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Sen. [Senator] Jesse A. Helms (R [Republican] - NC [North Carolina]) - Profiles / Contacts - Helms

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Jesse Helms (R) North Carolina - Senior Senator
Of Raleigh - Elected 1972; 4th term
Item Key: 200

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

(Updated: April 1993)

Born: October 18, 1921; Monroe, N.C.
Education: Wingate College, 1938-39; Wake Forest U., 1939-40.
Military Service: Navy, 1942-45.
Occupation: Journalist; broadcasting executive; banking executive;
congressional aide.
Family: Wife, Dorothy Jane Coble; 3 children.
Religion: Baptist.
Political Career: Raleigh City Council, 1957-61.
Capitol Office: SD-403 Dirksen Bldg. 20510-3301; telephone: (202)
224-6342; fax: (202) 224-7588.

IN WASHINGTON

(Updated: August 1993)

Two decades of tirades against communism, liberalism, big government, abortion and homosexuality have made Helms the paragon of hard-line conservatism in the Senate. While conservative activists lionize him, liberal Democrats vilify him as an extremist; even in his own Republican Party, more moderate members sometimes shrink from his stark rhetoric on social and national security issues.

Yet Helms has proved time and again that he knows the issues that energize the Middle American, overwhelmingly white constituency that has carried him through a series of fierce Senate campaigns. In the process, he often sets a tone that the national party eventually adopts.

Now in his 70s, Helms is undiminished in his battles despite health problems that probably would have quieted any other senator. In 1991, he was diagnosed with a rare bone disease, and he revealed that he was undergoing treatment for prostate cancer. In June 1992, he underwent quadruple-bypass heart surgery.

Although he missed some time for treatment and recuperation, he still was a force to be dealt with in debates throughout the 102nd Congress. And the Clinton administration -- which early on proposed lifting the military's ban on homosexuals -- promised to provide him with plenty of targets for his social-issue crusades.

Even before coming to the Senate, Helms worked as a craftsman of the GOP's "Southern strategy." By contrasting conservative stands on defense, crime, civil rights and traditional morality with the liberalism of national Democrats, Helms helped transform politics in the once solidly Democratic South. Winning a Senate seat in the process, Helms by the early 1970s was a "Reaganite" -- well before Ronald Reagan became a dominant national figure.

During the 1970s and 1980s, Helms helped set the New Right's social agenda. He remains one of the Senate's fiercest opponents of abortion and one of its strongest supporters of school prayer. He has made a crusade of limiting access to telephone "dial-a-porn" services.

Homosexuality has also become a defining issue in Helms' social agenda. In 1993, he told The Washington Times that he would try to block President Clinton's openly homosexual nominee for an assistant secretary job at the Department of

Housing and Urban Development "[b]ecause she's a damn lesbian. I'm not going to put a lesbian in a position like that. If you want to call me a bigot, fine."

Helms, who has said that the crisis caused by AIDS is overstated, has tried without success to shift money for AIDS research to efforts against other diseases. He has also used the anxiety surrounding the disease as ammunition for his social-policy battles. In 1991, he won Senate approval for two amendments: one requiring patients undergoing "invasive" medical procedures to be tested for AIDS except in "emergency situations," and another calling for prison terms and fines for health-care workers infected with the AIDS virus who fail to notify their patients.

"I am the father of a nurse," he said during floor debate on the latter amendment. "I want my daughter protected. That is why I have for the last six years attempted to bring attention to the callous disregard for public safety and common sense which has been exhibited by the AIDS lobby and its allies in the Senate." The Senate adopted it 81-18.

Both amendments were later removed in conference.

During the 102nd Congress, Helms fought to bar funding for two proposed surveys of Americans' sexual behavior. He charged that "the sexual liberation crowd" was backing the studies -- which were approved by the scientific peer-review process but which the Department of Health and Human Services declined to fund -- in an effort "to cook the scientific facts to legitimize homosexuality and other sexually promiscuous lifestyles." Backers of the surveys, led by Democrats Paul Simon of Illinois and Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts, said they were needed to help combat AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

As so often happens when Helms and Kennedy face off, the debate turned ugly. At one point, after Kennedy refused to read aloud some of the more explicit questions proposed for inclusion in the survey, Helms made a pointed reference to his colleague's well-publicized personal troubles. "These questions may be all right for a nightclub in Miami or Palm Beach at 2 o'clock in the morning on a Saturday night, but they are not fit for young children," he said.

