More Parks funeral programs to come

DETROIT (AP) - The trustee handling civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks' affairs said thousands more of her funeral programs will be printed to try and stop people who are profiting from originals. The decision came after a bidder on the online auction site eBay offered more than \$150 for one of the 14-page, photo-filled programs.

"People are exploiting it," Parks trustee Adam Shakoor, a former judge, told the Detroit Free Press. "We are very concerned about that." The programs will sell for \$5 to \$10. Any surplus will be donated to the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development, which sponsors education programs for young people. The additional programs will be produced "within a week or so" and made available primarily online, Shakoor said. Ten thousand of the programs were distributed at Parks' funeral Nov. 2 in her adopted home of Detroit. Parks died Oct. 24 at 92.

The funeral followed a week of remembrances during which Parks' coffin was brought from Detroit to Montgomery, Ala., where she sparked the Civil Rights Movement by refusing to give her bus seat to a White man, to Washington, where she became the first woman to lie in honor in the Capitol Rotunda. There are many people who couldn't come to the funeral who would want that keepsake, Shakoor said. We'd planned on printing more. We'll just jump a little sooner than we expected.

Rosa Parks

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refused to go quietly to the back of the bus, and we need to follow her example."

Her contributions are even beyond many who are already memorialized there, Jackson notes. "Rosa Parks took the legal principle of 'equal protection under the law' for all Americans in the 1954 Brown decision and applied it to the public transportation — which eventually led to a 1964 Civil Rights Act, a 1965 Voting Rights Act and a 1968 Open Housing Act, all of which helped to build a more perfect union among the states and make America better."

Scowcroft

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expressed bewilderment. "The real anomaly in the administration is Cheney," he said. "I consider Cheney a good friend — I've known him for 30 years. But Dick Cheney I don't know anymore."

Cheney, he said, appeared to have been taken with a presentation by Bernard Lewis, an octogenarian Middle East scholar from Princeton University, who had been invited to the White House soon after the Sep. 11, 2001, attacks. According to Scowcroft, Lewis's message was, "I believe that one of the things you've got to do to Arabs is hit them between the eyes with a big stick. They respect power."

"I don't think Cheney is a neo-con, but allied to the core of neo-cons is that bunch who thought we made a mistake in the first Gulf War, that we should have finished the job," Scowcroft told The New Yorker.

"There was another bunch who were traumatized by 9/11, and who thought, 'The world's going to hell and we've got to show we're not going to take this, and we've got to respond, and Afghanistan is okay, but it's not sufficient."

On the foreign policy-making process, Scowcroft also implicitly echoed Wilkerson's contention that the views of dissenters from the Cheney-Rumsfeld line, including himself, were either ignored or screened out.

When a frustrated Scowcroft published his warning against invading Iraq in August 2002, Rice telephoned him and asked, according to another source, "How could you do this to us?"

"What bothered Brent more than Condi yelling at him was the fact that here she is, the national security adviser, and she's not interested in hearing what a former national security adviser had to say," according to the source.

At the time, Scowcroft was serving as chair of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, which should have been consulting regularly with the White House but was, apparently, kept in the dark about the preparations and rationale for going to war.

Scowcroft was dropped from the board earlier this year, and efforts by George H.W. Bush to arrange a meeting between his son and Scowcroft have been unavailing, according to The *New Yorker* account.

Indeed, one of the most-important differences between foreign policy-making by Bush I and Bush II was the openness of the process to dissenting opinions, according to John Sununu, Bush I's chief of staff.

"We always made sure the president was hearing all the possibilities," he told The *New Yorker*, a view that was implicitly endorsed by the former president himself. In an e-mail message, the elder Bush described Scowcroft as being "very good about making sure that we did not simply consider the 'best case,' but, instead, considered what it would mean if things went our way, and also if they did not."

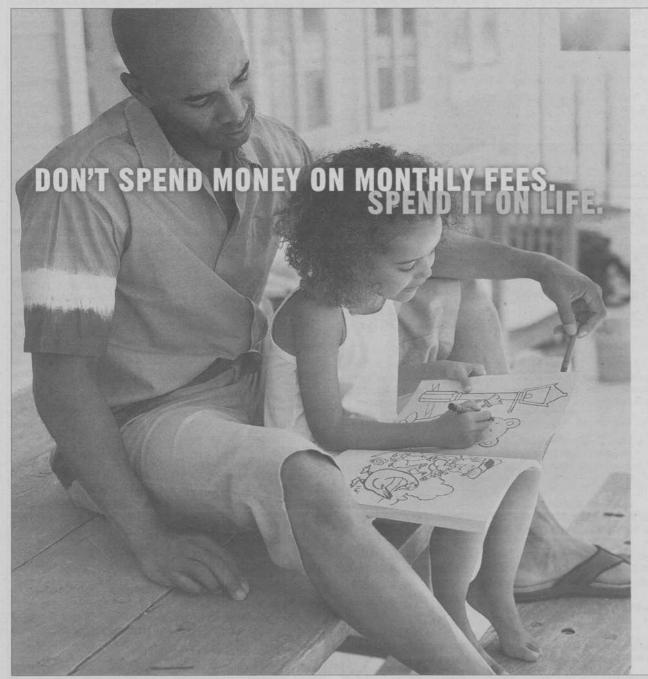
The willingness to consider what could go wrong, as well as what could go right, is one of the most profound critiques of the current administration made by Scowcroft, widely considered a classic "realist," of both the current administration's policy process and the neo-conservative influence on it.

Noting that he and his Bush I colleagues, including Cheney, strongly opposed invading Iraq and ousting Saddam Hussein in the first Gulf War because of the risks of becoming bogged down in a "hostile land," Scowcroft told The *New Yorker*, "...This is exactly where we are now. We own it. And we can't let go.

"Now, will we win? I think there's a fair chance we'll win. But look at the cost," he said.

"What the realist fears," he went on, "is the consequences of idealism. The reason I part with the neo-cons is that I don't think in any reasonable time frame the objective of democratizing the Middle East can be successful.

"If you can do it, fine, but I don't think you can, and in the process of trying to do it you can make the Middle East a lot worse."



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