

MEDIA MATTERS FOR AMERICA
RUSH LIMBAUGH WORKING TRANSCRIPT 05/05/04

THE RUSH LIMBAUGH SHOW 05/05/04

RUSH: I want you to know I'm smiling. And I'm so happy. It's the most optimistic figure in the media. But it is unbelievable what has been going on in the media this morning, folks. Just – I don't know how I'm smiling. (laughter) I'm even laughing. And I don't know how. But whatever I'm doing, I'm going to keep doing, because I like it.

It's the Rush Limbaugh Program, and this is the Excellence in Broadcasting Network. We come to you from the final day this week from the EIB Northern Command. We will wing our way back to the Southern Command sometime this afternoon at a secret departure location, a secret time. In case there's any Philadelphia media out there televising my movements live, still.

The telephone number, if you'd like to be on the program, is 800-282-2882 and the e-mail address is rush@eibnet.com.

Well, I don't know how much attention you are paying – well, you don't have to be paying any attention to this. You can't avoid this. You can't avoid – why, ladies and gentlemen, you in the United States, we ought to just disband. We are such scum. We are such reprobates. We are human debris. How dare this happen in the world when we are responsible for it? We owe the world an apology. The media was listening and parsing the President's words today as he granted interviews to two Arabic TV networks.

And they were just sitting there, and they were parsing, and they were paying close attention. They were waiting for the word apology. They just – they said they may have to listen two or three times, because they may have to really parse this, he may apologize without using the word. We'll have to look at – CNN, I'm telling you, it was a mass orgasm – no, it was mass foreplay. They were hoping they were going to have an orgasm. They would have orgasmed if the President would have apologized. So it was just mass foreplay. They brought in experts from every which way. They had Bush on the TV, and over a picture of Bush being interviewed by one of these – everybody but Al Jazeera. They weren't allowed in. Al-Hurrah, Al Arabiya, well they had Bush pictured there and their graphic says, "Damage Control".

"Damage Control." And you know for a second – you know what I thought was going on? I thought George W. Bush, the President of the United States, was a leader of our country reaching out to the world and the people of Iraq, to make an explanation, and to caution them that this is an isolated – Oh, no. This, this is – there it is again. Right there. Damage control. Right there on CNN.

So its – its– they're obsessed with Bush apologize. They're now obsessed with Rumsfeld resigning. They're asking Colin Powell – "You think Rumsfeld ought to

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quit?" "He's working very hard." "It's I that want to quit," Powell said. "Don't you know, I want out of this mess." That's in *GQ* magazine. (laughter)

You just – you have to laugh. I'm going to tell you why I'm laughing, folks. I'm going to tell you why I'm laughing. Because I know that this is not going to matter a hill of beans. This is all being portrayed as an election issue. That's the only reason these people are upset about it. The only reason the media is having their little foreplay and orgasm over it, it's because they think it's another election issue. Because their candidate John Kerry is so pathetic he can't even run a campaign, he can't even land a blow, make a dent in Bush or his campaign, so the media says, "Oh, we got to do it. We got to do it." And so here comes these pictures of this, this so-called abuse, so-called torture, and – and it's a campaign issue. They're just making it a campaign – and Bush won't play along by apologizing.

You know, they're not going to let go of this for the next five months, however long it is to get to November. I stopped counting. It's going to be will he apologize for this, will he apologize for that, will he accept responsibility here? We have a couple of little excerpts of what the President said. Let's start with audio sound bite three.

This morning he did an interview with Arab TV. An unidentified reporter from Al Heera, or Hurrah. I'm not sure how it's pronounced. And the reporter said "Evidence of torture of Iraq prisons by US personnel." Are we torturing the prisons too? This is a new one on me. What are we doing to the prisons? Oh, yeah, well, you know, that's OK. That's what if we're painting and refurbishing the prisons, it means we're making them look like America. Wide-screen TV. Plasmas in there. No question about it. OK. So we are torturing the prisons.

"Evidence of torture of Iraqi prisons by US personnel has left many Iraqis and people in the Middle East the impression the US is no better than Saddam Hussein, especially when those alleged tortures took place in the unintelligible prisoner, a symbol of torture of Iraqi dissidents. What can the US do, what can we do, to get out of this?"

BUSH: First, the people in Iraq must understand that I view those practices as abhorrent. They must also understand that what took place in that prison does not represent America that I know. The America I know is a compassionate country.

RUSH: Never been to a NOW game.

BUSH: It believes in freedom. The America I know cares about every individual. The America I know has sent troops into Iraq to promote freedom. Good, honorable citizens that are helping the Iraqis every day.

