

# The Watchdog

THE MRC'S MONTHLY MEMBERS' REPORT



CREATING A MEDIA CULTURE WHERE TRUTH AND LIBERTY FLOURISH IN AMERICA

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MRC Headquarters • Alexandria, Virginia

## Clinton Squawks Over Bin Laden Question Liberal Media Rush to Defend Former Democratic President

Dear Friend,

This is the second issue of *The Watchdog*, the upgraded and improved version of *Flash News*, our monthly report to our members. *The Watchdog* contains timely and useful content about the antics of the liberal press and specific details about how the MRC is battling that bias to help create a media culture where truth and liberty flourish in America. This newsletter shows you the MRC's effectiveness while providing you with information you can use and pass on to your friends and family members.

As the month began, the "October Surprise" involving Rep. Mark Foley hit the headlines and is still unfolding as this newsletter goes to press. Foley appropriately resigned in disgrace. If the House Ethics investigation shows that any House members, of either party, knew of his loathsome behavior and did nothing to stop it, or tried to cover it up, they should resign immediately. I've said so publicly.

But the liberal media's non-stop coverage of Foley and their hypocritical attacks on the House GOP confirm their agenda. They want the leftist Democrats to win in November, and they are using their influence to help make that happen. This strategy was obvious in another way, when former President Clinton was interviewed on *Fox News Sunday*.

Mr. Clinton's behavior during that Sept. 24 interview and the liberal media's rush to defend him confirm what the

MRC has documented for years: The elite media are liberal; the elite media coddle their own; and liberal elites cannot handle tough questions that rely on facts. But what they can do is attack – viciously and personally.

In the interview, host Chris Wallace politely asked President Clinton what he thought about the claims that he, as President, did not do enough to stop terrorist Osama bin Laden. It was a fair question, one that's been asked of President Bush dozens of times. But Clinton hit the roof, and exploded on Wallace with a litany of allegations about a "conservative hit job" and "right-wingers who are attacking me." Clinton claimed he "tried" many times to kill bin

Laden but failed. As usual, the evidence says Clinton was lying. (Surprised?) Even members of his administration came forward to challenge this nonsense.

President Clinton's tirade generated much media attention, though little attention was paid to his dishonesty. Some analysts said the President unwisely lost his cool and came off badly. Most of the top liberal media, however, came to his defense and ran stories for more than a week defending him. They also derided Fox because, as part of the new media, Fox is challenging the liberal media machine by providing more

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On *Fox News Sunday*, former President Bill Clinton attacks host Chris Wallace for daring to ask why Clinton did not kill Osama bin Laden when he had several opportunities.

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[www.MRC.org](http://www.MRC.org)

balanced news coverage. The liberal media are doing all they can to hold onto their near-monopoly of major news outlets and defend their liberal leaders. They know Fox is a threat.

*Newsweek's* senior editor, Jon Meacham, for instance, defended Clinton's attack on Wallace as "fantastic," adding that Clinton was "so articulate" and "there was a lot of merit to what he said."

Chris Matthews, liberal Democrat and host of MSNBC's *Hardball*, praised Clinton effusively. "It's the War Room all over again," said Matthews. "Whack back at the Republicans before they Swift Boat you!"

*Washington Post* television critic Tom Shales was downright giddy. He defended Clinton's rant against Wallace as an "exhilarating kind of tension," and denounced Wallace as a "baby" who "behaved like a sissy-pants" when attacked.

MSNBC's Keith Olbermann, host of ratings-in-the-cellar *Countdown*, went on an anti-Fox-anti-Wallace tear for days. Olbermann railed that Clinton had been "sandbagged by a monkey posing as a newscaster." As for Fox, "The nation's marketplace of ideas is being poisoned by a propaganda company so blatant that Tokyo Rose would've quit."

The NBC *Today* show was a joke. To "discuss" the topic, left-wing co-host Meredith Vieira interviewed Democratic operatives James Carville and Paul Begalla. That's it—no moderate or conservative presence was allowed to provide balance. Carville praised Clinton and denounced Fox and then falsely claimed that "everything that the President said was factual. Not one assertion of fact has been challenged."