In early 1993, it was Clinton's proposal to lift the ban on gays in the military that triggered Helms' outrage. It "is the No. 1 priority of the homosexual political movement," he said in a floor speech. "They know that the armed forces are the last bastion of traditional morality in this country."

Helms' knack for finding the hottest of the rank-and-file's "hot-button" issues was amply exhibited in his 1990 re-election bid. Threatened by a bid from former Charlotte Mayor Harvey B. Gantt -- a black liberal with a mainstream demeanor -- Helms turned the election into a referendum on affirmative action programs.

Helms had opposed, and Gantt supported, a 1990 civil rights bill providing enhanced remedies in cases of job discrimination. When President George Bush vetoed the act in October 1990 as a "quota bill" -- and the Senate sustained his veto by just one vote -- Democrats thought they had an opportunity to brand Helms as unsympathetic to minorities.

But Helms boiled the debate down to one issue. At issue, Helms said, was another effort by liberals to expand affirmative action programs that he -- and many of those in his white, working-class base -- saw as providing unfair preferences to members of racial minorities. In a TV ad that gave his campaign momentum, the hand of a white man, the apparent recipient of a job rejection, crumples a letter while a narrator says: "You needed that job, and you were the

best-qualified. But they had to give it to a minority because of a racial quota. Is that really fair?" Gantt denied supporting quotas and tried to brand Helms as running a racist campaign. But Helms went on to win with 53 percent of the vote.

Congress turned again to the civil rights bill in 1991. As supporters worked to craft a compromise with the White House, Helms surprised senators by offering an amendment to a crime bill outlawing any race preferences in hiring. His move held up the crime bill for 24 hours as senators scrambled to line up the votes to kill it -- which they did, 71-28. Bush eventually signed a compromise civil rights bill into law in late 1991.

Helms' skill at elevating obscure but emotional issues to the top of the political agenda has been best demonstrated in recent years in the debate over federal funding of the arts. Helms, long an adversary of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), repeatedly tied Congress in knots in the 101st and 102nd congresses over his amendments to ban NEA funding for sexually explicit projects.

Arts funding became a wedge issue in 1989 during a furor over NEA funding of two exhibits: one by the late Robert Mapplethorpe, which included photographs of gay sex practices, and another by Andres Serrano, which included a photo showing a crucifix in a vessel of urine.

"Artists have a right, it is said, to express their feelings as they wish; only a philistine would suggest otherwise," Helms said. "Fair enough, but no artist has a pre-emptive claim on the tax dollars of the American people."

The Senate passed Helms' amendments, but House-Senate conferees agreed to milder versions. Helms had his effect, however: The 1990 NEA reauthorization instructed the agency to take into account general standards of decency in making its grants. In 1991, both chambers approved Helms' language, but conferees left it off the bill in exchange for killing language raising grazing fees on public lands -- a deal inevitably dubbed "corn for porn."

With his unyieldingly ideological posture, Helms has had relatively little success at winning enactment of the legislation into which he puts so much furious effort. He has always had greater success at blocking legislation than at getting it passed. He is a master of Senate arcanery; together with his mulelike stubbornness, it is a formidable combination. He can often be found on the Senate floor, using his parliamentary skills to tie up legislative action.

But winning is not the point for Helms. "You got to understand how I operate," he once told a reporter. "Somebody said, 'Jesse, why do you so often advance things or take positions that you know you don't have any chance to win?' And my answer to that is, I do it on principle." His propensity to cast the solo "no" led the *The News and Observer* of Raleigh, N.C., his ardent foe, to dub him "Senator No." Helms relishes the title.

To many members of Congress and to the Bush administration, the Cold War appeared to end with the fall of the Berlin Wall in late 1989. But Helms -- who had thrived on Reagan's "evil empire" rhetoric of the early 1980s -- warned against a too-rapid rapprochement with the Soviet Union. He steadfastly opposed most arms treaties with the Soviets. "To put it as politely as possible," he said in 1991, "the Soviets are cheats, liars and scoundrels."

Throughout the 1980s, the threat of communism in Central America -- in the form of the Sandinista government of Nicaragua and the leftist insurgency against El Salvador's rightist government -- fueled Helms' efforts on the Foreign Relations panel. Helms was skeptical throughout the 1990

election process in Nicaragua, fearing that it would leave the Sandinistas in power. Even after opposition candidate Violeta Chamorro defeated Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega, Helms was unenthralled; her coalition included too many leftist groups to earn Helms' trust.

