

PRESS RELEASE:

THE LEGACY OF I.F. STONE, PARTS ONE AND TWO

TWO INSPIRATIONAL VIDEOS REVISIT AMERICA'S MOST
VALUABLE INDEPENDENT JOURNALIST

On May 6, the non-profit Catalytic Diplomacy released a pair of videos about fiercely independent American journalist I.F. Stone and his iconic *I.F. Stone's Weekly*.

The [Legacy of I.F. Stone Part One](#), a twelve-minute video, funded by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and produced by White Pine Pictures (WPP) of Toronto, highlights one-man news organization I.F. Stone's fearless and policy-changing work from the 1930s until his death in 1989.

This introductory video includes commentary from Myra MacPherson, author of *All Government's Lie: The Life and Times of Rebel Journalist I.F. Stone*, and interviews with some of Stone's journalistic heirs, including Glenn Greenwald, Michael Moore, Jeremy Scahill and Jeff Cohen.

The film quotes I.F. Stone's prescient warning that "If something goes wrong with our free press, the country will go straight to hell."

The [Legacy of I.F. Stone, Part Two](#), a 30-minute companion video, also produced by WPP, expands upon the accomplishments and impact of I.F. Stone's historic career, delving into Stone's methods of digging out hard truths, governmental efforts to stop him, and Stone's ultimate vindication of being recognized as one of the 20th century's most effective news sources.

The Legacy of I.F. Stone, [Part One](#) and [Part Two](#) can be viewed embedded on the www.ifstone.org website or seen through Vimeo. Part One may also be accessed through the Knight Foundation website where there is a related blog post.

These documentaries are designed for general viewing and for classroom use by journalism professors. Eric Newton, Knight Foundation senior adviser to the president commented:

"The journalism that makes a country uncomfortable often is the journalism that makes it better. IF Stone showed that a single independent thinker can become a one-man journalism army, with only gumption for guns and facts for bullets."

A spokesperson for Catalytic Diplomacy, Allan MacDonell, said: "Can the videos, if shown to journalists during their schooling, or in their media positions, inspire them to take a difficult stand, to speak out to power and to expose the truth as they uncover it?"

Can citizens at large, seeing these videos, be inspired to pay more attention to, and support, independent media? Perhaps news consumers might invite their local newspapers to include more independent columns, pay less heed to the demands of advertisers, and provide more courageous editorials. Perhaps public interest groups with goals that require journalistic independence might use these videos to gather their faithful together to formulate campaigns for a free and vital press."

Catalytic Diplomacy urges citizens to view these videos and to encourage others to do so freely via Twitter, Facebook and other means. "Working together," says MacDonell, "we can encourage journalists and media to resist pressures to speak and write less than frankly, something essential to good government and peace."*

*White Pine Pictures is producing and raising funds for an upcoming event theatrical documentary entitled *All Government's Lie: Truth, Deception, and the "children" of I.F. Stone*. This project is intended to heighten public awareness of the importance of independent media and will feature, besides the late I.F. Stone, such journalistic heirs as Glenn Greenwald, Jeremy Scahill, Amy Goodman, and filmmakers such as Michael Moore and John Carlos Frey. Funders and broadcasters who would like to support the film or broadcast it are encouraged to contact Davida Gragor at White Pine Pictures.

Catalytic Diplomacy can be reached at
AMacDonell@catalyticdiplomacy.org

Knight Foundation Communications Director can be reached at
Alikhan@Knight Foundation.org.

White Pine Pictures can be reached at Davida@whitepinepictures.com.

For background: In 1999, a New York University panel of journalists ranking the Top 100 Works of Journalism in the 20th Century voted the I.F. Stone Weekly (1953-1971) as #2 in print journalism.

Harvard University's Nieman Foundation for Journalism awards an annual *I.F. Stone Medal for Journalistic Independence*.

Ithaca College provides an annual *Izzy Award* for independent media work that reflects "Izzyness."

The best source for general information on I.F. Stone is
www.ifstone.org.