Carville was dead wrong. Numerous terror and national security experts, from within the CIA and the White House, as well as Richard Clarke himself have contradicted the President's claims about trying to kill Osama bin Laden (see *Bits & Pieces*, p. 5). But these experts were not put on *Today* to set the record straight.

ABC's *World News Tonight* and NBC's *Nightly News* also spun the Clinton-Wallace interview in liberalism's favor. NBC defended Clinton's grossly inappropriate behavior as the result of stress from a long week raising \$7 billion for his Clinton Global Initiative.

That initiative, incidentally, was given extensive touchy-feely coverage on numerous media, including CNN's *Larry King Live* and NBC's *Meet the Press*. Some of the attendees at the initiative included ABC's George Stephanopoulos, Tom Brokaw, CBS's Katie Couric and ABC's Diane Sawyer. Clinton has the liberal media guns in his hip pocket, as do the liberal elites of this country who are constantly working to advance an agenda that is contrary to the America envisioned by the Founding Fathers.

The MRC battles against the liberal media hydra everyday. The following pages of this edition of *The Watchdog* detail some of that work, which is made possible only because of your generous financial support. I thank you, again, for your help, and call on you to stick with us in this mission.

Sincerely



L. Brent Bozell III  
Founder and President

## Media Research Center's 20th Anniversary Gala

featuring

Ann Coulter, Sean Hannity,  
Neal Boortz and many more!

### Save the Date

Thursday, March 29, 2007  
Grand Hyatt Washington  
Washington, DC



visit [www.MRC.org](http://www.MRC.org) for more information

# The MRC Fights Liberal Media Bias on Many Fronts!

The Media Research Center battles liberal media bias every day, on the Web, on radio, on TV, and in print. It is a monumental task, given the liberal media leviathan. Yet a few highlights from September show the widespread effectiveness of the MRC and confirm why the MRC is “America’s Media Watchdog.”

For example, in response to the liberal media coverage of the Pope’s remarks on Islam, the MRC issued a press release denouncing the liberal media’s near-blackout of coverage about radical Islam and the Islamists’ call for the assassination of the Pope. That generated much media attention, including an interview of MRC President Brent Bozell on MSNBC’s *Scarborough Country*. During the segment, liberal Joan Walsh of Salon.com sparred with Mr. Bozell, ironically claiming that he was an “extreme Christian conservative” who wanted “to stifle debate,” and equating him to al Qaeda.

In early September, the MRC released a Special Report, *The Media vs. the War on Terror: How ABC, CBS, and NBC Attack America’s Terror-Fighting Tactics as Dangerous, Abusive and Illegal*. This also sparked tremendous media attention and its author, Research Director Rich Noyes, was interviewed on numerous radio shows, in print, and on *MSNBC Live*. During the interview, Mr. Noyes explained how the liberal media were cherry-picking from the National Intelligence Estimate to cast the war on terror in the most negative light. He also noted how the government sources leaking Intelligence information to the liberal media were subverting U.S. national security policy.

A report issued by the MRC’s Business & Media Institute in May about liberal media coverage of global warming was used by Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK)



Brent Bozell on MSNBC’s *Scarborough Country*.



Dan Gainor on CNN’s *Paula Zahn NOW*.



Rich Noyes on *MSNBC Live!*



Tim Graham on Fox’s *Your World with Neil Cavuto*.

in a lengthy televised speech on the Senate floor on Sept. 25. The Senator quoted extensively from the report, *Fire & Ice*, and it is now part of the *Congressional Record*. To read the speech, go to <http://inhofe.senate.gov/floorspeeches.htm>.

BMI’s director and Boone Pickens Fellow, Dan Gainor, was interviewed on CNN’s *Paula Zahn NOW* on Sept. 22 about gas price conspiracies. Mr. Gainor lucidly explained how an oil industry conspiracy to manipulate gas prices to help Republicans get re-elected was ludicrous given the realities of the global marketplace (and the inefficiencies of government bureaucracies). This crazy talk of conspiracies is to be expected of the radical left. But it’s also being advanced by some in the “news” media—including CNN’s own Jack Cafferty!

