

FLASH

NEWS

www.MediaResearch.org

The Media Research Center's Monthly Members' Report

TAKE ACTION! Fight the Liberal Media Bias Arrayed Against Our Troops in Iraq!

A Special Letter from MRC Trustee Major General John K. Singlaub (U.S.A. Ret.)

Dear Friend,

If you believe the liberal media's reporting on the American military effort in Iraq, you're almost forced to be ashamed of our troops.

The liberal media want you to believe that U.S. troops in Iraq are guilty of widespread torture, oppressing civilians, murdering U.S. journalists, opposing the war effort ... and losing the war.

That's the leftist media's latest refrain, and they're singing their defeatist song in harmony day and night, on the TV news and in every major liberal newspaper — the U.S. can't win!

Well, I'm not ashamed of our troops, and I do believe something else.

After a military career that began in World War II and included combat roles in both the European and Pacific theaters of that conflict, as well as in Korea and Vietnam, I think I know a little bit more about our military situation than some anonymous editorial writer at the *New York Times* or some hair-sprayed TV "commentator."

And I can tell you this: Our brave troops in Iraq are winning the war.

And despite being immersed in a lethally hostile environment, they're upholding the

highest standards of decency and civilization in their selfless mission to liberate the Iraqi people from tyranny and confront the America-hating terrorist fanatics on their own ground.

But these courageous men and women need to know that somebody back home is working to restore some appearance of fairness and balance to the media's coverage of the sacrifices they're making for us.

Do you agree with me? If so, you need to check out the Media Research Center's new national project, "Fight Media Bias!" at this

Web site address: www.FightMediaBias.org. (Or, you can call the MRC at 1-800-672-1423 and ask for information about the "Fight Media Bias!" project.) There, you can add your name to the "Message of Support to Our Troops," and sign up to send a special gift of support to a soldier in Iraq or Afghanistan.

The liberal media are distorting the truth beyond recognition. So now, the MRC and I are calling on you to help us tell our brave men and women on the front lines the following:

- 1) We support you here on the home front and,

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Help us get a signed Dog Tag to every one of the 150,000 men and women in uniform in Iraq.

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MRC In The News



America's Media Watchdog

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2) We're exposing and challenging the liberal media's lies about you.

That's the message you'll be sending when you go to FightMediaBias.org and add your name to the "Message of Support to Our Troops." Because when you sign up, the MRC and I are going to send a special "dog tag" to one of our brave men or women in uniform on the front line, in your name, personally.

The dog tag bears the message, "Don't Believe the Liberal Media — America Supports Our Troops!" Also, it promises your prayers until that soldier comes home safe and sound. Your name will be inscribed on the dog tag for this soldier to see. We'll also send you a "dog tag."

I hope you'll put your dog tag on your key chain as a daily reminder of the sacrifices our troops are making by putting themselves in harm's way in support of freedom and in defense of our nation's security. It will also be a visible badge of your participation in this grassroots activist campaign and it will remind you every day to pray for our troops and their safe return home.

We must not forget that the liberal "Big Media" — the network news operations at ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, and "establishment" papers like the *New York Times* — are ceaselessly pounding the same handful of ugly, negative themes:

We're losing the war...

Troops are near mutiny, they're so opposed to the war effort...

And if they're not opposing the war effort, these soldiers are routinely torturing prisoners and oppressing civilians...

They're even deliberately murdering U.S. journalists.

1. Enter your name here as you would like it to appear on your personalized Dog Tag (required):

2. Optional: Add a personal message and/or contact info if you would like to hear from the soldier who receives your personalized Dog Tag:

3. Type your email address here, to validate your dog tag (required):

Send Your Dog Tag!

Sending your Dog Tag is easy. Simply visit www.FightMediaBias.org and fill out this form. Rest assured, the MRC will deliver your tag.

Every one of these wild accusations is, of course, false.

We need you to join us in demanding that the media tell the truth about our troops in Iraq and help us get a signed tag to every single one of the 150,000 men and women in uniform over there.

The MRC has already sent, or has in the pipeline, over 26,000 signed "dog tags" to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. But that means there's more than 100,000 of our troops still over there who haven't personally received our message — "Don't Believe the Liberal Media — America Supports Our Troops!"