RUSH: A lot of people now starting to sort of buzz, by the way, underneath the service. Bzz, bzz, bzz, bzz, bzzz, about the women doing the laughing and the torturing and

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so forth. They're beginning to question – OK, thought the women supposed to soften up the military. Some – there're some people out there – I just want to warn you – blaming this abuse on the fact that it was women involved in these simulated sex acts and forced masturbation. That if, you know – the fact that women were there, the male members of the guard team got a little excited because the women were there, and it was all part of a – in other words, if the women hadn't been there, this wouldn't have happened. There's some people trying to set that up.

But it's also – does it not represent the coarsening of American women? Does it – because I mean – is this, is this – would you want to marry one of these babes? Might maybe date them for a couple of days, but would you want – ? (laughter) I'm sorry, folks. I'm sorry. Somebody has to provide a little levity here. This is not as serious as everybody's making it out to be. My gosh, we're all wringing our hands, we're acting like – OK, let's just die. You know, let's just give up. What can we do to make these people feel – ? Let's just pull out of there. And then let's go, let's just, let's just go, let's become a neutral country. Let's just do that. I mean it's ridiculous. It's out, it's outrageous what's happening here.

And it's not – and it's not because I'm out of touch, it's because I am in touch, folks, that I can understand. This is a pure media-generated story. I'm not saying it didn't happen, I'm not saying the pictures aren't there. But this is being given more life than the Waco invasion got. This is being given more life than the, than the – almost, it's almost become an Oklahoma City-type thing.

One more Bush sound bite, and the President continued explaining how real democracy works here.

BUSH: It's also important for the people of Iraq to know that in a democracy, everything is not perfect. That mistakes are made. But in a democracy as well, those mistakes will be investigated and people will be brought to justice. We're an open society. We're a society that is willing to investigate, fully investigate in this case, what took place in that prison. That stands in stark contrast to life under Saddam Hussein. His trained torturers were never brought to justice under his regime. There were no investigations about mistreatment of people. There will be investigations. People will be brought to justice.

RUSH: The President got awful close here to – did you hear the word mistakes? I'll tell you what, the foreplay at CNN reached a crescendo there. I don't know whether they consummated anything, but when he said the word mistake, you just know the tape started whirring in the CNN control room and every other media outlet. But he was not talking about his own mistakes. We're going to investigate the mistakes of others. If George W. Bush doesn't make mistakes (laughter), and he doesn't apologize for the mistakes that he doesn't make.

All right. Let's take a brief time out and we'll come back. Look, over half my stack is about this. I mean, I kid you not. The same story done 14,000 different

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ways with 13,500 different perspectives. That's half the stack. But I didn't get to all of my stack yesterday. I kept some of that from yesterday, like the Clinton stuff. So we don't have to go wall-to-wall with this, and frankly, I don't intend to, and I don't, I don't have any desire to.

There are some other things, additional things I do want to say and talk about regarding all this. In fact, this – this Kurd guy I saw on TV on Sunday, on Fox News Sunday, Jelal Talabani. Remember the Iraqi Governing Council? I'm liking this guy more and more every time I hear him or see him. This guy says, (as Talabani) "Do you American know what torture is? I cannot believe you are reacting this way. This is not torture." I like that, like somebody putting this in perspective. The Iraqi people ought to be a little fearful if this guy doesn't think this is torture, what's in store for them when the Iraqis get the country back? I'm just kidding.

Quick time out. We'll be back. Stay with us. The EIB Network rolls right on after this.

(station break)

RUSH: The views expressed by the host on this program do represent the views of the staff, management and sponsors of this station. Telephone number 800 282-2882.

I've just thought about – just decided something here. It gave me the idea – looks like the first bunch of callers that we have on line here are women. I do want to – I read a piece today, and I don't – I want to give it – person who wrote it credit, and I can't remember who wrote it, off the top of my head. But it – Elaine Donnelley is – is quoted in it. It – it's – it's – it's about – it's about the women. It is about women – who wrote that? Oh, yeah, that's a George Neumayr in *The American Spectator*, that's who it was, on their Website.

He quotes – there's a New York Times editorial I guess in the last couple of days, maybe on Sunday, expressing horror and shock and outrage that women would have been involved in meting out this abuse, this sexual abuse. The laughing, the smoking of cigarettes in a prison while watching nude Arab men stack themselves in a – in a pyramid with hoods on their heads and so forth. And Neumayr raises the point, wait a second. This is the same place, *The New York Times* and Liberals, who were suggesting, "We got to have women in combat. Not just in the military. We ought to have women in combat." And all of a sudden, now this is outrageous?

You know, these pictures, a lot of these pictures show women having a really good time in these pictures looking at, watching, maybe encouraging some of the so-called abuse/torture. And so I – I would love to hear from women today. Not the whole program, by any means, but just – just for a little – little bit here. A few minutes. I'd like to hear from women about what you think of this. Were you surprised when you saw a bunch of women in this picture?