In early September, MRC Director of Media Analysis Tim Graham was interviewed about the ABC movie “Path to 9/11,” making appearances on Fox’s *Your World w/Neil Cavuto* and CNN’s *Showbiz Tonight*. CNN’s A.J. Hammer tried to spin the interview in the favor of President Clinton and liberal Democrats but Mr. Graham kept to the facts, coyly noting that “it’s not libelous to make a movie that leaves the impression that Bill Clinton did not get Osama bin Laden.”

In two other September highlights, on his national radio show Rush Limbaugh twice cited items posted by MRC staffers on the MRC blog, NewsBusters.org, and provided links to the blog from his Web site, Rush Limbaugh.com.

Not bad. The MRC is always on the offensive against liberal media bias, and our presence among friends and enemies in the media is testimony to that fact.

# Bits & Pieces

## Clinton Lies Again

In his Sept. 24 attack against *Fox News Sunday* host Chris Wallace for asking about his failure to stop Osama bin Laden, President Clinton made dubious claims about his anti-terrorist efforts that the liberal media are refusing to question. For instance, Clinton repeatedly cited terrorism-adviser Richard Clarke



Chris Wallace listens as President Clinton peddles half-truths and lies about his attempts to kill Osama bin Laden.

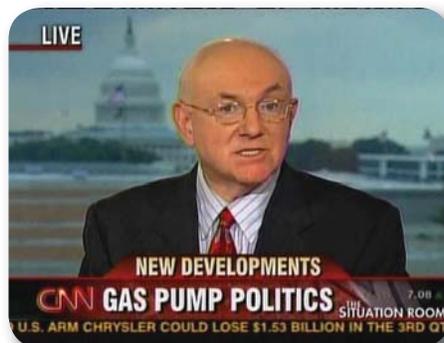
as one who confirms that Clinton tried to get Osama bin Laden. However, Fox's *Inside Report with Brit Hume* reported: "Clark himself told the 9/11 Commission he vigorously recommended the Clinton administration strike bin Laden after the attack on the U.S.S. Cole." Clarke also advised bombing "all of the Taliban and al Qaeda infrastructure, whether or not it would succeed in killing bin Laden."

Clarke further "proposed an ongoing bombing of al Qaeda training facilities in Afghanistan to stop what he called the conveyor belt of terrorists emerging from them." National security official Bryan Cunningham said: "That document, by Richard Clarke's own account, was rejected by all of the principles in the Clinton administration. So from 1998 to 2001, when they left office, they didn't take any action on that plan."

## CNN 'Big Oil' Conspiracy

CNN's Bill Schneider just can't accept good news without a Republican conspiracy behind it. In a Sept. 15 report on *The Situation Room*, anchor Wolf Blitzer stated that the price of oil would likely fall because special chemicals used in gasoline during the summer were being discontinued. However, Schneider saw something sinister. "The drop in prices may last a couple of months, long enough to get through the November election," he said. "Could that be what the oil companies want?"

Leaning further left, Schneider cited Tyson Slocum, a member of the Naderite group Public Citizen, who chimed: "I cannot say for sure whether or not they are influencing prices to



CNN's political analyst Bill Schneider strongly implies that oil companies are conspiring to push down gas prices to help Republicans get elected.

assure that outcome, but it is, I think, more than just a coincidence that we're seeing an easing of prices at a time of running up to a very, very important election."

## CBS Airs 'Illegal'

CBS is so biased in favor of illegal immigration that it aided and abetted a criminal by allowing an illegal to promote his agenda nationally on the "freeSpeech" segment of the Sept. 21 *CBS Evening News*. CBS concealed

the identity of "Carlos" by using a fake name and putting him in shadow. "I cannot show you my face tonight because if I were identified I could be deported," he said.

The college-age "Carlos," whose family came in on a tourist visa when he was 11 and overstayed their visas, asserted: "Almost from the beginning my parents paid taxes, and two years after we arrived here, they applied for legal residency. Believe it or not, our application is still pending. That means my parents and sister and I can still be deported even though we did everything we were supposed to do to try to become legal." Except follow the rules for their visa. So far, CBS has not run a commentary from anyone advocating a crackdown on illegal aliens.

