The coverage given to leftist Democrat Barack Obama’s presidential run proves that the liberal media are “in the tank” for him and will do almost anything to help get him into the White House. It is obvious and embarrassing for a media who claim to be objective and non-partisan — liberal media is indeed a redundancy.

A perfect case in point was Obama’s eight-day trip to the Middle East and Europe in late July to shore-up his lack of foreign policy bona fide. The liberal media, through their coverage, tuned the event into a traveling love fest. NBC’s Andrea Mitchell, in fact, described Obama’s meeting with French President Nicolas Sarkozy as “a love fest.”

Analyzing the news of those eight days, the Media Research Center produced a report that showed the networks — ABC, CBS, and NBC, which reach more than 40 million Americans daily — gave a total of 92 minutes of coverage to Obama. Yet when Republican John McCain made a similar trip abroad in March, the media elite gave him only 8.5 minutes of coverage.

That’s right: 92 minutes for the liberal Democratic golden boy and 8.5 minutes for the Republican guy. More than 10 times the airtime for Obama than McCain. That seems fair, doesn’t it? No liberal bias here?

As the MRC documented, the CBS Evening News was the most obviously tilted, with more than 34 minutes of Obama coverage during the July 20-27 trip. McCain’s seven-day trip garnered a piddling 10 seconds from CBS, a ridiculously lopsided 200-to-1 disparity.

ABC’s World News with Charles Gibson gave Obama nearly as much coverage as CBS (about 33 minutes), or roughly 15 times more attention than they provided McCain’s trip (slightly more than two minutes).

NBC’s Nightly News spent nearly 25 minutes covering Obama, or about four times more than they gave McCain back in March (a little over six minutes).

In addition to the grossly lopsided airtime given to Obama’s trip, the examples of liberal media bias were countless. Some of the coverage gems of near-worship for Obama by the media include:

- After the first day of Obama’s trip on July 19, ABC, CBS, and NBC, which reach more than 40 million Americans daily — gave a total of 92 minutes of coverage to Obama. Yet when Republican John McCain made a similar trip abroad in March, the media elite gave him only 8.5 minutes of coverage.

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Continued from page 1

a U.S. senator versus that of a presidential candidate” before heralding: “His words tonight are reverberating from the war fronts in Afghanistan and Iraq to the Pentagon.”

● NBC’s David Gregory claimed that Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri Al-Maliki’s suggestion of a U.S. troop withdrawal by 2010 “validated” Obama’s position and thus refuted any notion of Obama’s foreign policy “naiveté.”

● On July 23, Nightline’s Cynthia McFadden condescendingly compared McCain to an envious younger sibling when it came to media coverage: “Now, if you have a younger sibling, you can probably relate to what Senator John McCain has been going through this week. Whatever he does, everybody seems to be talking about the new kid in town.” McFadden’s colleague David Wright then did a segment on McCain with this introduction: “Pity the poor Straight Talk Express. While Barack Obama is off globe-trotting, grabbing all that high-profile, high-octane attention, we’re here on the tarmac in Allentown, Pennsylvania. ... Do you [McCain] kind of feel like you’re going to be stuck playing defense from now until November?”

● On July 24, the networks all led with Obama’s speech in Berlin. Charles Gibson oozed to Obama: “When an American politician comes to Berlin, we’ve had some iconic utterances in the past. We’ve had ‘ich bin ein.’ We’ve had ‘Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.’ Is the phraseology that you would like remembered, ‘people of Berlin, people of the world, this is our moment, this is our time’?”

● In a related example, the Associated Press ran a story on July 22 touting Obama’s “superstar charisma” meeting “German adoration” with a promise to “redeem” America.

