member Frank Giustra, donated “millions” to the foundation, [The International Business Times](#) reported.

In 2010, the State Department under Hillary lauded Colombia’s human rights record, allowing Giustra’s company to reap huge profits.

The book also examines lucrative development contracts awarded to foundation donors following the devastating Haitian earthquake in 2010. And it reports that Hillary’s brother, Tony Rodham, sat on the board of a small North Carolina mining company that in 2012 got one of only two coveted “gold exploitation permits” from the government of Haiti — the first issued in more than 50 years, according to the website Breitbart.

Bill Clinton himself was paid \$1 million by a Canadian bank and major shareholder in the Keystone XL oil pipeline as the State Department was considering the project, Schweizer charges.

Records show that Bill’s earnings from appearance fees — both foreign and domestic — spiked at \$17 million in 2012, Hillary’s last year at State.

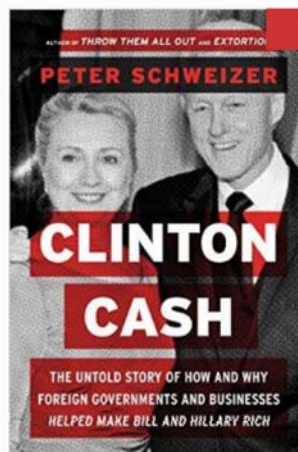
During Hillary’s four-year stint as secretary of state, the ex-president earned about \$48 million of a \$105 million speaking haul amassed between 2001 and 2013.

More than half of the \$48 million was paid by companies in China, Japan, Canada, Russia, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the Cayman Islands, among others.

The author writes that “of the 13 Clinton speeches that fetched \$500,000 or more, only two occurred during the years his wife was not secretary of state.”

Bill Clinton is believed to be the richest living ex-president and one of the 10 wealthiest ever.

Most estimates put the power couple’s combined net worth at \$100 million to \$200 million.



Some of the fees were paid at the Clintons’ request to their foundation — netting domestic donors a fat tax break. But most went directly to Bill, and the fees make up the family’s main source of income, The Washington Post reported.

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## EX-PRESIDENT AND ONE OF THE 10 WEALTHIEST EVER.

Following Hillary's [decision to run for president](#), the foundation itself announced last week it would accept donations only from Australia, the United Kingdom, the

Netherlands, Canada, Germany and Norway.

The 186-page book will go on sale May 5, but Hillary wasted no time dismissing it.

"We're back into the political season and, therefore, we will be subjected to all kinds of distraction and attacks and I'm ready for that. I know that that comes, unfortunately, with the territory," she said Monday in Keene, NH.

"It is, I think, worth noting that the Republicans seem to only be talking about me. I don't know what they'd talk about if I wasn't in the race, but I am in the race and hopefully we'll get on to the issues," she added.

Allison Moore, spokeswoman for the Republican National Committee, responded by bringing up Hillary's use of a private email account for official business and her deletion of thousands of emails.

*Additional reporting by Geoff Earle and Marisa Schultz*

**FILED UNDER** 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION , BILL CLINTON , BOOKS , CAMPAIGN FINANCE , CLINTON FOUNDATION , HILLARY CLINTON , MONEY , STATE DEPARTMENT

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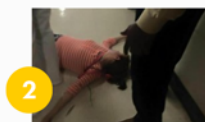
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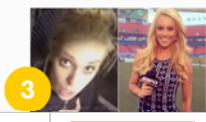
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