## Bush Exposes Lauer's Bias

*Today's* Matt Lauer pushed the liberal talking points on Sept. 11 in his interview of President Bush, but he pushed so hard the President was able to expose Lauer's loopy liberal bias. "Do you know of any Democrats that, in your opinion, are trying to or would like to appease terrorists?" asked Lauer. President Bush answered: "I know Democrats who want to leave Iraq before the job is done and that would be a terrible mistake."

Lauer pounced: "But those Democrats don't see the war in Iraq as inseparable from the overall war on terror!" Bush refreshingly responded:



NBC's Matt Lauer pushed too far and President Bush easily exposed the *Today* co-host's liberal media bias.

"You can justify what they say — I'm just telling you that if this country leaves Iraq before the job is done, if we abandon those 15 million people who said we want to live freely we will

have given the enemy a tremendous victory.” Note to Lauer: Gotcha!

## Olbermann Overheats

On the fifth anniversary of 9/11, MSNBC’s ever-leftist Keith Olbermann used *Countdown*’s “Special Comment” segment to rail endlessly against the President, accusing him of “lying by implication” to get America into a “fraudulent war” with “needless death” in Iraq, the latter which Olbermann referred to as “an impeachable offense.”



MSNBC’s Keith Olbermann accuses President Bush of “lying” and causing “needless death” in Iraq, which, says Olbermann, is an “impeachable offense.”

“The polite phrase for how so many of us were duped into supporting a war on the false premise that it had something to do with 9/11 is lying by implication,” screeched Olbermann. “The impolite phrase is ‘impeachable offense.’” He went on to blame President Bush for the delays in building a memorial at Ground Zero, and branded Bush’s apparent “reprehensible inaction” as a “crime against every victim here and every patriotic sentiment you [Bush] mouthed but did not enact, you have done nothing about it.” After accusing the President of “forgetting the lessons of 9/11,” Olbermann obnoxiously concluded: “May this country forgive you.”

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## Minibits

“I was trying to bring the Cold War, help bring it to an end with the Goodwill Games and a bunch of our initiatives that we worked on with the Russians, and it worked,” boasts the humble **Ted Turner**, taking credit for ending the Cold War. ■ **Ted** also prophecies “that men all over the world should be barred from holding public office at any level for a hundred years [and] you’d have a much kinder, gentler world almost immediately.” ■ NBC’s **Matt Lauer** seriously asks New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin, “There are still people in the black community...who believe that the day after Katrina struck New Orleans the levees were breached intentionally. That they were blown, if you will, to flood black and poor neighborhoods to spare middle-class white neighborhoods.” ■ “I mean, if the deficit continued to grow, it’s not responsible to say you’re never going to raise taxes,” lectures ABC’s **George Stephanopoulos**. ■ Concerning the Iraq war, “I think most sane people thought really this would make matters worse and it’s made matters worse,” declares NPR’s **Nina Totenberg**. ■ Bloomberg’s **David Shiflett** writes that former CBS reporter Phil Jones has disclosed that Katie Couric is “a liberal Democrat who is so in love with Hillary Clinton that it could pose a problem if Clinton runs for President.” ■ CNN’s **Jack “The Genius” Cafferty** supposes on national television, “You know, if you were a real cynic, you could also wonder if the oil companies might not be pulling the price of gas down to help the Republicans get re-elected in the midterm elections a couple of months away.” ■ After would-be terrorists were nabbed in Britain, MSNBC’s **Keith Olbermann** ponders, “Could it just be coincidence that the President finds out about this plot, then his vice president and the Republican chairman start slamming Democrats for being soft on terror, then the public is informed about the plot? Could it really be just coincidence?” ■ CBS’s **Harry Smith** pleads to Senator Joe Lieberman, “You will run as an independent at risk of losing the seat to the Republicans? You understand that risk? By splitting the Democratic vote.” ■ Finally, some fresh air: On *Imus in the Morning*, Congressional Medal of Honor winner **Col. John Jacobs** explains President Clinton’s diatribe against interviewer Chris Wallace: “Clinton was just responding the best way he knew. I mean, he’s basically a junkyard dog with a little bit of polish and a lot of hair. His response, Clinton’s response, is pure fiction. I mean, he didn’t do anything” to stop Osama bin Laden.