● On the July 25 Early Show, CBS’s Mark Phillips swooned over the Berlin speech. “There is a bit of a morning-after feeling here in Berlin after what they’re calling the ‘Obama show.’ But if the intent of this trip was to raise Barack Obama’s foreign profile, it could hardly have been raised any higher. ...The stage could not have been bigger. The 200,000-plus crowd confirmed his rock star status, and his more cooperative sounding rhetoric was what the crowd wanted to hear.” Phillips — no surprise — did not report that free beer and live rock music were offered prior to the speech to bring in that big crowd.

But the American people are on to this leftist press. They know they are not getting objective news. They know the liberal media are cheerleading for Obama. The week of Obama’s trip, Rasmussen Reports and Fox News/Opinion Dynamics ran separate polls about what Americans think of the media and Obama. Rasmussen found on July 21 that 49 percent think the media will slant their coverage in an explicit attempt to help Obama get elected, while only 14 percent think they will do the same for McCain.

Three days later, the Fox poll showed that “67 percent of the respondents think most media members want Obama to win. Just 11 percent think most in the media are for McCain.”

Those numbers echo what the MRC documented in its report on the slanted coverage: the liberal media are little more than propagandists for the Obama campaign. Those numbers also re-confirm the mission of the MRC to document and expose liberal media bias.

The MRC is getting the message out, thanks to your generous help. And the American people are not as malleable as the media might think. But it is a constant struggle and we must carry on — ever forward!

Yours truly,

Brent Bozell
Founder and President
While the liberal media railed endlessly — and still do — about the 2001 Enron scandal and tried to pin the blame on greedy capitalists and President Bush, they studiously avoided the brewing financial mess with the government-sponsored Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac — a scandal that is now going to cost taxpayers at least $25 billion to bail out.

Back in 2005, the MRC’s Business & Media Institute (BMI) published a Special Report that exposed how the networks — ABC, CBS, and NBC, which reach more than 40 million Americans every day — were largely ignoring the Fannie Mae problem (and later reports touched on Freddie Mac.)

In “Government-Sponsored Enron: Billion Dollar Scandal Not Ready for Primetime,” the BMI report explained how Fannie Mae is a “government sponsored enterprise,” charter-ed by Congress to help provide mortgages for first-time home-buyers and minorities — that it is a politically correct enterprise with connections that go deep into the Democratic Party, which explains why the liberal networks were ignoring it.

The Wall Street Journal kept tabs on the story as did, to some extent, The Washington Post. But they were the exceptions. While the BMI report went out in 2005 and got a lot of attention on conservative talk radio and other conservative outlets, another report should have garnered the networks’ attention.

The Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight office warned in 2006 about the “façade” Fannie Mae had created between 1998 and 2004 to make itself appear to be a “best in class” institution. It went on to detail the “earnings manipulation” and “misl-manage-ment” that was, at that point, responsible for $10.6 billion of losses, “and ill-gotten bonuses in the hundreds of millions of dollars.”

But the liberals at ABC, CBS, and NBC still didn’t want to talk about it. At the peak of scandals within Enron and Fannie Mae, the networks focused on the private company, Enron, over Fannie Mae by a margin of 3,017-to-37, as BMI reported. That’s more than 85-to-one.

That’s no surprise, as Fannie’s CEO from 1999 to 2004 was Franklin Raines, the director of the Office of Management and Budget under President Bill Clinton. Raines was forced to take “early re-tirement” as the scandal unrolled and, in April 2008, ordered by a federal court to pay back millions in fines and relinquished benefits.

Raines was also giving housing and mortgage policy advice to the Barack Obama campaign until the Fannie scandal finally hit the networks. Jamie Gorelick, a former Clinton administration official, is on the list of possible attorneys general in an Obama administration — Gorelick was a vice chairman of Fannie Mae. James Johnson, a former chairman of Fannie Mae, was tapped by the Obama campaign in June to help select potential vice presidential candidates. But after some exposure for his connection to some Countrywide loans, Johnson resigned from the campaign.

This is all related to the liberal networks appalling lack of coverage of the Fannie and Freddie scandals. Yet even with Enron well out of the picture in the first six months of 2008, the story was the same.