For several months in 1992, Helms single-handedly blocked \$104 million in economic aid to Nicaragua. Helms wanted the aid frozen to pressure Chamorro to return property owned by U.S. citizens that the Sandinistas had confiscated. Bush went along with him until after the election, releasing \$54 million in December.

Sensing a communist threat in any insurgency against a pro-Western government, Helms has found himself under attack over the years for supporting right-wing regimes accused of human rights abuses. He opposed U.S. sanctions against South Africa and supported the governments of Augusto Pinochet of Chile and Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines.

Helms had an opportunity to take over as Foreign Relations chairman in 1985 (when Republicans held the Senate majority); however, he had made a promise during his 1984 campaign to stay as Agriculture chairman and oversee the interests of North Carolina's tobacco growers in the 1985 farm bill.

With that pledge met, Helms in 1987 stepped over Indiana Republican Richard G. Lugar, who had been serving as chairman, to claim the post of ranking Republican. Citing his seniority and contrasting his hard-line approach to Lugar's pragmatism, Helms won the post on a 24-17 vote.

But Helms' efforts, here as elsewhere, have been geared more toward obstruction than production. His invariable opposition to provisions in committee legislation contributed to the committee's failure to pass foreign aid authorization bills in most recent years.

Foreign Relations' poor record at moving its major annual legislative responsibility has taken its toll on its image and that of the unassertive Democratic chairman, Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island. In early 1991, Foreign Relations Democrats gave new powers to its subcommittees at the expense of Pell and Helms. The arrangement functioned well, to an extent: In 1991, the Senate passed a foreign aid authorization bill for the first time in six years. But the bill died in the House.

Helms did achieve a long-sought goal in the 102nd Congress with the enactment of legislation aimed at halting the spread of chemical and biological weapons. He and Pell had repeatedly cosponsored bills to impose sanctions on countries and companies that contribute to the weapons' proliferation.

Whatever his legislative legacy on Foreign Relations, Helms is surely more visible there than in his past position as Agriculture chairman in the 1980s. He virtually abdicated control of the committee during his first four years as chairman, allowing a coalition of Republicans, led by then-Majority Leader Bob Dole of Kansas, to take the lead on farm legislation.

One of the little-noticed aspects of Helms' highly public career was his long tenure on the Senate Ethics Committee. A member since 1979, Helms gained the most notice in this position just before he stepped down in February 1991.

Helms was one of the six committee members who sat in judgment of the five senators who were accused of ethics violations relating to their association with thrift scandal figure Charles H. Keating Jr. Helms took one of the tougher stands, favoring Senate punishment for at least three of the senators. But when the committee decided to refer only the case of California Democrat Alan Cranston for full Senate action -- recommending no punishment for the others -- Helms denied that

he and his colleagues had gone soft.

However, when the panel's deliberations dragged on through the summer, Helms broke with the Ethics Committee's penchant for secrecy, unleashing a scathing 247-page, 936-footnote report on the case that called for Cranston to be censured by the Senate. Ultimately, the committee "strongly and severely" reprimanded Cranston before the full Senate.

AT HOME

(Updated: August 1993)

The smoke from Helms' monumental 1984 re-election battle against Democratic Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. had scarcely lifted before another defense loomed. But the toll on purse and psyche that the bitter 1984 campaign exacted served to dissuade "heavyweight" Democrats from challenging Helms in 1990.

Helms' political future appeared very much in doubt as he prepared for the 1984 balloting. His vaunted political organization, the National Congressional Club, had suffered severe setbacks in 1982, losing every one of the five congressional contests it had targeted in the state. Further, Helms was being plagued by negative publicity over his 1982 vote for raising the cigarette tax as well as his unsuccessful efforts to block creation of a federal holiday for the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Pollsters tracking the battle between Helms and Hunt found Helms significantly behind through most of 1983.

But Helms battled back, drawing on financial support from conservatives across the country to invest \$16.5 million in the race, shattering the record for the most money spent by a Senate candidate in U.S. history. His ads assaulting Hunt and the national Democratic Party not only bolstered his own campaign, they created a climate in which other North Carolina Republicans could prosper. When the dust settled on election night, the GOP had captured the governorship and three new House seats.

In many ways, it was an unusually static Senate campaign. The national media dutifully detailed each tortuous twist and turn, from Hunt's charge that Helms was a supporter of right-wing death squads in El Salvador to the incumbent's complaint that Hunt had misused state airplanes. But most North Carolinians, faced with a choice between a leading apostle of the New Right and an activist Democratic governor, knew relatively early on how they would vote. Only 4 percentage points separated the two in polls taken in May 1984; in late October, it was still considered a dead heat.