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And then when you saw that the Brigadier General in charge of this prison is a woman, Janice Karpinski, and when we learned of this abuse that went on in there, in a place run by a woman, how does it make you feel? What is, what is your whole concept now? What does your thought process go through when you think of women in combat, and is this coarsening women in general, and is this – you know, some of you all – some – you know, the – the – the thinking that led to the Time magazine cover, why men and women are actually born different.

You know what led to that is, that men and women are the same. That they're interchangeable. The Clinton military policy was that men and women are interchangeable in combat, in war, in the military. And in fact it was thought in some circles – that is something Elaine Donnelley makes the point in the George Neumayr piece, that women in the military would actually improve the behavior of male GIs, and so forth.

Now if that's not a sexist comment, I don't know what is, but it would – it's supposed to, you know, soften them, make them less coarse, and so on. It's turned out to be just the opposite. And the reason is that the presence of women with men in the military in these high – high-stress situations, given the age of the men and the women, in their so-called sexual prime, that sexual tension is present, and it is – it's always buzzing around out there. It can't be denied, and so it's got to have an outlet, and lo and behold, here we go.

I just – I just – what about the fact – I'm not – don't misunderstand me here. I'm not asking your thoughts on are women responsible for this incident? That's not the question. What now is your thought on women in combat after you see the pictures of these women with cigarettes dangling from the corners of their mouths, pretending to have guns, watching these prisoners go through masturbation and simulated anal sex and so forth, and enjoying it. I mean, is this what our culture and society was destined to be?

We're all – you know, we're asking questions about who we are here. We're asking questions – well, how – just what kind of rotten people are we? Look at what we're doing here. Well, if we're going to ask that question, how – just how rotten we are, we got to throw the fact in that American women are now part of the recipe equaling rotten. And I'd just be interested in the thoughts of some women on this aspect of the story.

Because I do think that – let's me honest, folks. When we first saw these pictures, I will speak for myself. I will not – I will not assume to speak for you, all right? That's why I'm asking you to call. I will speak for myself. When I first saw these pictures, the most intriguing thing about them to me was the presence of women appearing as though responsible for meting out this punishment. That women looked to be in charge. That woman – women – women looked to be instrumental in all this that was happening.

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And not in a critical sense. It's just – I'm sorry, it's the first thing I noticed. And not just that the women were involved. They were smiling. And they were engaged in activity that our society here would, just would not tolerate. Smoking? And simulating holding a gun? And engaged in humiliation and intimidation?

So you think about this and I'd love to hear what your thoughts are.

In the meantime, Rita in Virginia Beach, I'm glad you called, and welcome to the EIB – oh, and one – Rita, hang on here just a second.

Folks, do not worry. Don't sweat it. I am not going to let this incident take me off of the campaign game. John Kerry is not getting a pass on this program today. That's what all this stuff is halfway about, is trying to keep Kerry and his pathetic campaign off the news. And to keep the focus on Bush and what they're trying to do to damage and destroy him. And it ain't going to happen here.

We're going to talk about this, but we're not giving Kerry or the campaign a pass. So don't sweat that. We're not falling for that trick.

All right, Rita. Thanks, and what's up?

RITA: Oh, well, as I told your wonderful screener, I'm – was a little surprised at seeing the women, but no more upset than seeing the men do the same thing. And it was humiliation more than torture. I was watching *Good Morning, America*, and about 20 minutes after they showed that, they brought in seven Iraqis, whose hands – whose right hands had been chopped off by Saddam Hussein and his men. And why they didn't put them one after the other, I'll never understand, because it seemed to me this was a perfect, perfect scene to show after what our people did to humiliate and not torture – I hate that word, because it's not torture.

RUSH: To answer your own question, why didn't *Good Morning, America* do it that way?

RITA: I have no idea. Well –

RUSH: Oh, now –

RITA: Well, I do, I do, because I've been watching Charlie Gibson, who I used to like, but he –

RUSH: Well, it's just – they're not trying to illustrate – they're trying to make it look like the United States is worse than Saddam.

RITA: Well, the fact that they even put it on the air would be, in the same morning, was a beautiful surprise to me, not that I wanted to see those men without their arms.

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But he fact that they didn't put one after the other, it upset me terribly. Because it (overlapping dialogue)

RUSH: There's a reason. There, there, there's a reason. They don't – they're not interested in that juxtaposition –

RITA: Of course not.

RUSH: – or that comparison. Look, you asked – did you ask, you'd like to know what it was that inspired this? Do you mean the behavior of our prison guards that meted out this so-called –?

RITA: I don't know. I did ask that, because we don't know what they've seen.

RUSH: Well, OK, wait a second.

