Dear Friend,

Merry Christmas! And may God grant you a blessed and happy New Year!

We’re proud to say that here at the Media Research Center because we know that America is a country founded on the traditions, laws, and mores of Judeo-Christianity. The liberal media and their secular humanist comrades have been waging war against America’s Christian heritage and particularly against Christmas, and we’re fighting back. Along with our conservative friends and allies, some important victories have been won against the dark forces waging war on Christmas.

The liberal media and their leftist allies want Christmas removed — or at least de-Christianized — in the public square and the private arena: no public “Christmas” trees, no nativity scenes, no prayers in school, no Christmas decorations in the workplace, and no businesses or business catalogs that say “Merry Christmas” or even hint that Dec. 25 is the birthday of Jesus. In short, no Christmas.

Defenders of traditional Christmas are regularly trashed by the liberal media as religious bigots and intolerant of other faiths. Yet numerous surveys show that 85 percent of Americans identify themselves as Christians and some 96 percent of Americans celebrate Christmas in one form or another. Surveys also confirm that 68 percent of Americans think there is a war on Christmas and that 69 percent believe that retail stores should say “Merry Christmas!”

Further — and this is a point the liberal media will never tell you — Christmas is a national public holiday that was signed into law by President Grant in 1870. As Fox’s Bill O’Reilly, who has fought hard against the war on Christmas through his books and TV show, has said, it’s a “federal holiday, everybody gets off, no mail delivered, everybody shuts down. Why is it there? To honor a philosopher, Jesus, whose philosophy was part of the foundation of our country. All of this is indisputable.”

Mr. O’Reilly led the charge last year against Wal-Mart to switch its policy of saying “Happy Holiday” or “Seasons Greetings” to “Merry Christmas,” and to use the word “Christmas” in its advertising. The retail giant finally did so this year, as did Macy’s, Kohl’s, Sears, JC Penney, L.L. Bean, Kmart and Walgreens.

In other victories, the networks and cable stations are showing a lot of traditional Christmas programs this year and the new movie, The Nativity Story — a traditional depiction of Jesus’s birth — is very popular.

Continued on page 2
Fox’s John Gibson has also fought hard against the liberals in their war against Christmas. In fact, he wrote a best-selling book, The War on Christmas: How the Liberal Plot to Ban the Sacred Christian Holiday Is Worse Than You Thought. Some other conservative leaders fighting the good fight include Bill Donohue at the Catholic League, the American Family Association, Concerned Women for America and Focus on the Family.

In October, thanks to a generous $1 million grant from the John Templeton Foundation, the MRC launched our Culture and Media Institute (CMI) to defend America’s traditional values against the liberal media onslaught. In its recent work, CMI has documented and exposed the liberal media attacks on Christmas and released several op-eds and a special “Eye on Culture” newsletter in December that listed the good guys and the bad guys — Santa’s Helpers vs. the Grinches.

That research and the effective leadership of CMI Director Robert Knight already has led to massive media exposure for the Culture and Media Institute, the MRC, and the message we wanted to convey to all Americans. For instance, in the first two weeks of December alone, the MRC message about the war on Christmas led to coverage in USA Today, the nation’s No. 1 newspaper (2 million readers) and the Washington Post, the No. 5 newspaper (750,000 readers).

In addition, the MRC’s Culture and Media Institute garnered coverage on Sean Hannity’s radio show and Bill O’Reilly’s The Radio Factor, as well as on the nationally syndicated programs The Right Balance and Relevant Radio. Numerous city and regional talk radio stations also covered the issue.

There was further coverage on CNN’s The Situation Room, CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360, CNN’s Paula Zahn NOW, Fox News Live, Fox’s Weekend Live with Brian Wilson, Salon.com and ABC News.com.

By the time this issue went to press, the MRC message about the war on Christmas had reached tens of millions of Americans. Not bad for our new division – the Culture and Media Institute — that is only three months old.

There is much work to be done, as the liberal media, backed with billions of dollars, do not rest in pushing their political and cultural agenda. But the record shows that the MRC is highly effective and, with the continued help of our supporters and conservative allies, will continue to influence America for the better.