Hunt focused his campaign on his record as governor, tirelessly sounding his commitment to improved education and arguing that he was experienced in bringing jobs to the state. He cast Helms as a right-wing radical, too extreme in his views to serve the state's interests effectively.

Helms embraced the support of Reagan wholeheartedly, using taped telephone messages in which Reagan endorsed him. Helms also sought to link Hunt to Democratic presidential candidate Walter F. Mondale and his national party. That charge left Hunt hamstrung, as he sought to distance himself from Mondale's proposal for a tax increase without repudiating his party's presidential nominee.

In the end, Hunt won strong support from the extensive network of teachers, unions, party regulars and other activists he had built up during 10 years in state government. But his margins in the eastern part of the state were not as decisive

as he had hoped, and his black support helped produce a conservative white backlash that benefited Helms. Further aided by Reagan's top-of-the-ticket strength and a strong turnout from newly registered fundamentalists, Helms built his victory in the small towns and crossroads communities of the central and western Piedmont. He finished with a 52 percent to 48 percent edge.

Any Helms re-election effort is bound to attract national attention. But Helms' 1990 campaign against Gantt was guaranteed saturation national coverage.

Despite Gantt's obvious vulnerabilities -- his liberal positions, his lack of statewide recognition and his race (Gantt was the first black ever to win a major party's statewide nomination in North Carolina) -- he also could point to certain advantages that might boost his effort against Helms.

Where Hunt had struggled against Helms' ads to retain his political identity as a moderate, Gantt expended little effort fending off charges that he was liberal. Gantt opposed capital punishment and a capital gains tax cut, supported a woman's right to choose an abortion, and favored increased spending on education, the environment and health care. Anti-communism, the perennial red-meat issue for Helms, had fallen in relevance by 1990. Nor did Gantt have to contend with Republican presidential coattails. A national abortion rights group ran ads attacking Helms for his staunch opposition to abortion.

Gantt also wielded one unpredictable and powerful weapon: enthusiasm. His primary and runoff wins had galvanized a coalition of traditional Helms opponents, students and young professionals.

As always, Helms depended on media ads to get his message out; he refused to debate Gantt and shunned reporters. His campaign's policy required reporters seeking answers from the senator to submit written questions to the campaign fax machine. Helms regularly denounced the state's major newspapers, which he said were biased against him.

On television, Gantt and Helms pounded away at each other in negative ads, each trying to paint the other as extreme. Helms' ads compared his "North Carolina values" with Gantt's "extreme liberal values." Another ad accused Gantt of supporting abortion for sex selection and in the final weeks of pregnancy. One of Helms' radio ads warned that "the gay and lesbian political groups" have come to North Carolina "to elect Harvey Gantt." Helms saved the crusher -- the "quotas" ad -- for the end.

Gantt's 47 percent showing was only four-tenths of a percentage point off Hunt's 1984 posting. Gantt had secured the Democratic nomination by running up huge margins in the state's most populous county, Mecklenburg (Charlotte), and in the central Piedmont counties. But in November, he carried Mecklenburg by fewer than 30,000 votes. As had Hunt, Gantt won several of the rural northeastern counties. Gantt received 53 percent in the 10 counties with the most registered voters; in those same counties, Hunt received 50 percent. But the margins were not wide enough for Gantt to overcome Helms' strength in the state's less populous counties.

Controversy over the 1990 election continued into 1992. The U.S. Justice Department filed suit alleging that the Helms campaign and the state Republican Party sought to keep blacks from the polls by mailing 125,000 postcards with false or misleading information to black voters in a "ballot security" program days before the election. In February 1992, the state GOP, Helms' campaign and four consulting and marketing groups signed a consent decree prohibiting them from engaging in

future such programs. They denied any wrongdoing, however.

For most of his adult life, Helms was a Democrat, even while he delivered conservative editorials for 12 years over WRAL-TV in Raleigh. He left the Democratic Party in 1970 and two years later ran for the Senate.

He was an underdog in that campaign against U.S. Rep. Nick Galifianakis, who had convincingly defeated aging Sen. B. Everett Jordan in the Democratic primary. Media accounts regularly described Helms as a "right-winger," but that label was far less dangerous to him than the liberal McGovern-Shriver presidential ticket was to Galifianakis.

Helms played down his rhetoric and shifted to a pro-Nixon tone. "President Nixon Needs Jesse Helms," the advertisements read, although Helms was far to the right of Nixon on most issues. A year earlier, he had called Nixon's trip to China "appeasement" of the communists.