RITA: We don't know if they've seen – (inaudible)

RUSH: We can, we got a pretty good guess here. We can make a pretty good guess. We are on the ground in Iraq, and we – our troops are being fired at. The people in that prison more than likely have attempted to kill Americans. The people in that prison are there for a reason. It's not just because they're Iraqis. They've attempted some crime against Americans. This is an important question. I don't you think you ought to leave it out of the equation at all. Good one.

(station break)

RUSH: And as usual, my friends, enjoying myself immensely. Having more fun than a human being should be allowed to have, doing that which I was born to do. 800-282-2882, if you'd like to be on the program.

You know, the thing that's missing in this whole story, and the thing that is missing in most of the media coverage of Bush's, is perspective. Well, yesterday, I opened this program, by saying, boy – it's like the good old days out there, folks. We just walked out of the UN. Hey-hey. Ho-ho. Hee-hee. Hubba-hubba. Love it. Well, I forgot to tell you why we walked out of there. We walked out of the UN because the Sudan has just been named the revolving, rotating head of the Human Rights Commission, or Committee – whatever it is – in the United Nations. The Sudan! The Sudan! You may as well go find Idi Amin Dada of Uganda and put him at the head of this Commission. So we walk out.

In the meantime, here's George Bush, on worldwide television apologizing to the Arab world, and we are the bad guys. Now, if you put this in perspective, there is no story. And that's why the perspective is left out of this, is because they want – and most of the media that's focused on this – is trying to drum up and gin up any – any kind of, oh, lack of support, losing support, anger, hatred of Bush whenever

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they can. And it's being treated as a pure campaign issue and often without the context.

I mean, it's just – it's so typical. It is so overboard. Media just – it's just like – is this – the latest example. They go overboard with all of these things and to the point that they destroy their own objective and their own purpose because they just can't let it go. And that is rooted, I think, in their long-held opinion that you're too stupid to understand this. They have to keep pounding it to you, and pounding you, and pounding you and – to the point you get tired of hearing about it. And that's, I think, where a lot of people are.

Now, this – the thing that – let me spend a little time on, here, the involvement of women, here. This is not just an isolated example, either. In the last couple of weeks, I have seen a lot of stories in the media about women starting to get all violent out there. Little girls getting violent, beating up each other.

There was a story late last week in the – maybe it was earlier this week. Time flies, here at the EIB Network, so forgive me. Last week could have been yesterday, things go so quickly here. But there was a story – some 13 year-old girl was somewhere, and I forget the details, but something along the lines that another girl had danced with her boyfriend at a high school dance. And the original girl's mother says, "Well, hey, you got to protect the family honor." So the 13 year-old girl beat the smitherens out of this little girl. She goes to the hospital and all. And the country is astounded by what's happening to our little girls – why, they're pummeling each other.

Well, oh, yeah! That was – this is nothing. I was going to bring up the hazing incident at this sorority. Well, these were high school girls. Right? Or – and they were going out and doing all these horrible things – I mean, the Skull and Bones Society never even thought of doing to each other. You know, and everybody's raising their hands because they're shocked and stunned. What's happening here? Why girls aren't behaving like girls.

Now, I could add a little perspective. Now, I'm 53. I know of stories when I was in high – they had sororities when I was in high school. Some of the things the girls did to the girls that didn't do what was required during initiation were pretty unspeakable. I mean, there's – the idea that girls can do mean things, and be mean to each other, and beat each other up, not really new, but it's being treated as new. So let's act like it's new. It certainly is new to see these pictures of women, cigarettes dangling from the corners of their mouths, in T-shirts and tattoos, and smiling, and having just a jolly old time, watching a bunch of nude guys be forced to do unspeakable things. Is there reason for this? Is this news? Is this troubling to people, or not?

And if it is troubling to you, and if you think it's new, why? What is happening here? What's caused this? Why, why, what is happening to American girlhood?

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(laughter) What is happening (laughter) – yeah, but look at – get this. *The Washington Post* had a story, it was in the last two or three weeks, high school girls want to be on the wrestling team now – not with each other – the boys. And wrestling is, for the first time, in the Olympics, if that actually goes off – the terrorists don't shut that down – women's wrestling for the first time in the Olympics. (laughter) H.R.'s eyebrows in there go, hmmm. Well, no. But, I mean, these are all, you know, new developments out there, in the culture. Got to be a reason for this.

I mean, and the reason we react the way we do is because this is uncommon and is it that girls, young women, are doing things that we're not accustomed to seeing them do on a routine and daily basis. Why do they want to? What brought this about? Is it good, bad? Does it matter? Is it no big deal? Is it – oh, come on, Rush. Don't over react, here? Is this the culture moving on? It's not the 1960s any more.

Anyway, Cheryl in Stafford, Virginia. I'm glad you called. Welcome to the program.

CHERYL: Pleasure to speak with you. Hi.

RUSH: Hi.