May God bless you and your family and friends this Christmas!

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 for more information
Even in the cold winter months, the way to heat things up is to hold a congressional hearing on global warming. On Dec. 6, 2006, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee did just that. Outgoing Chairman James Inhofe (R-OK) invited me and several scientists to discuss “Global Warming and the Media.”

The hearing was Inhofe’s last chance to give the skeptical side to the issue of climate change. The left, led by the liberal media, has declared that global warming is now an undisputable truth. That is simply untrue. The scientific proof is not there. Much of the hearing revolved around the ongoing uncertainties about climate change and mankind’s possible contribution. Two of the scientists on the panel warned that global cooling poses more of a long-term threat to the planet than warming.

And yet the liberal press is telling Americans otherwise. I reported to the committee how CBS’s Scott Pelley, who covers the environment, actually compared climate change skeptics with Holocaust deniers and claimed: “There becomes a point in journalism where striving for balance becomes irresponsible.” I also testified that just 30 years ago the media were convinced about climate change, only that time they thought we would all freeze to death.

I was there to remind the senators and the journalists attending that, as the expression says, those who ignore history are doomed to repeat it. In this debate, they needed to recall that the media have been all over the map on the issue — reporting four separate climate changes in the last 100 years. Those varied from an ice age, to warming, to another ice age to warming a second time. No one in the media likes being reminded that they have been wrong so often on this subject that their credibility is nonexistent.

The hearing and the Business & Media Institute’s contribution received widespread national attention. Rush Limbaugh quoted my testimony and several newspapers — The Washington Times, The Los Angeles Times, the San Francisco Chronicle and others — also reported what I had to say. Several talk radio outlets also had me on to discuss the issue.

The downside of calling the Senate discussion a “hearing” is that many people didn’t “hear” anything. It was obvious that incoming committee Chair Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and New Jersey Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) both had their minds made up already and that the media bias isn’t a problem.

As for the media itself, many newspapers did write about the hearing. But CNN anchor Miles O’Brien showed the typical journalistic sentiment. According to Matt Shefield, of the MRC’s Newsbusters blog, O’Brien fell asleep during the hearing.

The BMI’s Special Report, Fire & Ice, garnered national attention and was cited extensively on the floor of the U.S. Senate, and helped spark a congressional hearing on the topic of liberal media coverage of global warming.
Gore, Save Us!

In what is likely one of the most sycophantic displays of liberal media bias in network TV history, NBC’s Today co-host Matt Lauer repeatedly urged former Vice President Al Gore to run for president in 2008 for this would also put him in a position to save planet Earth.

“... Give us this half hour of peace and tranquility and let me hear what David Gregory says it was like in the front row of the briefing that day. Let me hear Andrea Mitchell describe Condoleezza Rice on this trip to Jakarta. I want to know about that. I want to know it from smart people who do this for a living.”

More Gas Taxes, Now!

ABC’s George Stephanopoulos wants gas prices to go up and wants higher taxes to go with those price hikes. As he preached to Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack on the Dec. 3 edition of This Week: “Just about every expert on energy says the best way to become energy independent is to raise the price of oil and gas, to have a serious energy tax. Why not call for it? ... Couldn’t we become independent much more quickly if we had the kind of energy tax you see in Europe?”

Christmas Fear

CBS Evening News anchor Katie Couric frets that the popularity of traditional Christmas movies might make atheists and non-Christians feel, uh, excluded. In a Dec. 4 interview with the makers of the highly popular movie, The Nativity Story, Couric asked: “Do you worry at all that non-believers may feel excluded and diminished at a time when we’re so divided about so much?”

As if there’s a dearth of non-spiritual films for people to see. Has anyone at CBS News ever worried about how the faithful feel “excluded” and “diminished” by multiplexes playing only violent and sexually explicit films, to say nothing of the many which include scenes ridiculing the faithful or portraying religious figures as criminals? Yet CBS is concerned about a successful movie about Jesus’ birth.

Troops to Japan!