To reach those brave soldiers, you can directly help by visiting FightMediaBias.org and signing on.

You can also pass this information to your friends, relatives and colleagues. They, in turn, can forward the information to their friends and your activism in support of our troops will be multiplied many times over.

Our troops need to know that the vast majority of Americans see through the media's shameful lies about them. Together, with a big grassroots response, we can expose the liberal media's lies and send a massive, warm, personal message of support to every one of our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

With urgent thanks,

Major General John K. Singlaub (U.S.A. Ret.)

On behalf of the MRC's "Fight Media Bias!" campaign

NOTE: You can also contact the MRC or Gen. Singlaub with comments or questions by sending an email to: info@FightMediaBias.org.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **COMING NEXT MONTH!** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

WHO WON? ... WHAT HAPPENED?

**A full report on the MRC's Gala and DisHonors Awards
Featuring a Special Tribute to the American Military**

Stay tuned for the details...or log onto

www.MRC.org

today to see the results and view the video clips!



The Threat the Broadcast Networks Have Chosen to Ignore

BY DAN GAINOR • THE BOONE PICKENS FREE MARKET FELLOW

Hugo Chavez is one part leftist dictator, another part anti-American revolutionary and one part ... oil man. Together, the president of Venezuela controls the second largest oil reserve in the Western Hemisphere and the once-American-owned energy firm Citgo. His misuse of that oil wealth makes his radical regime a major threat to America's national security, but you'd never know it watching the broadcast networks.

In February, Chavez "insisted the U.S. would receive 'no more oil' if it 'crossed the line' in its supposed efforts to undermine his 'revolution,'" reported the *Financial Times*. ABC and NBC didn't report on that threat or one he made the month before. All three networks – ABC, CBS and NBC – minimized the danger from Chavez, along with much of the truth about his leadership, human rights abuses and his control of Citgo.

Instead, the Big Three networks hid the truth with word games, labeling him everything from "leftist" to "socialist," but skipping any indication of his politics 60 percent of the time. Both NBC and CBS called him "left-leaning," a term *CBS Evening News* reporter Byron Pitts also used for Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) in a July 3, 2004 campaign story. It wasn't just Kerry who was "left-leaning." Other reporters used the term for everything from Howard Dean to the movie *Brokeback Mountain*.

The Free Market Project took a look at how the networks have covered Chavez, the man who wants to become his generation's Castro. FMP looked at all 139 news and news-related stories on the broadcast networks about Chavez since he took power in 1998 and results showed the media downplaying any danger. One Oct. 30, 2000, piece on ABC's *Good Morning America* was even about Chavez and Castro singing a "show stopping" duet as part of Chavez's weekly radio address.

That was appropriate since the rest of the coverage was the old song and dance. Networks that love to skewer American oil executives were reluctant to point out the dangers of someone even they, on rare occasions, admit is "anti-American." Chavez is much more. He's popular with some of the world's worst dictators, from Saddam Hussein to Robert Mugabe, and has a human rights record that Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch strongly criticize.

Chavez's saber rattling could raise oil prices and harm the American economy. He poses a serious danger to the United States – even if the broadcast networks ignore it.

Dan Gainor is the Boone Pickens Free Market Fellow and director of the Media Research Center's Free Market Project, www.freemarketproject.org.

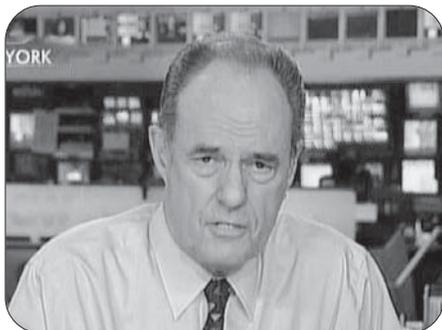
CBS Trumpets Dishonest Poll on President's Approval Rating

CBS News conducted a grossly skewed poll about President Bush's approval rating and the *CBS Evening News* and most other liberal media outlets ran with the dishonest number results again, again and again. *Evening News* anchor Bob Schieffer was almost giddy Feb. 27 when he cited the poll, supposedly showing President Bush's approval rating at an "all-time low" of 34 percent. What Schieffer didn't tell viewers, however, is that the poll relied on responses from 409 Democrats and only 272 Republicans. Further, CBS "weighted" its sample to reflect an ideal cross-section of American adults by adjusting the number of self-described Republicans up to 28 percent and Democrats down to 37 percent, and independents with the rest. But that's hardly the exit-poll breakdown the networks found on Election Day 2004 (37 percent GOP, 37 percent Democrat, 26 percent independent).