CHERYL: Basically, I was not surprised at the pictures of the military women doing that, and what you just lead into this phone call with has a whole bunch of things. For the last 30 years, we've been trying to glorify the masculinization of women. You know? It may not be new, but now it's glorified. You know, the tough women. Bad boys are suddenly get good air play. Clinton? Look at what he did and that was brushed under the rug, and yet, you take somebody else that tries to stand up and do the right thing, and, well, you're just being old-fashioned. You're from the Joan Clever time.

RUSH: Yeah.

CHERYL: And we've put women in the military. Women have wanted to get into men's sports, men's clubs and, you know, they want to be men, and they've been masculinized, and the feminist movement has basically said, we don't like the men are men. We can be better men than men are.

RUSH: Well, you know – but I would say that – OK. (laughter)

CHERYL: And women have become men. And so in order to –

RUSH: Ah, ah –

CHERYL: I'm sorry.

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RUSH: No, no. No. Women – well, some have. The others are trying, but one thing that I wanted to just – it's a minor correction. At the same time – let's – I'll just accept, for the sake of the discussion. And I'm sure there're going to be people who disagree with you on this one, but we'll accept it here. Well, while women are being masculinized, I contend to you that men are being feminized.

CHERYL: I agree.

RUSH: Not – men are not staying masculine to meet up with this new masculine female.

CHERYL: Absolutely.

RUSH: They are being feminized. I think a lot of the American culture is being feminized. I think the reaction to the stupid torture is an example of the feminization of this country.

CHERYL: Men are degraded for being masculine and women are prompted to be tougher, and suck it up, and you can do anything a man can do. And on one hand, if you want to say, equal pay for equal work, that's not what I'm talking about. But these women get into the military, and my husband's in the military, and the fact is, men outnumber women. And they want to play the game that the men play. And so they've got to suck it up. They've got to be tough. They've got to say the same – they've got to tell the same crude jokes.

RUSH: OK. Wait. Wait. Now, is that bad, though? I mean, can women not do the things that this – well, forget the physical aspect of it. I mean, there's obviously going to be differences there, but attitudinally, emotionally – can women not handle the things that men traditionally, boys been able to handle?

CHERYL: Women can do it. I think it can happen. I mean, there's certain physical limitations just by biology. However, it's – women and men are different and anyone that has children knows that. I'm 43 and so I went through college when they tried to say that boys and girls were simply boys and girls because they were socialized that way. Well, now, after millions of dollars of government funds, they've discovered that that's not true, which, you know, our mothers could have told us that. And anyone that's had a child knows that boys and girls are different.

Boys can get hit in the forehead with a 2 x 4, suck it up and keep moving. Women, it's like taking – the analogy that I was told, that I've heard that I thought was a good one, is that you can take a flower and you can beat it on a table. It's still going to be a flower, but it's going to take much more of a beating than a guy ever would. And women are doing it, and they've got to become jaded, and they've got to become hardened and –

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RUSH: Well, the difference, though, is that when a guy gets hit with a 2 x 4, it's the woman swinging it now.

CHERYL: Yes. (laughter) Well, (laughter) yeah. Nowadays, it is. (laughter) But I guess – I just think that women want to have their cake and eat it, too. They want to say, we want to do all this, but we don't want any of the negative that comes with that.

RUSH: Well, I don't know about that. I – I – I –

CHERYL: We don't want to take the responsibility that comes with that.

RUSH: Well, maybe. You've thrown a lot of things out there and I'm sure a lot of people reacting in outrage at your statement that men and women are different. So what –

CHERYL: Well, I mean, and that just makes me a misguided woman as opposed to a woman with another opinion.

RUSH: Well, you know (laughter) –

CHERYL: See, that's how it's always classified. So you're not just somebody with another opinion that may have lived and seen these things played out. It's, well, you're just misguided, or she's stuck in the (overlapping dialogue) –

RUSH: No. It means that you haven't yet been emancipated. You're still under some man's thumb and you're thinking like the old – like the Clever days. Wally and Beaver and all that. So, yeah. I still get your point. Anyway, I appreciate your call, here, Cheryl.

There's also this new movie that I guess is pretty big at the box office this past – past weekend – *Mean Girls*? It's all about girls beating each other up in high school? Isn't it? Isn't it? I mean, I haven't seen it. Of course, I don't go to – your girlfriend wants to go see it? Oh, all right. It's a teen audience is huge – and Tina Fey wrote by the way – she's the head writer of *Saturday Night*? Whatever. Because it apparently is somewhat autobiographical. So it may not be as new as we think.

Look it. You know, this – there are some clichés out there that I think have become romanticized a bit above and beyond reality, and that is that women are soft and like rose petals and all this. I mean, yeah. When they want to be. But, I mean, the idea that they're so – that they're fragile and all that? Often times, women are the rock. If it weren't for – in Kennedy's family – the women have held that family together, folks. You want to know the truth. And you can't be fragile and do that.