How trustworthy is NBC? Well, on its Dec. 4 Today program, NBC’s smart people ran an interview of anti-Iraq war Congressman John “Abscam” Murtha but left out one vital fact. Reporter David Gregory and co-host Matt Lauer both noted that a recent memo by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, which called for repositioning U.S. troops in and/or around Iraq and Kuwait, somehow validated Murtha’s views on troop deployment.

But both Lauer and Gregory neglected to mention that Murtha has advocated quick withdrawal and redeployment of U.S. troops all the way to Okinawa, Japan — more than 5,000 miles away from Iraq. After quoting Rumsfeld’s letter, Lauer said to Murtha: “How does that sound as compared to what you’ve been suggesting for
more than a year?” And Murtha disingenuously replied, that’s “exactly what I said a year ago.... There’s no question I was way ahead.”

Rather Biased

Dan Rather, the former CBS Evening News anchor who lost his big gig because he ran the fake story about President Bush’s National Guard service, claims that neither he nor CBS are biased but that Fox News Channel certainly is. On HBO’s Real Time with Bill Maher, Rather intoned: “I think it’s fair to say, Bill, in fact I know it is, that Fox News operates in at least a somewhat different way than every other news organization that I know.

“They have their talking points. In other words, somebody in the hierarchy — whether this is Roger Ailes who runs the place or not — we know that they get talking points from the White House and ... I think it’s pretty clear that they had wished the election had gone another way and they sought to position their programming which would raise as many questions about it as possible. ... They wanted to frame the news in a certain way actually before the news happened.”

12 Years Makes a Difference

Recently, Speaker of the House-elect Nancy Pelosi has had to dodge some “tough” interviews. On an interview with Brian Williams for the NBC Nightly News, she was asked such hard questions as, what does “drain the swamp” mean, and how “history was riding along with her.” None of the networks have run a critical piece on Pelosi since the election. Not one.

For Newt Gingrich 12 years ago, it was a completely different story. On a Dateline interview, Tom Brokaw relentlessly questioned Gingrich about every single untoward thing of which he had been accused. According to Brokaw’s questions, Gingrich had a “long streak” of “casually reckless remarks.” Gingrich was asked questions about drug use, avoiding military service, his divorce from his first wife, and his “well-heeled admirers.” No such treatment for Pelosi. Further, the Center for Media and Public Affairs documented that between Labor Day and October 20, 1994, the networks’ coverage of Gingrich was 100 percent negative.

Minibits

■ “The Democratic wave that washed over American politics last night washed away Defense Secretary Rumsfeld and swamped many Republicans” and “I am delighted to say that they got their butts kicked,” gushes Geraldo Rivera. ■ CNN’s political expert Bill Schneider declares, “Will Republicans move further to the right? Not if they got the message of the election. Republicans lost because they abandoned the center.” ■ ABC’s Terry Moran idolizes Sen. Barack Obama: “You can see it in the crowds. The thrill, the hope. How they surge toward him. You’re looking at an American political phenomenon. They’re even naming babies after him.” ■ Outgoing Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld is “an obnoxious jerk and a war criminal,” barks CNN’s Jack Cafferty. ■ MSNBC’s Keith Olbermann, as usual: “You, sir, have now imposed subjugation and called it freedom....These things you have done, Mr. Bush — they would constitute the beginning of the end of America.” ■ Helen Thomas reveals the obvious: “I’m a liberal, I was born a liberal, and I will be a liberal ‘til the day I die.” ■ PBS’s Jim Lehrer blames viewers: “I don’t have any bias. I am bias-free. ... Bias is what people who hear or read the news bring to the story not what the journalist brings to the reporting.” ■ Diane Sawyer asks Sen. Barack Obama: “Is the nation secretly, I guess, more racist or more sexist?” ■ “HBO’s Bill Maher let’s loose: “Vote Republican and you vote to enable George Bush to keep ruling as an emperor — a retarded child emperor, but an emperor.” ■ Rosie “Geo-Politician” O’Donnell, on ABC’s The View, explains, “get away from the fear. Don’t fear the terrorists. They’re mothers and fathers.” ... And with some fresh air, U.S. Gen. John Abizaid reacts to CBS’s Lara Logan’s description of Iraq as “the defeat”: “That’s your word. Defeat is your word, not my word.”
Are The Planes Safer?

