Her Middle Name Was Trouble She scolded a President Congress called her trouble The American people loved her

vivien Kellems

was an amazing woman. Imagine her story unfolding on the big screen for all Americans to see. That is my goal: to make my movie.

At a time when few women graduated from college, a female industrialist stands up to Congress and the IRS in the name of freedom. Exhibiting amazing courage, she successfully fights her enemies with intellectual ammunition.

Ouite a resume

Born in 1896, she was directly descended from the Randolphs of Virginia and collaterally from Thomas Jefferson. Eleven of her ancestors fought in the Revolutionary War.

She authored the book, *Toil, Taxes and Trouble*, chronicling her battle against what she called the "permanent instrument of oppression," known as the withholding tax. That "temporary war tax" (now 67 years old) is destructive and unnecessary. Vivien brought the nation's attention to such evil.

This remarkable woman took on President Truman, the point man to formulate policies for a new world order.¹

She went down into manholes in New York City in her fur coat (remember, this was an earlier day) and told workers how they were getting screwed by the withholding tax.

Vivien was a patron of the arts and she knew the U.S. Constitution inside and out. She ran for Congress and gave local officials hell at every turn. She made speeches all over the country about the income and withholding taxes. Vivien felt so strongly about the injustice of the withholding tax, she took on the IRS in a case that grabbed national attention.²

And she won. The jury understood her act of defiance was to challenge the constitutionality of the withholding tax. The revenue agents were ordered to return her money.³ However, she also cut a deal of sorts with the judge; it was a different time back then. Really, such an amazing story.

The attacks become personal

Because she became a thorn in the side of Congress, several congressmen went after her personally. You see, Vivien had a personal relationship with a man named Count Frederick von Zedlitz. Although "mainstream" liars for hire like *Time Magazine* referred to him as a Nazi engineer, there is no

proof I have found to support such a charge.⁴ Vivien Kellems was a real lady; the powers that be tried to sully and soil her good name.

Several of Vivien's personal letters to von Zedlitz were filched from the Office of Censorship and read on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives in an effort to embarrass this successful, scrappy fighter. I can tell you, she didn't take to her bed and weep. She stood up in front of the media and the country. She took on the cowards in Congress who preferred to swim in the gutter rather than take her on over the "temporary war tax."

Well-researched story

I personally went to the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center at the University of Connecticut a few years ago and retrieved a ton of her personal papers and letters as research for this project. I personally went to the National Archives and Records Center in Waltham, MA (about 30 miles from Boston) several years ago and got copies of the trial transcripts.

I ordered her FBI file under a FOIA. The trial transcripts and FBI file are on my CD. They are each hundreds of pages; see http://www.devvy.com/cdrom_sales.html.

A movie in the making

Two years ago I managed to scrape together the money to have a screenplay written about her life. This highly professional piece of work tells not only the dramatic court room story of how she wiped the government's nose in the dirt, but it weaves her personal story in a factual accounting of a remarkable life.

When I approached the screen writer, I asked her to make this script one that would appeal to America, just as Vivien did in her time. Ms. Kellems was very, very popular — especially with business owners. There are dozens of boxes at the Dodd Research Center full of correspondence from business owners cheering her on.

Now I need help

I have no contacts in the movie industry. I'm not famous and unless one knows someone, the doors to knock on may as well be twenty feet thick, as no one will hear. However, I'm determined to get my movie made.

There is money out there and investors who look for well written independent material. How timely is her story right now in America?

What is needed is about five million dollars to get this movie made by professionals; there is no financial gain for me. Aaron Russo was my friend. His movie, *Freedom to Fascism*, has been such a wonderful tool in educating Americans about the evil forces at work destroying this republic. My movie will do the same on a much broader scale — if I can just get it made. I will find a way to get it distributed.

If you are in a position to be an investor or to introduce me to individuals who are financially blessed, please contact me at devvyk@earthlink.net. This is a serious undertaking, so please, only serious inquiries.

Thank you. Devvy

Footnotes

¹ "When Franklin Roosevelt died during the closing days of WWII, it fell to Truman to end the war and formulate policies for the new world order." *The Smithsonian Treasury: The Presidents* (1991), pg 72

² Tax Case Nears Jury: Vivien Kellems Denies 'Wilful' Violation of Law," January 24, 1951 http://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1955&dat=19510124&id=krMhAAAAIBAJ&sjid=L50FAAAAIBAJ&pg=4579,431893

³ "Vivien Kellems Wins Her Income Tax Suit," *Sarasota Herald Tribune*, January 25, 1951 http://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1755&dat=19510125&id=VSEhAAAAIBAJ&sjid=sGQEAAAAIBAJ&pg=6254,2902370

⁴ "Faithless," *Time Magazine* http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,885441,00.html