In a Republican sweep, Nixon won nearly 70 percent of the state's presidential vote. Helms defeated Galifianakis with 54 percent of the vote, and the GOP won the governorship for the first time since 1896.

Six years later, a host of Democrats sought to prove that Helms' win was a coattail fluke. State Insurance Commissioner John Ingram was underfinanced and disorganized, but he forced the early favorite, moderate banker Luther H. Hodges Jr., into a runoff and won.

Ingram's populist themes had some appeal for rural and working-class conservatives who had supported Helms in 1972. But Helms had a reputation and an organization. Many of his constituents were proud that in a single Senate term he had become an articulate and nationally known defender of the right, one who had been promoted as a vice presidential choice by more than 800 national convention delegates in 1976. Helms' Congressional Club had been powerful enough to engineer Reagan's victory in the 1976 North Carolina primary. Helms eventually collected about \$7.5 million, more than any Senate candidate in U.S. history up to that time, and won with 55 percent.

DISTRICT/STATE DESCRIPTION (Updated August 1993)

[See House profiles for descriptions of individual districts.]

North Carolina

STATE DATA

Governor: James B. Hunt Jr. (D)
First elected: 1992 *
Length of term: 4 years
Term expires: 1/97
Salary: \$91,938
Term limit: 2 consecutive terms
Phone: (919) 733-7350
Born: May 16, 1937; Greensboro, N.C.
Education: North Carolina State U., B.S. 1959, M.S. 1962; U. of North Carolina, J.D. 1964
Occupation: Lawyer; cattle rancher
Family: Wife, Carolyn Leonard; four children
Religion: Presbyterian
Political Career: Lieutenant governor, 1973-77; *
governor, 1977-85; Democratic nominee for U.S.

Senate, 1984

Lt. Gov.: Dennis Wicker (D)
First elected: 1992
Length of term: 4 years
Term expires: 1/97
Salary: \$75,774
Phone: (919) 733-7350

State election official: (919) 733-7173
Democratic headquarters: (919) 821-2777
Republican headquarters: (919) 828-6423

REDISTRICTING

North Carolina gained one House seat in reapportionment, increasing from 11 districts to 12. The legislature passed the map Jan. 24, 1992; the Justice Department approved it Feb. 6.

STATE LEGISLATURE

Bicameral General Assembly. Meets January-July.

Senate: 50 members, 2-year terms
1992 breakdown: 39D, 11R; 43 men, 7 women; 43 whites, 7 blacks
Salary: \$13,026
Phone: (919) 733-7350

House of Representatives: 120 members, 2-year terms
1992 breakdown: 78D, 42R; 96 men, 24 women; 101 whites, 18 blacks, 1 other
Salary: \$13,026
Phone: (919) 733-3451

URBAN STATISTICS

City	Pop.
------	------

Charlotte	395,934
Mayor Richard Vinroot, R	

Raleigh	207,951
Mayor Avery C. Upchurch, N-P	

Greensboro	183,894
Mayor V. M. Nussbaum Jr., D	

Winston-Salem	143,485
Mayor Martha S. Wood, D	

Durham	136,611
Mayor Harry E. Rodenhizer Jr., R	

U.S. CONGRESS

Senate: 0 D, 2 R
House: 8 D, 4 R

TERM LIMITS

For Congress: No
For state offices: No

ELECTIONS

1992 Presidential Vote

George Bush	43.4%
Bill Clinton	42.7%
Ross Perot	13.7%

1988 Presidential Vote

George Bush	58%
Michael S. Dukakis	42%

1984 Presidential Vote

Ronald Reagan	62%
Walter F. Mondale	38%

POPULATION

1990 population	6,628,637
1980 population	5,881,766
Percent change	+13%

Rank among states: 10

White	76%
Black	22%
Hispanic	1%
Asian or Pacific islander	1%

Urban	50%
Rural	50%
Born in state	70%
Foreign-born	2%

Under age 18	1,606,149	24%
Ages 18-64	4,218,147	64%
65 and older	804,341	12%
Median age	33.1	

MISCELLANEOUS

Capital:	Raleigh
Number of counties:	100
Per capita income:	\$16,642 (1991)
Rank among states:	34
Total area:	52,669 sq. miles
Rank among states:	28

KEY CAPITOL OFFICE STAFF CONTACTS: (Updated: March 1993)

Frances Hampe, Scheduler; (202) 224-6342.

Eric Lundgren, Press Aide; (202) 224-6342.