"What Schieffer didn't tell viewers, however, is that the poll relied on responses from 409 Democrats and only 272 Republicans. Further, CBS 'weighted' its sample...."

Despite CBS's skewed polling tricks, ABC's *Good Morning America* and NBC's *Today* ran with the 34 percent number, as did CNN, which promoted the poll at 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10PM on Feb. 28. CNN's *The Situation Room* also noted the bogus poll, as did *Larry King Live*. CBS, the network that gave America the forged memos on President Bush's National Guard service has now given America a dishonest poll on Bush's approval rating.





On *The Situation Room*, CNN's Jack Cafferty went apoplectic, urging everyone to oppose the UAE ports deal, and highlighting several viewer emails calling for the President's impeachment.

Impeach Bush!

CNN's Jack Cafferty has been given a left-leaning soapbox on the show *The Situation Room*. In the debate over the United Arab Emirates ports deal, Cafferty went apoplectic on Feb. 21 urging everyone to oppose the deal. Yes, most Americans opposed the deal, but Cafferty wanted blood. He highlighted viewer emails calling for the President's impeachment. Cafferty excoriated: "Here's the question. What should be done to stop a deal that would allow an Arab company with ties to terrorism to run U.S. ports?"

Want to stay on top of media bias? Sign up for the *CyberAlert* e-mail report.

It's FREE!

To subscribe, just e-mail

jbookwalter@mediaresearch.org

Mention that you read about the offer in *FLASH*.

Cafferty then read from one emailer who argued that "this deal is nothing short of collusion with a foreign power of unknown intent during wartime. The President should be impeached." And another: "Putting George Bush in charge of our country was a huge mistake, and my fellow citizens finally realize that it was a disaster. Time to impeach this President."

Awards Go Left

A year after Bill Moyers won a "career" award, the 2005 winners of the George Polk Awards, which "memorialize the CBS correspondent who was murdered while covering the civil war in Greece in 1948," were announced Feb. 21. The winners are a who's who of liberal activists, including left-wing *New York Times* columnist Frank Rich and Victor Navasky, the long-time Editor of the far-left *The Nation* magazine, and long-time apologist for communist spies Alger Hiss and Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.

Virtually all the Polk award winners in reporting categories went to journalists who revealed secret anti-terror operations, undermined America's anti-terror efforts or embarrassed people and/or contractors linked to the Bush administration. Not surprisingly, the winners were selected by an advisory panel assembled by academics at Long Island University.

Gumbel's Racial Rant

The liberal media gave Bryant Gumbel a pass in February when he prattled on about too many white people at the Winter Olympics on his HBO show, *Real Sports*. "Try not to laugh when someone says these are the world's greatest athletes, despite a paucity of blacks that makes the Winter Games look like a GOP convention," said Gumbel. Of course, that's racial bean-counting. And it's also morally skewed



Bryant Gumbel flew into a racial rant about the Winter Olympics, saying "Try not to laugh when someone says these are the world's greatest athletes, despite a paucity of blacks that makes the Winter Games look like a GOP convention...."

because it says that to be among the greatest athletes you have to be black.

But because Gumbel, who's black, said it, the liberal media let him get away with it. Rush Limbaugh was roundly denounced by the media when he made allegedly racist – but in fact not racist — remarks about a football player. So where are the media condemnations now against the real racism of Gumbel?

Anti-Christian Cartoons

The *New York Times* and most of the liberal media took the so-called "high road" and refused to publish the controversial cartoons depicting the Islamic prophet Mohammed as a bomb-wielding terrorist. On its Feb. 8 editorial page, the *NYT* stated that not showing the cartoons was "a reasonable choice for news organizations that usually refrain from gratuitous assaults on religious symbols."