Problems at Fannie and Freddie loomed amid a housing crisis and the networks mentioned Enron more than twice as often as Fannie and Freddie combined, as the MRC’s Business & Media Institute continued to document.

The liberal media were covering for their friends. The MRC documented and exposed the networks’ running interference three years ago and kept on top of the story and the bias, until the $25 billion bailout finally hit the president’s desk on July 30. Not bad for an outfit with relatively few employees and a small budget. Goliath, meet David.
Happy Commies!

NBC Today co-host Matt Lauer went to Communist China to cover the Olympics and gleefully reported on Aug. 5 that “a recent poll” showed the Chinese were much happier than Americans, when compared to U.S. polls. “There’s a recent poll that said some very high percentage of the people in China are happy with their lot in life,” crowed Lauer. “Something around 80 percent. You compare that to polls in the United States that say only about 25 percent of Americans are, what’s the root of their happiness here?”

Lauer later also claimed that the “average citizen” in China might agree with “the ideology of a protest” against Chinese government policies but “at this particular time say, ‘No, you’re not gonna spoil our party, it’s inappropriate’” at the Olympics. Lauer, no surprise, did not mention that the Chinese government is responsible for killing more than 65 million of its own people, waging genocide in Tibet, and brutally enforcing a one-child-per-couple policy.

Washington Post-agenda

It should come as no surprise that Washington Post business columnist Steven Pearlstein won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for commentary. His liberal ideology reflects the Pulitzer committee’s political leanings. Typical was Pearlstein’s Aug. 1 column, “Wave Goodbye to the Invisible Hand,” in which he lectured that “it is not the protectionists of the AFL-CIO or CNN who are primarily to blame for the erosion of public support” for free trade.

No, “the blame lies squarely with a business community that continues to support Republican politicians who refuse to raise the taxes and spend the money necessary to provide the economic safety net for American workers that a free-market economy has not, and will not, provide.” The Pulitzer-toting Pearlstein neglected to mention that liberal Democrat politicians have controlled Congress — and the nation’s purse — for most of the last 60 years.

Obama Backers

More than 63 percent of the people who watch ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, and MSNBC plan to vote for liberal Democrat Barack Obama for president, according to an Aug. 6 Rasmussen Reports survey. That makes sense, given that the networks and CNN pump out liberal news “round the clock. For those who watch CNN, the poll found that 65 percent “plan to vote for the Democratic candidate versus 26 percent who intend to go for the Republican. Similarly, MSNBC watchers plan to vote for Obama over McCain 63 percent to 30 percent.”

As for the evening network news viewers, 70 percent “who watch CBS’s Katie Couric every day plan to vote for Obama, as do 71 percent of the daily viewers of ABC’s Charles Gibson, and 67 percent of those watching NBC’s Brian Williams.” For contrast, the survey found that 87 percent of Fox News Channel viewers “say they are likely to vote for John McCain” with only 9 percent of Fox watchers backing Obama.

Conspiratorial Again

Going into the 2006 elections, CBS Evening News anchor Katie Couric implied that oil companies were somehow conspiring to lower gas prices to help get Republicans elected. Two years later — with gas prices at historic highs and Democrats controlling Congress — Dan Rather, the former (and disgraced) anchor of the CBS Evening News, told the Chris Matthews Show that oil firms would, again, magically lower prices to help the GOP. “Things to watch — with the thought in mind that many people vote their pocketbooks when it comes to voting for president — price of oil,” said Rather in a sinister tone.

“The price of oil has been high. The people who can affect the price of oil would prefer a Republican presidential candidate. Watch the price of oil. If it goes down, which it may very well, it could help John McCain quite a bit.”
Gibson Panics

Like Couric and Rather, ABC’s Charles Gibson, anchor of the World News, is looking at the November elections and casting as dark a pall as possible — in this case, the economy. On the July 15 broadcast, Gibson intoned: “Markets are gyrating, inflation is rising, banks are closing. Consumer pessimism is at an all-time high.” Actually, only one bank has closed.

