

Cameron, Stevie

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Multi-award winning investigative journalist Stevie Cameron

investigative team for The National Post, Cameron has recently concentrated more on books. She was founding editor of the national magazine Elm Street, but has resigned that position to focus on books.

Her newest book, *The Last Amigo: Karlheinz Shreiber and the Anatomy of a Scandal*, written with Harvey Cashore, exposes the airbus scandal.

It's about a German Canadian

paying bribes on the airbus deal with the Mulroney government. The scandal ignited the biggest political crisis since the Second World War. It was very exciting to be involved with a story about international scandal, and an amazing experience, said Cameron.

Cameron is also the author of *Blue Trust: The Author, the Lawyer, his Wife and her Money* about Bruce Vercher, a tax lawyer

whose clients included Mulroney, and tales of tax fraud, embezzlement and an affair. She also wrote *Ottawa Inside and Out: Power, Prestige and Scandal in the Nation's Capital*.

As an author, Cameron has written four self-described "dangerous books." With all of her books there have be no legal threats or letters. However, as a journalist with Maclean's or The Globe and Mail, she got them all the time, she said.

Cameron attributes Canada's tough libel laws to inhibiting people to tell the truth.

"In the States, you can write a story that you believe is true, and the other party has to prove it isn't. Here in Canada, the writer has to prove the story is true," she said.

Cameron deals with big issues, and big people. Conrad Black has made a habit of creating lawsuits, she said. He sued Cameron for letting down a source in an article she wrote. However her source, a Mountie, wrote a letter stating he was not in anyway mistreated or misrepresented. Black refused to print the letter in any of the papers he owned, so The Globe and Mail did, said Cameron. The lawsuit was eventually dropped.

"I'm playing in the very big leagues, where the players have very deep pockets," she said.

Despite lawsuits, and threats, Cameron said, "You can't beat the day-to-day newspaper ... The better the newspaper the nicer the people."

Because her books are non-fiction and deal with political scandal and liability, it's always hard to get people to talk, Cameron said, and you have to protect their identities. However, Canadians are quite feisty, and people will help more than you think.

"Sometimes when I interview Canadians they ask what took you so long to come?" said Cameron.