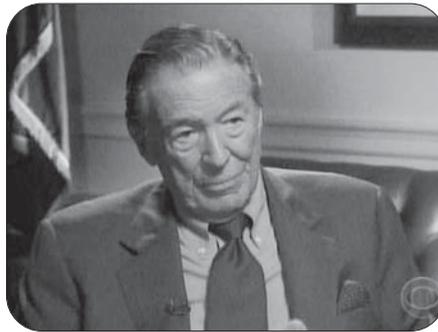
Yet that advice didn't make it to the *NYT*'s own Arts section, which ran a story that same day by Michael Kimmelman featuring a photo of alleged artist Chris Ofili's dung-clotted "Holy Virgin Mary." And, back in 1999, the *NYT* editorial page defended Ofili's "work," then on display at a museum, stating,

“A museum is obliged to challenge the public as well as to placate it, or else the museum becomes a chamber of attractive ghosts, an institution completely disconnected from art in our time.”

Vets Support War?

60 Minutes's Mike Wallace was “astonished” in his Feb. 12 report that many veterans seriously wounded in Iraq actually support the war. “Almost all of them support the war despite the fact that it’s taken such a toll on them,” lamented Wallace. “We asked them flat out: What about should we be there? And the ones that are the most severely hit believe yes, we should have been there. They are not angry at the President...”

Wallace, a former game show host, has previously made clear his opposition



60 Minutes's Mike Wallace was “astonished” in his Feb. 12 report that many veterans seriously wounded in Iraq actually support the war.

to the war. In late November on Fox News Channel, he contended that “Iraq is becoming a kind of Vietnam” and asserted that “we should never have gone into Iraq. We were sold a bill of goods.” Back in 2004 at a Smithsonian forum,

Wallace argued that “this is not, in my estimation, a good war” and declared that “it sure is not a noble enterprise.”

Good News Ignored

The Bureau of Labor Statistics announced Feb. 3 that the unemployment rate for January fell by 0.2 percent from December, down to 4.7 percent, the lowest level since July of 2001. But viewers of ABC's *World News Tonight* and CBS *Evening News* heard nothing about it, though ABC had time for another full story on the Muslim “cartoon outrage.”

The CBS *Evening News* didn't even put the new unemployment number in its “Market Watch” bumper, which listed just stock market numbers.

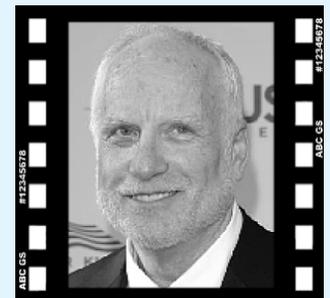
MINIBITS

“Shows like CBS' *48 Hours* take real events and jig them up to titillate viewers,” said *Columbian*

Missourian Publisher **Henry J. Waters** after *48 Hours* used a faked photo from the paper for a broadcast. “Al-Jazeera in Arabic is, I believe, one of the most revolutionary and positive influences on the Arabic-speaking, mostly Islamic Middle Eastern world, in, literally, centuries.” – former ABC reporter **Dave Marash**, now working for an English-language edition of Al-Jazeera. The “problem” with the possible civil war in Iraq, according to *Hardball*'s **Chris Matthews**, “is it took a little time for this to take shape.” At the National Press Club, actor **Richard Dreyfuss** declared: “If you accept the expansion of wiretapping as business as usual, the only way to express this now is to embrace the difficult and perhaps embarrassing process of [Bush's] impeachment.” Meanwhile, actor **Alec “Aristotle” Baldwin** says: “Cheney is a terrorist. He terrorizes our enemies abroad and innocent citizens here at home indiscriminately. Who ever thought Harry Whittington would be the answer to America's prayers? Finally, someone who might get that lying, thieving Cheney into a courtroom to answer some direct questions.” And yet actor **George Clooney** gets honest: “So, in general we [Hollywood] tend to be, you know, is there a liberal bent, sure. I don't make any apologies about that. I'm a liberal, you know. I believe in it.”



Alec Baldwin says: “Cheney is a terrorist. He terrorizes our enemies abroad and innocent citizens here at home...”



Richard Dreyfuss says it's time to embrace the process of Bush's impeachment.