Darryl Nirenberg, Admin. Asst./Chief Legis. Asst.; (202) 224-6342.

STATE OFFICES(S): (Updated: March 1993)

Address: Century Post Office Bldg. P.O. Box 2888, Raleigh, North Carolina 27602.

Telephone: (919) 856-4630.

Fax Number: Not reported.

Contact: Frances Jones, Office Dir.

Address: P.O. Box 2944, Hickory, North Carolina 28603.

Telephone: (704) 322-5170.

Fax Number: Not reported.

Contact: Jo Murray, Office Dir.

COMMITTEES, LEADERSHIP POSITIONS AND CAUCUS MEMBERSHIP
(Updated: February 1994)

=====
Committee and Subcommittee Assignments
=====

AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION & FORESTRY
(3rd of 8 Republicans)

Agricultural Production & Stabilization of Prices
(ranking member)

Domestic & Foreign Marketing & Product Promotion

Nutrition & Investigations

FOREIGN RELATIONS
(ranking member)

International Economic Policy, Trade, Oceans & Environment

Terrorism, Narcotics & International Operations

Western Hemisphere & Peace Corps Affairs

RULES & ADMINISTRATION
(3rd of 7 Republicans)

=====
Leadership Positions and Party Committee Assignments
=====

REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

=====
Selected Caucus and Special Organization Memberships
=====

CONGRESSIONAL COALITION ON ADOPTION

CONGRESSIONAL FIRE SERVICES CAUCUS

CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMAN'S CAUCUS

SENATE COAL CAUCUS

SENATE FOOTWEAR CAUCUS

SENATE STEEL CAUCUS

SENATE TOURISM CAUCUS

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY CAUCUS

ELECTIONS AND CAMPAIGN FINANCE (Updated: March 1994)

Election Results =====

Election/Candidate -----	Votes -----	(%) -----
1990 General		
Jesse Helms (R)	1,088,331	(53%)
Harvey B. Gantt (D)	981,573	(47%)
1990 Primary		
Jesse Helms (R)	157,345	(84%)
L.C. Nixon (R)	15,355	(8%)
George Wimbish (R)	13,895	(7%)
1984 General		
Jesse Helms (R)	1,156,768	(52%)
James B. Hunt Jr. (D)	1,070,488	(48%)
1984 Primary		
Jesse Helms (R)	134,675	(91%)
George Wimbish (R)	13,899	(9%)
1978 General		
Jesse Helms (R)	619,151	(55%)
John Ingram (D)	516,663	(45%)
1972 General		
Jesse Helms (R)	795,248	(54%)
Nick Galifianakis (D)	677,293	(46%)

State Vote For President =====

Party -----	1992 -----	1988 -----	1984 -----	1980 -----
D	1,114,042 (43%)	890,167 (42%)	824,287 (38%)	875,635 (47%)
R	1,134,661 (43%)	1,237,258 (58%)	1,346,481 (62%)	915,018 (49%)
I	357,864 (14%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	52,800 (3%)

Campaign Finance =====

Year Candidate -----	Total Receipts -----	Receipts from PACs -----	Expend- itures -----
1993 Helms (R)	\$279,965	\$100 (0%)	\$271,630

1990 Helms (R)	\$13,306,640	\$835,104 (6%)	\$13,355,336
Gantt (D)	\$7,859,877	\$695,852 (9%)	\$7,811,520
1984 Helms (R)	\$16,522,266	\$847,337 (5%)	\$16,499,387
Hunt (D)	\$10,031,502	\$834,601 (8%)	\$9,429,924

VOTING STUDIES
(Updated: January 1994)

Year	Voting Participation	Presidential Support		Party Unity		Conservative Coalition	
		S	O	S	O	S	O
1993	92	11	84	89	3	83	5
1992	63	62	15	71	3	71	3
1991	87	84	11	78	5	90	5
1990	99	68	32	88	11	84	14
1989	98	71	28	86	11	87	11
1988	85	60	26	72	12	81	5
1987	99	77	22	94	5	94	3
1986	100	90	10	95	5	95	5
1985	99	79	21	94	6	97	3
1984	98	86	10	90	8	100	0
1983	97	56	41	77	20	95	2
1982	99	75	25	87	13	99	1
1981	99	84	16	88	11	94	6
1980	99	34	66	92	7	98	2
1979	98	23	75	93	6	91	3
1978	87	20	68	84	6	82	5
1977	95	43	52	90	7	94	2
1976	97	77	23	95	2	94	3
1975	96	68	28	90	7	94	1
1974	93	65	28	84	10	94	2
1973	95	76	21	89	5	98	0

(See Reference Guide for explanation of CQ voting studies.)