George Stephanopoulos argues that raising taxes is the “responsible” thing for government to do.

## The Immigration Story That's Not Written

by Rep. Lamar Smith • September 26, 2006 (as published in *Human Events*)

Immigrants helped build this great country.

We welcome 1 million legal immigrants every year. And America's generosity toward legal immigrants will continue regardless of the outcome of the current debate on immigration policy.

But that debate simmers with emotion. For the sake of our country, we must make decisions based on facts. Unfortunately, facts are hard to find in the news coverage of this issue.

A report by the Media Research Center (MRC) reveals that the three major broadcast networks, ABC, NBC and CBS, have greatly skewed the immigration story. The MRC examined 309 stories from the networks from March 24 through May 31. This time period stretches from the time of the first pro-illegal immigration rallies to the passage of the Senate's immigration bill. The results of MRC's research are illuminating.

The networks argued that the protest rallies showed widespread support for "pro-immigrant" reform. However, they ignored their own public opinion polls that suggested otherwise. For example, CBS never cited its own poll findings that 87% (April 6-9) or 89% (May 4-8) of Americans said

*The Media Research Center report paints a clear picture. The three major networks favor the pro-amnesty or guest worker program positions while shortchanging those who advocate tighter control over our borders.*

that the problem of illegal immigration was "very serious" or "somewhat serious."

On March 25, NBC cited a NBC/*Wall Street Journal* poll, claiming that "59% of Republicans

disagree with a temporary worker program for illegal immigrants." In fact, the poll found that 59% of all Americans disagreed with the temporary-worker program, not just Republicans.

In addition, the networks were twice as likely to feature advocates of amnesty or a guest-worker program as they were to feature advocates of increased border security.

The disparity was most pronounced on the days of the rallies for illegal immigrants. On the evening of one large rally on April 10, the sound-bite count on the three major networks was 43 to 2 in favor of the protesters. On the evening of another rally on May 1, the sound-bite count

was 62 to 8.

And while the networks aired plenty of sympathetic stories portraying hard-working illegal immigrants, stories discussing the costs of illegal immigration to society were scarce. The networks carried only six stories that mentioned studies suggesting the illegal immigrants cost taxpayers more than they contribute in tax dollars. Only six additional stories discussed the problem of criminal aliens.

The Media Research Center report paints a clear picture. The three major networks favor the pro-amnesty or guest-worker program positions while shortchanging those who advocate tighter control over our borders.

The networks need to recognize that protests are an incomplete measure of public opinion. In addition, both sides of a debate should be given the opportunity to speak in news stories, and both sides of an argument should be part of any story.

For now, though, the public should be on notice: They are not getting the full story on immigration.

*Republican Congressman Lamar Smith represents the 21st District of Texas.*



# 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, *Fox News Live*, Oct. 5  
 MSNBC, *MSNBC Live!* Sept. 27  
 MSNBC, *Scarborough Country*, Sept. 19  
 CNN, *Paula Zahn NOW*, Sept. 22

## Radio

American Family Radio, Sept. 20  
 Investor's Radio Network, Sept. 29  
 Relevant Radio, Sept. 13  
 Air America: T. Hartmann Show, Sept. 21  
 WMET, Washington, DC, Sept. 12, 14, 21  
 KLIF, Dallas, TX, Sept. 19  
 KOGO, San Diego, CA, Sept. 13, 20  
 WMOU, Berlin, NH, Sept. 21  
 WIBC, Indianapolis, IN, Sept. 14, 21  
 WBAL, Baltimore, MD, Sept. 16, 23  
 KSFO, San Francisco, CA, Sept. 27  
 WORD, Pittsburgh, PA, Sept. 17  
 KAGM, Albuquerque, NM, Sept. 20, 25  
 KTSA, San Antonio, TX, Sept. 20  
 WCNM, Lewiston, ME, Sept. 19  
 WTKF, Greenville, NC, Sept. 22  
 WIBA, Madison, WI, Sept. 19  
 KLIN, Lincoln, NE, Sept. 27  
 WCLO, Janesville, WI, Sept. 20  
 WVHU, Huntington, WV, Sept. 18  
 KAHL, San Antonio, TX, Sept. 12, 18  
 WCHS, Charleston, WV, Sept. 13  
 WRKO, Boston, MA, Sept. 12  
 WTWB, Lakeland, FL, Sept. 12  
 WBT, Charlotte, NC, Sept. 17  
 KKLA, Greeley, CO, Sept. 13  
 KAHL, San Antonio, TX, Sept. 14  
 KCOL, Denver, CO, Sept. 14  
 WHO, Des Moines, IA, Sept. 18