By David Thibault
CNSNews.com Editor-in-Chief



CNSNews.com Hires Former Interns as Full-Time Staff

Echoing the liberal bias that exists in the overwhelming majority of U.S. media organizations, the nation's appropriately named "liberal arts" colleges encourage would-be journalists to adopt the same line of thinking in order to succeed.

Most students hardly notice the fact that they are being indoctrinated with the politics of the Left. They see only one path in front of them. However, there are some college students out there who don't mind taking, in the words of Robert Frost, the road "less traveled."

We believe that CNSNews.com's internship program attracts those special individuals who have already become suspicious of the liberal spin in the media and are unafraid of saying so, despite peer pressure, popular opinion, and professors bent on turning them into left-wing propaganda robots.

Dozens of college students have participated in the CNSNews.com internship program over the past eight years and emerged with experience and skills that have landed them prestigious professional positions in journalism, on Capitol Hill, and with public policy and think tank organizations. Two of our recent interns were so good we hired them as full-time reporters/staff writers.

Monisha Bansal, who interned at CNSNews.com during the summer of 2005, had already seen dozens of her news articles published on our Web site by the time she graduated from George Washington University in the nation's capital last December. By the middle of March, three months after we brought her on full-time, more than 100 of Monisha's articles had been published, on topics ranging from the selection of Supreme Court justices to the Hurricane Katrina recovery.

Nathan Burchfiel, who interned for us during the summer of 2004, continued in a part-time capacity for the next 18 months while completing his degree at the University of Maryland in College Park. He will graduate in May, but even before he gets the diploma, Nathan has secured his first full-time position in journalism. He'll join the full-time staff at CNSNews.com on June 1. More than 175 news articles written by Nathan have already been published on the CNSNews.com Web site.

This astonishing professional portfolio was produced by two individuals who are still just 21 years old. And now they are making news.

Nathan recently appeared on Fox News Channel's *Hannity and Colmes* program to discuss his news article and video clips revolving around anti-war activist Cindy Sheehan and her contention that President Bush was 10 times a worse terrorist than Osama bin Laden. The al Qaeda leader, Sheehan stated, had killed "only" 3,000 people in the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on the U.S., while, she reasoned, the president had been responsible for 10 times that many fatalities in Iraq.

Monisha recently helped push CNSNews.com's daily audience to over a quarter of a million readers in a single day when her article regarding new evidence that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction was picked up by *The Drudge Report*.

Monisha and Nathan represent a new generation of journalists, willing to let all voices weigh in on a particular controversy, reporting details accurately without bias and letting CNSNews.com readers

judge the issues for themselves. They are among the most recent success stories in an intern program that dates back to 1998, when CNSNews.com was in its infancy.

Now, with the Web site attracting more than 3.6 million readers a month and some of the nation's most prominent radio and television talk show hosts touting CNSNews.com's achievements, the opportunities for interns in our organization are greater than ever. Even with the additions of Monisha and Nathan to the full-time staff, we still do everything we do with just 12 full-time employees, an excellent roster of domestic and international freelance journalists and the latest group of interns.

Many news organizations boast staffs that involve thousands of employees. But those organizations are hampered by many things, including their own institutional biases of commission and omission. CNSNews.com's success proves that you don't need a lot of people to do the job right. You just need the right people to do the job.



Former CNSNews.com interns, **Monisha Bansal** and **Nathan Burchfiel**, are now full-time reporters at the news service.



AMERICA'S MEDIA WATCHDOG

Documenting, Exposing and Fighting Media Bias

MRC IN THE NEWS

The experts at the Media Research Center are interviewed almost every day on stories of national importance, often reaching millions of Americans daily. They provide analysis and commentary on radio, TV, the Internet, in magazines, books and in newspapers, always striving to help restore political balance to the major media. Some of the MRC's latest media appearances include the following:

TELEVISION

☛ FNC, *Hannity & Colmes*, Feb. 13

RADIO

Fox Live with Alan Colmes, March 3

Dateline, March 3

Linda Chavez Program, Feb. 21

Rush Limbaugh Show, Feb. 17

Sean Hannity Tuned Into America, Feb. 17

G. Gordon Liddy Show, Feb. 28

Rush Limbaugh Show, Feb. 16

American Family Radio, Feb. 15

Talk Radio News Service, Feb. 9

BizRadio Network, KXYZ, Feb. 28

WLW, Cincinnati, Feb. 15, 17, 27

WVLK, Lexington, Feb. 28

WSBA, York, Feb. 28

WBAL, Baltimore, Feb. 14, 18, March 1, 4

KSFO, San Francisco, March 7

WNTA, Rockford, March 2

KRMA, Springfield, March 1

WCHS, Charleston, Feb. 28

KTSA, San Antonio, Feb. 14, 15, March 2

KGNW, Seattle, Feb. 28

WCHS, Charleston, March 1

WKTQ, Portland, March 3

WPGP, Pittsburgh, March 6

WMUZ, Detroit, Feb. 15, March 6

WHPT, Philadelphia, Feb. 18

WIBA, Madison, Feb. 14, 15

KOA, Feb. 14

WAAM, Ann Arbor, Feb. 15

KRLA, Glendale, Feb. 15

WFLA, Tallahassee, Feb. 16

WNTA, Rockford, Feb. 17

WBT, Charlotte, Feb. 18

WCHS, Charleston, Feb. 14

WPTF, Raleigh, Feb. 16

WOWO, Ft. Wayne, Feb. 17

WIZM, La Crosse, Feb. 17

WSAU, Wausau, Feb. 23

WHP, Harrisburg, Feb. 14

WLFL, Daytona Beach, Feb. 15

WORD, Pittsburgh, Feb. 15

WTKK, Boston, Feb. 15

KKMA, Sioux Falls, Feb. 16

WDUN, Atlanta, Feb. 16

KAHL, San Antonio, Feb. 15

WMET, Washington, Feb. 16, 17

WIBC, Indianapolis, Feb. 16

WGBF, Evansville, Feb. 17

WNRI, Rhode Island, Feb. 17

WTWB, Lakeland, Feb. 16, 17

WOAI, San Antonio, Feb. 17

KVI, Seattle, Feb. 9

KSLR, San Antonio, Feb. 9

PRINT

Investor's Business Daily, Feb. 24

USA Today, Feb. 16, 20

Washington Post, Feb. 27

Washington Times, Feb. 12, 13, 14, 16, 23, March 7, 8

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, Feb. 12, 19, 26, March 5

Washington Examiner, Feb. 22, 23

Chicago Tribune, Feb. 15

Associated Press Financial Wire, Feb. 26

Associated Press Worldstream, Feb. 11, 26

New York Observer, March 13

Dallas Morning News, Feb. 26

Chattanooga Times-Free Press, Feb. 25

Wilkes Barre Times-Leader, Feb. 28

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Feb. 14

V Crisis, March 2

Daily Oklahoman, Feb. 22

Midland Daily News, March 6

Idaho Statesman, Feb. 22

Slate Magazine, Feb. 20

Augusta Chronicle, Feb. 14, 15

Galveston Daily News, Feb. 20

Athens Banner-Herald, Feb. 12

Knoxville News Sentinel, Feb. 12

Suffolk News-Herald, Feb. 22

CBS NEWS

PublicEye

THE RUSH LIMBAUGH SHOW

FOX NEWS .com

AP Associated Press

DRUDGE REPORT

The Washington Post

Chicago Tribune

INTERNET

CBS Public Eye blog, Feb. 17

CBSNews.com, Feb. 28

Drudge Report, Feb. 2, 6, 15, 17, 21, 28

Powerlineblog.com, March 8

Townhall.com, March 8

MediaBistro.com, March 7

FoxNews.com, Feb. 3

Atlantic Online, Feb. 28

LifeNews.com, Feb. 22, 27

Media Matters for America, Feb. 15, 17, March 2, 8

Tech News, Feb. 27

Frontpagemag.com, March 7

GOPUSA, March 2

The Paladin blog, Feb. 12

Human Events Online, Feb. 15, 20, 22, March 3

Wizbangblog.com, Feb. 17

National Ledger, Feb. 15, 24, March 1

Cato.org, Feb. 15

Agape Press, Feb. 22

MichNews.com, Feb. 27

Sierra Times.com, Feb. 27

RenewAmerica.us, Feb. 25