Gibson continued, “We are going to devote a large part of our broadcast tonight to the economy because the news each day seems unrelentingly bad.” Gibson then, turning to ABC’s selected “experts,” wondered: “Tell me where people go now to make sure their money is safe. With stocks down, you think the safest place to go is in the bank, and now we’re told that there could be a lot of bank failures. So where do you put your money that you know it’s safe? Under the mattress?”

Media Money

People who work for the major media are making campaign donations overwhelmingly to Democratic candidates, according to a report by Investor’s Business Daily. For example, the numbers show NBC Universal employees are the most eager givers to the Democrats, racking up $104,184 in contributions this election cycle, compared to just $3,150 to Republican candidates.

Overall, so far, federal records show journalists have given $225,563 to Democrats and only $16,298 to Republicans. Two-hundred thirty-five journalists donated to Democrats, just 20 gave to Republicans — a margin greater than 10-to-1. An even greater disparity, 20-to-1, exists between the number of journalists who donated to Barack Obama and John McCain. All in all, more evidence that the “news” media elite are in the tank for liberals and Democrats.

Olbermann Unloads

MSNBC’s Keith Olbermann railed against Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia as “a clown” because of his majority ruling on the constitutional right to own a gun. Despite the “NRA and right-wing organizations,” the issue is simple, countered Olbermann on July 30. “For the purposes of forming a state militia, you’re entitled to keep and bear arms. Obviously, those would have to be the kind of arms in use in 1791, when the Bill of Rights was passed: the musket, the wheel-lock, the flint lock, the 13th century Chinese hand cannon. Stuff like that.

“Scalia simply decided that the militia part of the Second Amendment is some sort of quaint anachronism that he could happily ignore. And there’s the beautiful thing about our country — they say anybody can grow up to be a Supreme Court justice. And in Antonin Scalia, there’s your proof, and tonight’s ‘Worst Person in the World’!”

Minibits

■ White House reporters are not liberal bellows Helen Thomas, “Hell no! I’m not only Obama’s youth, eloquence and energy that have stolen hearts across the Atlantic,” swoons the AP, “Obama has raised expectations of a chance for the nation to redeem itself in the role that Europe has loved, respected and relied upon.” ■ The NYT’s Allessandra Stanley rejects charges of pro-Obama bias with this explanation: “Mr. Obama’s weeklong tour of war zones and foreign capitals is noteworthy because it is so unusual to see a presidential candidate act so presidential overseas.” ■ NBC’s Tom Brokaw prods Al Gore: “How can you, given the passion that you feel about this issue, turn down the idea that you could be in the administration as a Vice President or as an energy czar or as both?” ■ NYT’s Linda Greenhouse, with a straight face, claims, “President Clinton played to the center, not the left, in selecting Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen G. Breyer.” ■ NBC labels Jesse Helms an “outspoken ultra-rightist” but waxes about Howard Metzenbaum as a “populist” who “always fought for the little guy.” ■ ABC’s Robin Roberts complains: “Why is Senator McCain abroad when Americans are focused on the economy here at home and losing jobs, more and more jobs.” ■ CBS’s Katie Couric sees bias now: “However you feel about her politics, I feel that Senator Clinton received some of the most unfair, hostile coverage I’ve ever seen.” ■ And TIME’s former Washington Bureau Chief Margaret Carlson pens, “If there’s anything we need to rescue us from the last eight years, it’s brains, good judgment and experience. Obama has the first two. Gore has all three.”

CBS anchor Katie Couric complains that Hillary Clinton got “unfair, hostile coverage” from the media.
Barack’s No Reagan


The *Newsweek* piece sneered that while Obama and John Kennedy spoke to more than a hundred thousand people, Reagan spoke to a much smaller audience, “only about 20,000,” and they were outnumbered by leftist protesters the night before. They recalled, “Even some of Reagan’s aides were embarrassed by the ‘tear down this wall’ line thinking it was too provocative or grandiose.” *Newsweek* would concede only that “Reagan understood stagecraft,” and communism’s fall “made his words prescient.” In other words, the Gipper was a showboat who got lucky.