KEY VOTES
(Updated: February 1994)

1993

Move to vote on President Clinton's economic stimulus plan	N
Require unpaid family and medical leave	N
Provide incentives to candidates to limit campaign spending	N
Pass President Clinton's deficit-reduction plan	N
Authorize funds for the National Service program	N
Confirm Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the Supreme Court	N
Allow the president to determine if gays serve in the military	N
Reduce spending for the Ballistic Missile Defense program	N
Prohibit higher grazing fees and other public land reforms	Y
Provide foreign aid including aid for the former Soviet Union	N
Allow federal funds to cover abortions	N
Cut U.S. military funding in Somalia after troop withdrawal	N
Limit subpoena of Packwood diaries to ethics related entries	Y
Ban certain semiautomatic assault weapons	N
Approve national "motor voter" registration bill	N
Require a five-day waiting period for handgun purchases	N
Approve the North American Free Trade Agreement	N

Approve budget increasing taxes and reducing deficit		N	
Support president's right to lift military gay ban		N	
1992			
Reject grace period before suspending Russian aid		+	
Provide extended unemployment benefits		?	
Oppose deeper cuts in spending for SDI		+	
Reject stricter nuclear power licensing procedures		Y	
Impose 9-month moratorium on nuclear testing		N	
Override family and medical leave veto		N	
Reduce enterprise zones and IRA deductions		Y	
Allow abortion counseling at federally-funded clinics		N	
Provide \$26.5 billion for foreign assistance		N	
Override veto of cable TV rate cap bill		N	
Reauthorize water projects in Utah and California		?	
Approve school-choice pilot program	Y		
Pass Civil Rights Act of 1991	o domestic programs		N
Reject lifting fetal tissue research ban		Y	
Override campaign finance reform veto		N	
1991			
Approve waiting period for handgun purchases		N	
Appropriate \$509 million for superconducting super collider		Y	
Raise senators' pay and ban honoraria		N	
Tie China's most-favored trade status to human-rights progress		Y	
Kill amendment to allow women to fly as combat pilots		Y	
Kill amendment to prevent deployment of anti-missile system		N	
Transfer \$3.1 billion to domestic programs from defense		N	
Authorize use of force in Persian Gulf		Y	
Provide up to 20 additional weeks of unemployment benefits		N	
Provide 12 weeks of family leave for workers		N	
Confirm Clarence Thomas to Supreme Court			Y
19hts Act of 1991	N		
Invoke cloture on consideration of energy bill		Y	
Confirm Robert Gates as CIA director		Y	
Authorize \$500 million to dismantle Soviet nuclear weapons		?	
Lower federal share of costs for interstate-highway repair		N	
1990			
Oppose prohibition of certain semiautomatic weapons		Y	
Support constitutional amendment on flag desecration		Y	
Oppose requiring parental notice for minors' abortions		N	
Halt production of B-2 stealth bomber at 13 planes		N	
Approve budget that cut spending and raised revenues		N	
Pass civil rights bill over Bush veto		N	
1989			
Oppose reduction of SDI funding		Y	
Oppose barring federal funds for "obscene" art		N	
Allow vote on capital gains tax cut	trol Laws		
	Y		
Re Reagan veto	N		
Approve death penalty for drug-related murders		Y	
Oppose 'workfare' amendment to welfare overhaul bill		N	
Allow vote on campaign-finance overhaul		N	
Pass civil rights restoration bill over Reagan veto		N	
1987			

Limit Testing of Anti-Ballistic Missiles in Space	N
Oppose banning tests of larger nuclear weapons	Y
Confirm Supreme Court Nominee Judge Robert H. Bork	Y
Enact omnibus highway bill over Reagan veto	N

1986

Block Chemical Weapons Production	N
Impose Sanctions on South Africa	N
Amend Constitution to Require a Balanced Budget	Y
Aid Nicaraguan Contras	Y

1985

Weaken Gun Control	ADA	ACA	A	Y
Reject School Prayer				N
Produce MX Missiles				Y
Limit Textile Imports				Y

1984

Retain funds for "Star Wars" defense research	Y
Permit school prayer	Y
Cut military aid to El Salvador	N
Keep tax indexing	Y

1983

Overturn Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion	P
Allow chemical weapons production	Y
Create Martin Luther King Jr. holiday	N
Bar funding for MX missile	N