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We'll be back right after this. Stay with us.

(station break)

RUSH: Hi. How're you? Welcome back. Rush Limbaugh, having more fun than a human being should be allowed to have.

I have a picture of – fire up the Dittocam in there – for just a second. I want to – and turn the bars off, here. And let me zoom in on this picture here. Well, let me take care of this for the Dittocamers out there. Well, this is – this is worse than trying to do something in a mirror. And I think I got it, here. Well, all right. There we go. All right.

Now, what I am holding, here, ladies and gentlemen – is the Dittocam up and running, here? If you – you people with 24/7 subscribers, you can go to the Dittocam right now. And I got – I'm holding a picture that we have a copy of, and we'll link it, we'll post it on the Website. I want, for those – I'll describe this picture – but for those of you who are looking at this picture, you clearly see what it is.

It is an American GI in Iraq. A male. He is holding a little bird in his hand. It is a naked bird. It is not wearing any clothes, ladies and gentlemen. It looks like a little sparrow. I want you to contrast this picture with the pictures of the prison we are seeing and what the women GIs are doing. The women GIs have cigarettes dangling out of their mouths, are pretending to point guns at the private parts of Arab male prisoners who are nude, and are enjoying the heck out of it. In this photo, a male GI is holding, in the palm of his hand, a delicate, little bird.

Now, just – the images, alone, does – all right – is there not some sort of a contradiction, here? We have – our male GIs are protecting birds out there, over in Iraq, and who're trying to protect the little thing and look at what our women are doing. Now, this is a bit of an exaggeration – I understand this. I just find the – the juxtaposition of this picture with the torture, or abuse pictures that we've seen somewhat phony. Somewhat humorous.

The caption of this picture is, "A soldier with Company B, First Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment holds a little bird in his hand during a cordon and search in the village of Suleimanbak (sp?), Iraq, on April 29th. The purpose of the mission was to locate and confiscate any illegal contraband that could be used against coalition forces." Army photo. US Army photo by sergeant April Johnson. And there it is again.

Now, what a wonderful picture. But is this exactly what we think of uniformed GIs doing? And he's looking lovingly – by the way, he loves this bird. You can see in his face, he has affection for this bird. It's almost like he's going to take this bird home. It's a pet. And I have to remind you – this bird is nude. This bird is not

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wearing any clothes, ladies and gentlemen. And there are no – I mean, there's just total love and passion, compassion and devotion to this little bird on the part of this tough, rigorous American GI. All right.

Columbia, South Carolina. Shelly. Hi and welcome to the EIB Network. Nice to have you with us.

SHELLY: Hi, Rush. Dittoes.

RUSH: Thank you.

SHELLY: I wanted to tell you that I'm surprised, or was surprised, to see the woman in the photographs, but not because of her behavior. What I was surprised at is that a woman is put in charge of guarding male Iraqi prisoners, for the sheer difference between strengths of women – men and women – why would a woman be in charge of guarding these men?

RUSH: Well, I don't think it was just women. There's some men in the room. There's somebody taking this picture.

SHELLY: Right. It's still just surprising (overlapping dialogue) –

RUSH: But the women are armed, don't forget. The women are armed and the prisoners are not.

SHELLY: Of course. Of course.

RUSH: In fact, the prisoners weren't even dressed.

SHELLY: Oh, well, yeah. Just like the bird. But I understand that our military has been given some kind of guidance about how female soldiers should dress, or behave while they're in these Arab countries, and I guess I'm just surprised that they would put a woman in that position.

RUSH: Well, that's interesting perspective. Welcome to the real world. How about smoking? Here are these women, cigarettes dangling from their mouths? You can't do that in New York without being given a summons. You ought to see people with – you ought to see people. I'm walking the streets here and they're hiding. The way they hide their cigarettes. It's just – it's – it's obscene. It's unreal. I can't believe that I am in the so-called greatest city in the world. I'm watching the people of this town cower in fear when a cop car goes by because they got a cigarette cupped in their hand, trying to hide the smoke – trying not to be seen.

You know, I drive around in a Rush Mobile, here, and I open the windows, I got my cigar puffing in the back and I let it – I want to look like the Pope's been

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chosen. You know, I want smoke coming out of my – I want to be pulled over. I want to be told that I am inflicting pain and suffering on somebody. I want to – I want to challenge this. It'll probably happen this afternoon.

In the meantime, over here in this prison, American women, soft, cuddly, lovely, gentle flowers that, built like tanks, have cigarettes dangling from the corners of their mouths while pointing guns at nude Arab males. And of course there are people upset.

Well, we'll be back in just a second, folks. Stay with us.