This is nothing more than *Newsweek*’s continuing campaign to rewrite history. Back in 1987, *Newsweek* was not prescient. They came to bury Reagan’s speech as a desperate gesture of a crumbling lame-duck presidency ruined by Iran-contra. Their story on his trip began: “Ronald Reagan wasn’t the only lame duck at the economic summit in Venice last week, and he wasn’t the only allied leader to nod off when the proceedings turned soporific.”

*Newsweek* chronicled Reagan’s woes, then declared how only Mikhail Gorbachev could restore luster to the old man: “It is the ultimate paradox of Reagan’s lifelong opposition to all things communist that a U.S.-Soviet arms agreement and a third summit with Gorbachev offer the best, and perhaps last, hope for reinvigorating his presidency.” They saw Reagan with a foolish career of “opposition to all things communist” turning to Gorbachev as his savior, and painted Gorbachev as more persuasive and attractive to Europe. The magazine geniuses at the time seemed to adore Gorby as if he were.... Barack Obama.

At least *Newsweek* in 1987 (but not in 2008) chronicled what Reagan told the pro-Soviet protesters there at the end of his speech: “I wonder if they have ever asked themselves that if they should have the kind of government they apparently seek, no one would ever be able to do what they’re doing again.”

But Reagan’s rhetorical daring in his time marks why Obama’s Berlin remarks sounded so phony. He declared: “People of the world - look at Berlin, where a wall came down, a continent came together, and history proved that there is no challenge too great for a world that stands as one.... If we could win a battle of ideas against the communists, we can stand with the vast majority of Muslims who reject the extremism that leads to hate instead of hope.”

No adoring anchorman dared to ask: Who, precisely, Senator Obama, is the “we” who won a battle of ideas against communism? Who was the “we” who dared to insist that liberty was the superior ideal, that “Freedom is the victor,” and to demand that the walls of Soviet tyranny should fall? It was not America as a whole. It was certainly not Europe as a whole. To publicly declare such a bold wish for an end to the Soviet empire, to denounce the Berlin Wall as a “scar” across Berlin, and a “gash of barbed wire, concrete, dog runs, and guard towers” was seen by the international left, and the Democrats, and the press corps here at home as undiplomatic saber-rattling. It was, to quote the Hillary Clintons of the world, “cowboy diplomacy.”

Barack Obama is an arrogant pretender to a throne he has not earned. He wanted to stand at the Brandenburg Gate like Reagan, grasping desperately for a chance to look presidential. But he hasn’t in any way demonstrated Reagan’s resolve against America’s enemies. Instead, this power-hungry newbie has stood in about seven different places in the last four years on the primary controversy of our time.

In 2002, he opposed the Iraq war from his pews of his America-deserved-9/11 church. In 2004, he stood staunchly and very temporarily by John Kerry’s vote for war. In 2006, he calculated that the best way to win the Democratic nomination was to play kissy-kissy with Code Pink and channel MoveOn.org’s demand that the president acknowledge all was lost in Iraq. Now, having defeated all those Democratic suckers who voted for war, he’s developing yet another position, that the success of the surge means that he didn’t have to be right about the surge or anything else, that the country is now ready for a rapid withdrawal of forces.