(See Reference Guide for explanation of vote captions and symbols)

INTEREST GROUP RATINGS (Updated: April 1994)

Year	5	86	96	--	---	---	-----	----
1978	5		96					
1993	10	--		18	80	100		
1992	5	--		13	100	100		
1991	5	--		20	88	100		
1990	6	--		22	92	100		
1989	5	--		20	75	100		
1988	5	--		23	75	100		
1987	10	--		20	89	100		
1986	0	--		0	95	100		
1985	0	--		5	93	100		
1984	0	--		0	89	100		
1983	0	--		0	89	100		
1982	0	--		8	95	100		
1981	0	--		5	100	100		
1980	11	100		5	83	--		
1979	5	100		5	2 REPORT for custom report			5
96	11	87		--				
1977	0	100		10	94	--		
1976	5	100		10	100	--		
1975	0	93		15	94	--		
1974	5	100		10	89	--		
1973	0	100		18	100	--		

Prefix :	Mr.	Nickname :	Jesse
Sex :	M	Birthday :	10/18/21
DCphone :	(202) 224-6342	DCFax :	
First elected :	72	Reelect :	1996
CG92 perc :	43.0 %	Last perc :	53.0 %
Bush perc :	43.0 %	Last perc opp :	0.0 %
Perot perc :	14.0 %	Last pac% :	0.0 %
Democrat pref :	0.0 %	Last \$:	
AFLCIO perc :		Pres Voting :	0.0 %
Statephone :		StateFax :	
Geography :		Religion :	
Room :	403	Building :	Dirksen Senate Office Building
WhipZone :	12	Zip :	20510-3301
94 Election Plans :		94 Opponent :	
Spouse :			
Notes :			

Comm ID	Committee Name	Position
001	Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	
003	Agricultural Production and Stabilization of Prices	R
005	Domestic and Foreign Marketing and Product Promotion	
006	Nutrition and Investigations	
064	Foreign Relations	R
065	African Affairs	X

Committee		
Comm ID	Committee Name	Position
066	East Asian and Pacific Affairs	X
067	European Affairs	X
068	International Economic Policy, Trade, Oceans and Environment	
069	Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs	X
070	Terrorism, Narcotics and International Operations	
071	Western Hemisphere and Peace Corps Affairs	
093	Rules and Administration	

Contacts					
Date	Title	Participants	Type	Staff id	Contact ID
4/27/93	UNC and Texas Tech Basketball	President	Photo Op	00	999907
3/2/93	Republican Luncheon	President	Meeting	00	999952

Contacts				
Location	Time	Staff Contact	Request	Request Status
Oval				

Contacts			
Accepted	Attended	Notes	Upload_date
			5/5/93
			6/2/93

		Votes										
Vote_name	Bill Num	Date	Position	Y/n	WH	MW	AG	GR	Notes	Admin Year	Vote id	Chamber
Budget Rec. Pass.	HR2264	6/25/93	Y	N						1	8963	S
Brady Bill Passage	HR1025	11/20/93	Y	N						1	8964	S
NAFTA Passage	HR3450	11/20/93	Y	N						1	8965	S
Grazing Fees	HR2520	9/14/93	N	Y						1	8966	S
Budget Rec. Conf.	HR2264	8/6/93	Y	N						1	8967	S
Natl. Service Pass.	HR2010	8/3/93	Y	N						1	8968	S
Cam. Fin. Passage	S3	6/17/93	Y	N						1	8970	S
Camp. Finan. Cloture	S3	6/16/93	Y	N						1	8971	S
Stimulus Cloture	HR1335	4/21/93	Y	N						1	8972	S
Budget Res. Conf.	HConRes64	4/1/93	Y	N						1	8973	S
Budget Res. Passage	HConRes64	3/25/93	Y	N						1	8974	S
Motor Voter	S460	3/9/93	Y	N						1	8975	S
Family and Medical	HR1	2/4/93	Y	N						1	8977	S

		Staff					
Title	Fname	Lname	Issues	Wphone	Wfax	Hphone	Staff_id
Senator	Jesse	Helms		(202) 224-6342			00
Admin. Asst.	Darryl	Nirenberg		(202) 224-6342			01
Appt. Secy.	Frances	Hampe		(202) 224-6342			02
Legis. Dir.	Darryl	Nirenberg		(202) 224-6342			03
Press Secy.	Eric	Lundgren		(202) 224-6342			04

		Caucus		
Caucus ID	Position	Caucus Name	Pos_code	