The hubbub raised over six Islamic imams being removed from a US Airways flight in Minneapolis for suspicious behavior is the latest in a string of incidents underlining one consistent thread in the war on terror: Muslim terrorists have never given up on the tried and true idea of hijacking airplanes and blowing them up to kill and demoralize the infidels.

Police and witness reports suggest a list of suspicious activities and remarks. Some of the imams were discussing in Arabic about “bin Laden” and condemning America for “killing Saddam.” Imams asked for seat belt extenders for the extremely obese, for no apparent reason. (Did you know such extenders even existed?) The imams spread out at all exits of the plane, two in front, two in the middle, two in the rear. Between the six imams, they had one piece of checked luggage.

There have been some seriously frightening moments since 9/11. Just a few months later, foiled “shoe bomber” Richard Reid was arrested on board American Airlines Flight 63 from Paris to Miami for attempting to light explosives hidden in his shoes. In court, he declared his allegiance to Osama bin Laden and was convicted in 2003 and sentenced to life in prison.

On March 5, 2003, Fazal Karim, an illegal immigrant from Pakistan, attempted to board an American Airlines flight from Dallas to Houston when screeners found in his luggage 32 razor blades concealed within a box containing a coiled belt. He was convicted of attempting to conceal weapons and making false statements about his immigration status and sentenced to five years in prison.

On June 29, 2004, journalist Annie Jacobsen complained about the very suspicious behavior of a group of Middle Easterners during a flight from Detroit to Los Angeles. When the plane landed, they were detained, and though the Department of Homeland Security would later report that they were a band of Syrian musicians en route to a gig in Las Vegas, Jacobsen learned that DHS also decided to classify the entire report. Why classify it if nothing was amiss?

On August 10, British authorities thwarted a plot to simultaneously blow up 10 aircraft heading to the U.S. using explosives smuggled in luggage, averting what police described as “mass murder on an unimaginable scale.” Some plotters had already purchased tickets on a flight to stage a test run, with an actual attack planned for days later.

The national media have certainly paid attention to airline security issues since 9/11. But they can’t be expected to learn about and report every airline disruption, especially if no real act of terror occurs.

Thus it begs the question: How many times, at how many airports, have there been these kinds of incidents that have not made it to the news desks? I ask because I’ve been a witness to one such incident, from a distance of perhaps three feet, which never made it on the news.

On October 14, I was in Grand Rapids, having boarded United 5832 to Chicago. It was one of those smaller commuter jets with two seats on either side of the aisle. The flight was perhaps one third full, giving sardined passengers the opportunity to move to the multiple open rows after the boarding process was complete. That’s when I noticed the two men, one a younger Muslim, the second an older black man, make their way from the back to the two seats behind the bulkhead on the right side of the plane, one row in front and across from me. Odd. If they wanted more breathing room, why were they choosing to sit together again in cramped quarters, given all the open rows? Why did they move at all? And if they remained together because they needed to visit, why didn’t they exchange a single word? I watched them as they just sat, staring straight ahead. And the plane also just sat by the gate, for a good 15 minutes.

And then the hatch flew open and a half-dozen DHS/FBI agents rushed in, surrounded these two men, and flashing badges, ordered them off the plane.

Now stop for a minute. Imagine you were one of these two, and you were innocent. What would be your reaction if suddenly confronted by a small army of heat-packing federal agents demanding your removal? You might literally jump out of your seat belt in surprise. What? Me? Huh?! Why? What’s going on?! What’d I do? What’s the meaning of this? And the like. And that’s when it really got creepy. I watched as the two men stood up, and without a word, without a shred of emotion on their faces, calmly accompanied the agents off the plane. How else to explain this? They were expecting their detention.

The pilot would take to the intercom a few minutes later to explain what he could. Homeland Security had been running background checks on these two, and while nothing had registered on the computers, the flight crew was “just uncomfortable” -- as they had every reason to be.