Ronald Reagan was willing to endure an entire career being mocked by the press and the political intelligentsia for standing firmly in one bunker of a war of ideas. Barack Obama has demonstrated only one cause, one idea he consistently believes in. Its name is Barack Obama.
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

CBN:  
- *NewsWatch*, July 22, 29, 30

FBN:  
- *Your World with Neil Cavuto*, July 11, 16, 22, Aug. 1

Fox Business Network: July 25

FNC:  
- *Fox & Friends*, July 3, 18
  - *The O’Reilly Factor*, July 2
  - *Just In with Laura Ingraham*, July 2
  - *Special Report with Brit Hume*, July 2
  - *Fox News Live*, July 7
  - *Hannity & Colmes*, July 10

News Channel 8 Washington DC: July 18

Federal News, July 22

Sinclair Broadcasting Group, July 18

CNN:  
- *American Morning*, July 23
  - *The Situation Room*, June 23, 30, July 18, Aug. 4, 12

MSNBC: Aug. 5

Print

Investor’s Business Daily, July 7, 17

Washington Times, July 1, 8, 10, 17, 30, 31

Human Events, July 9, 15

Austin-American Statesman, July 11

Minneapolis Star-Tribune, July 11

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, July 2

Tri-City Herald, July 24

Anchorage Times, July 24

Variety, July 18

Downtown Free Press, July 13

Austin American-Statesman, July 10

Internet

Townhall.com, July 9, Aug. 5

OneNewsNow.com, June 30, July 16, 18

National Review Online, July 14

Salon.com, July 17

WorldNetDaily, July 11, 29

Human Events Online, July 15

Church Report, July 15, 17

AlterNet, Aug. 5

CNIMoney.com, Aug. 5

BixJournals.com, Aug. 5

Yahoo! News, July 10, 17, 19

National Review Online, July 13, 15

Enter Stage Right, Aug. 3

Arkansas Online, July 16

Christian Newswire, Aug. 5

CBSNews.com, July 29

G. Gordon Liddy Show, July 17

Janet Parshall’s America, July 21

Right Talk, July 2

Martha Zoller Show, July 9

Lars Larson Show, July 10

Dateline, July 10

Faith Broadcasting, July 1

Thom Hartmann Show, July 15, 22

Drew Mariani Show, July 2, 28

Right Balance, July 8, 10, 30

Family News in Focus, July 1

American Family Radio, July 17, 28, Aug. 1

Flipside Show, June 30, July 14

Wisconsin Public Radio, July 21

Catholic Connection, July 7

Catholic Channel-Sirius Radio, July 10

NRA News, Aug. 1

WIBA, Madison, WI, July 7

WIBC, Indianapolis, IN, July 18

WCBM, Baltimore, MD, July 8, 18

KMD, Medford, OR, July 11, 18

KCAA, Los Angeles, CA, July 8, 21

WDUN, Atlanta, GA, July 9

KRCN, Denver, CO, July 9, Aug. 1

WTKF, Greenville, NC, July 3, 11

KRRS, Osage Beach, MO, July 18

WCOJ, Westchester, PA, July 14

WZEN, Jacksonville, FL, July 2

WLQ, Ferndale, MI, July 10

KFNN, Phoenix, AZ, July 17

KFVY, Ventura, CA, July 30

WBEZ, Chicago, IL, July 7, 11

WOR, New York, NY, July 7

KAAY, Little Rock, AR, June 30, July 7, 14

WFLA, Tallahassee, FL, July 1

WSAU, Wausau, WI, July 2, 9

WMUZ, Detroit, MI, July 10, 29

1700 San Diego, July 9

WFPN, Martinsburg, WV, July 28

WRVC, Huntington, WV, July 30

WIG, Aurora, IL, July 31

WICC, Bridgeport, CT, Aug. 1

WJFP, Carterville, IL, July 31

KKYL, Brownwood, TX, July 8, Aug. 1

On Fox & Friends, MRC President Brent Bozell explains how liberals in Congress plan to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine to silence conservative talk radio.

CNSNews.com Editor Terry Jeffrey analyzes the potential VP picks of candidates John McCain and Barack Obama on CNN’s *The Situation Room*.

MRC Communications Director Seton Motley discusses how the Obama campaign first played “the race card” against John McCain, on Fox’s *Your World with Neil Cavuto*.
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