

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

() Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.
 Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
 Spoon, Alan G.
 The Washington Post Company
 1150 15th Street, N.W.
 Washington, DC 20071
 USA
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 The Washington Post Company
 WPO
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
4. Statement for Month/Year
 May 1999
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
 (X) Director () 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other
 (specify below)
 President & COO
7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
 (X) Form filed by One Reporting Person
 () Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security	2. Transaction Date	3. Transaction Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	6. Director (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Class B Common Stock	5/26/99	M	3,000	A 268.50		
Class B Common Stock	5/26/99	S	2,100	D 570.125	7,866	D

Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative	3. Transaction Date	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned at End of Month	10. Director (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	268.50	12/12/89	M	3,000	12/12/90 - 12/12/99	Class B Common	3,000	110,000*	D	

Explanation of Responses:
 *Includes all outstanding option rights to buy previously reported.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
 Alan G. Spoon
 DATE
 June 8, 1999