Something is happening out there. And it’s not good.
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

- CNN — Anderson Cooper 360, Dec. 6
- CNN — The Situation Room, Dec. 6
- CNN — Paula Zahn NOW, Dec. 7
- FNC — Fox News Live, Dec. 7
- FNC — Weekend Live w/ Brian Wilson, Dec. 9
- MSNBC — Countdown, Nov. 30
- FNC — Hannity & Colmes, Nov. 27
- FNC — Fox News Watch, Nov. 25
- FNC — Fox News Live, Nov. 15

### Radio

- The Radio Factor, Dec. 7
- Sean Hannity Show, Nov. 15, Dec. 4
- Lars Larson Show, Nov. 14, 21
- Right Balance, Nov. 17, Dec. 5, 8
- Faith 2 Action, Nov. 16
- Relevant Radio, Dec. 5
- Ringside Politics, Nov. 17
- Right Talk, Nov. 17
- Coral Ridge Radio, Nov. 7
- NRA News, weekly
- Metro News Network, Dec. 6
- Money Dots on Main St. USA, Dec. 30
- WOAI, San Antonio, TX, Dec. 6
- KWEL, Midland, TX, Nov. 24, Dec. 6
- WHJJ, Providence, RI, Nov. 30
- WIBJ, Indianapolis, IN, Thursdays
- KIDO, Boise, ID, Tuesdays
- KOGO, San Diego, CA, Wednesdays
- WOWO, Ft. Wayne, IN, Nov. 24
- WMJZ, Detroit, MI, Nov. 22
- WBAL, Baltimore, MD, Nov. 16, 18, 21
- WTOP, Washington, DC, Nov. 20
- WIOJ, San Antonio, TX, Nov. 24
- KAHL, San Antonio, TX, Nov. 22
- KMED, Medford, OR, Nov. 22
- KCOL, Denver, CO, Nov. 16
- WFLA, Tampa Bay, FL, Nov. 17
- KCMO, Kansas City, Nov. 20
- WHAT, Philadelphia, PA, Nov. 20
- WIBA, Madison, WI, Nov. 18, 20, Dec. 4
- WVOM, Bangor, ME, Nov. 29
- KVCE, Dallas, TX, Nov. 14
- WAVA, Washington, DC, Nov. 18

### Internet

- MRC President Brent Bozell discusses NBC’s editorial decision to describe the situation in Iraq as a “civil war” on Fox’s Hannity & Colmes.
- MRC’s TimesWatch Director Clay Waters details the liberal bias of the New York Times on Fox’s Your World with Neil Cavuto.
- On CNN’s Paula Zahn NOW, MRC Culture and Media Institute Director Bob Knight refutes the media’s downplaying of the importance of fatherhood in the case of gay “parents.”
- WHJJ, Providence, RI, Dec. 6
- KWEL, Midland, TX, Dec. 6
- KDKA, Pittsburgh, PA, Dec. 8
- KOGO, San Diego, CA, Dec. 4
- WRVC, Huntington, WV, Dec. 5
- WNTA, Rockford, IL, Dec. 12
- WATR, Waterbury, CT, Dec. 13
- WCHS, Charleston, WV, Dec. 6
- Wisconsin Public Radio, Dec. 8

### Print

- World magazine, Dec. 16
- Investor’s Business Daily, Nov. 13, 17, Dec. 5, 6
- Asian-American Times, Nov. 15
- Washington Times, Nov. 19, 29, 30, Dec. 4, 5, 6, 7
- Washington Examiner, Dec. 8
- Limbaugh Letter, November
- Sunday Times (London), Dec. 9
- Environment and Energy Daily, Dec. 7
- Washington Post, Dec. 8
- Los Angeles Times, Nov. 9, Dec. 7
- Federal News Service Daybook, Dec. 6
- National Journal Congress Daily, Dec. 4
- Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, Nov. 13, Dec. 3
- Star Ledger, Dec. 7
- Variety, Nov. 22
- New York Sun, Nov. 28
- Chattanooga Times-Free Press, Nov. 25
- Star Tribune, Nov. 16, 22
- Ventura County Star, Nov. 11
- Courrier News, Nov. 12
- San Francisco Chronicle, Dec. 7

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- Partial listing of all media
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For more information, call Thom Golab at (800) 672-1423. You can also visit us online at www.mrc.gift-planning.org.

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