(station break)

RUSH: The Rush Limbaugh program rolls on, on the EIB Network. This is Steve in Toledo. Nice to have you with us, sir.

STEVE: Yeah. Hi, Rush. How you doing? This is Steve in Toledo.

RUSH: Fine. Thank you.

STEVE: Hey, you know? Number one, I enjoy your program. I love listening to you and I believe in you.

RUSH: Thank you.

STEVE: I hope I'm not being deceived, though, all these months and years that I have listened to you up to this point. I think you're making too much light of these immoral pictures that we're seeing, you know, with our – those prisoners – over there in Iraq, with the marines, and you know, they already think we're evil. They already think we'll sinful as hell.

RUSH: Yeah. But we're not, are we?

STEVE: Well, we're not, but those pictures tell – tell – too many things.

RUSH: All right! OK. Look. Look. Here's the problem. Steve, I don't have much time. And you got your – you made your point and I appreciate it, but I want to answer this before the hour ends. Bottom line's this – I said the last two or three days. This is Tuesday. The last two days – admitting this is not good. That this was a mistake. That this is a problem.

But I'm not going – I'm not going to sit here and just beat it to death. I am not going to obsess upon it. You know, if Bush apologizes once, they're going to demand he apologize 25 times. Now, at some point, we need perspective added to this and that's what I'm trying to do. And I'm trying to bring up another aspect of this I think is interesting and – it is, to me – and that is, the role that women are

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playing in this and what it says about our culture. But I'm not going to sit here and spend two weeks, wringing my hands over this! It isn't worth it.

(station break)

HOUR 2

RUSH: Hi. Are we good to go? We're going to – greetings and welcome back. Rush Limbaugh here from the Limbaugh Institute, the prestigious Limbaugh Institute for Advanced Conservative Studies. I am in the EIB Northern Command in the prestigious Attila the Hun chair, behind the golden EIB microphone. Great to have you along. The Dittocam is on. For those of you who subscribe to Rush 24/7, our Website there is RushLimbaugh.com. Here's the phone number if you'd like to join us. It's 800-282-2882. And the e-mail address, rush@eibnet.com.

You know, there has been an apology for this. And it happened over in Iraq. The – the general brought in to run US military jails in Iraq, following the prisoner abuse scandal, offered his own and his nation's apologies for the affair on Wednesday to the people of Iraq. “Major General Jeffrey Miller said at the prison outside Baghdad, ‘I would like to apologize for our nation, and for our military, for the small number of leaders and soldiers that have committed unauthorized and possibly illegal acts on the detained here at the prison. And I would like to personally apologize to the people of Iraq for the actions of a small number of leaders and soldiers who have violated our policy.’”

Well, there you have it. We've got the apology. It's not enough. It's not enough. This is just a start. “Well, this guy's a peon. We can't count on this guy. This guy can't speak for Bush. We're not going to accept an apology until we get one from Bush.” But here's the – the general on-site has – has apologized. And there's almost an apology – I mean, Rumsfeld said on Wednesday that any American – well, here. The audio sound bite. Grab – this is seven and – seven – yeah, well, yeah. Let's do seven and eight. These – one of these two will cover it. He's on *Good Morning, America*. Nope. *Today Show*. Sorry. On the *Today* – yeah.

No, wait a second, now. Now, I'm getting confused. He was on both of them. Apparently the apology occurred – anyway, he said – said Wednesday, “Any American felt apologetic for abuses of Iraqi prisoners by US soldiers, but stopped short of offering a direct apology himself.” Wait a second, where is this – ? Is it – well, yeah, I think it might be. Let me find cut five. I don't have cut five. That's the problem. I don't have a cut five. I'm missing a – I'm missing a cut – nope, there it is. It is cut five. It's cut five and six. Well, here it is, *Good Morning, America*, and this is what Rumsfeld was quoted as saying, yeah.

RUMSFELD: Oh, my goodness. Anyone, any American who sees the photographs that we've seen has to feel apologetic to the Iraqi people who were abused, and recognize that that is something that is unacceptable and certainly un-American.

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RUSH: So there's the word "apology" and he, of course, did not say, "I apologize. We apologize." He said anybody would have to feel apologetic for what happened and what they saw. So I mean – the – and the fact that this reaction has happened, you can't argue with the reaction that the President has had. You know, the President is taking it very seriously, as is the administration. They are all expressing how upset they are about this. And yet it still isn't enough.

And I'm – I'm – by the way, I'm answering the – continuing to answer the call we had just before the end of the hour, who says the way I'm discussing this today, the female prisoner angle, I'm – I'm – what – what did he say I was doing? I was not – well, it's more – you know, taking too lightly. He said I was taking it too lightly. And for – for two days, you know, we've dealt with this seriously. And I have not condoned it, and – and I have – I have admitted that it's not typical of what the US does or is known for. But obsessing over this is not productive.