On MSNBC's *Scarborough Country*, MRC President Brent Bozell explains how the liberal media kow tow to radical Islamists and push an anti-Christian agenda.



On CNN's *Paula Zahn NOW*, BMI's Boone Pickens Fellow Dan Gainor details how claims of a Big Oil conspiracy to manipulate gas prices do not hold up to the realities of the global marketplace.

WTKF, Greenville, NC, Sept. 20  
 KOA, Denver, CO, Sept. 18  
 WLNI, Charlottesville, VA Sept. 19

## Print

*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Oct. 5, 6  
*Austin American-Statesman*, Oct. 5  
*Sacramento Bee*, Oct. 3, Sept 15  
*National Review*, Sept. 22, Oct. 9  
*American Spectator*, October  
*Wall Street Journal*, Sept. 12  
 Scripps Howard News Service, Sept. 20  
*Globe and Mail*, Sept. 21  
*News & Observer*, Oct. 2  
*Ventura County Star*, Oct. 2  
*PR Week*, Sept. 18  
*Worcester Telegram-Gazette*, Sept. 17  
*Washington Times*, Sept. 13, 17, 24, 30, Oct. 2  
*Newsday*, Sept. 7  
*Denver Post*, Sept. 24  
*Investor's Business Daily*, Sept. 25, 29, Oct. 5, 6  
*Chicago Sun-Times*, Sept. 11, 25  
*Chicago Daily Herald*, Sept. 15  
*Chattanooga Times-Free Press*, Sept. 18  
*New York Post*, Sept. 10  
*Sacramento Bee*, Sept. 15  
*News & Record*, Sept. 10  
*La Crosse Tribune*, Sept. 11  
*Inside Bay Area*, Sept. 8  
*Biloxi Sun-Herald*, Sept. 9  
*The Columbian*, Sept. 13  
*TIME* magazine, Sept. 10  
*Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, Sept. 10, 17

## Internet

Rush Limbaugh.com, Sept. 25, 26  
 Wall Street Journal Online, Sept. 12  
 Drudge Report, Sept. 15  
 FrontPageMag.com, Sept. 28  
 Yahoo! News, Sept. 18, 26, Oct. 2  
 LifeSite.com, Sept. 22  
 Human Events Online, Sept. 15, 20, 22, 26, 27  
 TruthOut.org, Sept. 28  
 LifeNews.com, Sept. 27  
 Savannanow.com, Oct. 1  
 California Republic.com, Sept. 27  
 National Ledger, Sept. 13, 27, 30, Oct. 4  
 Familysecuritymatters.org, Sept. 26  
 National Review Online, Sept. 11, 25  
 Free Speech Coalition, Sept. 24  
 Worldmagblog.com, Sept. 25  
 Agape Press, Sept. 25, Oct. 2  
 ChurchReport.com, Sept. 25  
 Conservativevoice.com, Sept. 8, 19  
 Americandaily.com, Sept. 19  
 World Net Daily, Sept. 14  
 Townhall.com, Sept. 1, 15  
 Buzzflash.com, Sept. 10  
 UNC School of Journalism & Communications, Sept. 7  
 Michelle Malkin blog, Sept. 14  
 Slate.com, Sept. 7

- Partial listing of all media

# THE LIGHT OF TRUTH CAMPAIGN

## How You Can Help the MRC Fight Liberal Media Bias



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