And I'll tell – it's something else. This – folks, I want to get into this for just a second, and this is going to be very touchy for me, because I know off the bat, I'm just going to say right at the top, most of you aren't going to understand this, and it's going to make you mad. But I'm going to do it anyway because that has never stopped me in almost 16 years.

And I want to tell you something that's really irritating me. And it's happening at the administration level, it's happening throughout every level of strata of our society. And that is – and it – it started after – well, it started long ago, but I mean the intense focus started after 9/11. "Why do they hate us? Why do they not understand us?"

Now, if you start asking that question, "Why do they hate us?" then – you have to then next go to, "OK, what can we do to make them like us?" And that's – that is a fatal step, because if we become obsessed with making these people like us, if we become obsessed with showing them that we're nice, if we get obsessed with this business of "Why do they not like us?" we – we are – it – it's not going to happen immediately, but it's going to be another nail in many nails of a coffin that is forever going to bury what has become a distinct American culture.

Because inherent in this business of asking, "Why don't they like us? What can we do to make them show we like us?" Inherent is that – in that is a lack of self-esteem on our part. If we don't think being who we are speaks strongly enough for ourselves, and we have to then go out of our way to show people who we really are, we have lost. You cannot do this. You cannot, be it in your personal life, or in groups, or as nations or what have you, you cannot make it an objective to see to it that everybody likes you.

I know we're not talking everybody here. We're talking about the Iraqis. Can't do it. That is a recipe for disaster. Because what'll happen in the process is we will

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cease being who we are, and we'll try to be what we think they want us to be, and it'll be phony. It'll be – and it won't work anyway because you – we can't continue to be not who we are for the rest of our existence just in order to make – make people like us.

This – this whole – this is a – this is a question that's born of New Ageism. “Why do they hate us? It's our fault. We must change. We must show people that we're nice people. We must show people we don't hate them.” As far as I'm concerned we haven't shown them that we hate them. As far as I'm concerned we are nice people. We don't have any excuses to make as the United States of America. Sure, we all make mistakes, and we all, individually and as nations, do things now and then that are not accurate or representative of who we are generally, individually, or as a country. But that's common. It's normal. And those exceptions do not establish the rule as who we are.

And that's what's happening here. This – this – this business – these photos, what's happening here is too many people, “That's the real America. We've suppressed it, we've hidden it from the world, but that's the real America.” There are people who think that. Many Liberals, the John Kerry campaign, that's what they think of – John Kerry came back from Vietnam and said, “Hey, this is what we did.” We did worse in Vietnam. John Kerry ought to be investigating this because Kerry admitted to all kinds of war atrocities. “His country is immoral. His country is not going to do this.” He was making it all up about all these other soldiers, and if he did all this himself, why did he wait until afterwards to start complaining about it? Why didn't he stop it and complain about it in the process at the time?

It troubles me greatly when we start getting all introspective – and there's nothing wrong with introspection, but when it is based on making other people like us because they – we think they misunderstand us. It's one thing if we're going to just be who we are, say, “Look it, here's who we are. Take it or leave it.” But if we're going to change who we are, based on what we think they want us to be, or what we think we have to be to get them to like us, we're doomed.

And it be – it's not possible. It simply isn't possible. And it's not the way to fight a war anyway. I mean the whole question, “Why do they hate us?” is absurd. It's irrelevant. We're fighting a worldwide war against Islamofascism. It is – it is a waste of time to ask ourselves why they hate us. Oh, we can learn the answer, but it is not going to stop anything unless we say, “OK, you know what? We'll stop being what you don't like.”

And we're not going to do that. And if we do do that, we stop being who we are. We stop being the United States of America. And even if we did stop being who we are, all that's going to be seen as by them is a sigh of weakness, and they're just going to redouble their efforts to come after us.

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There is no New Age way to deal with this. Ours is a world governed by the aggressive use of force, not words, not treaties, not peace conferences, not introspection, not Tai Chi or whatever else you want to engage in here to try to figure out how this can be brought to a stop because they just don't like us.

They don't like us for reasons that you don't even understand. They don't like us for reasons that cannot be changed. It is they who have the problem is the bottom line.

Let's – let me just ask you to think of yourself and another individual in this analogy. And you – you – you have a – you've got this idea that you have to make people like you. So what you do is you imagine what this other person – could be a member of the opposite sex, could be – whatever, just friend, romantic partner, whatever. You want this person to like you, so you will do what you think you have to do to make them like – you are therefore ceasing to be who you are. You are becoming a person that you are not, and you are not going to be able to sustain it, and you're going to resent it eventually because it's not going to work anyway.

If the same person is doing the same thing to you, all this stuff goes back and forth, but when you really get down to brass tacks, if you are trying to make somebody else like you, you are missing the point. It's their problem, not yours. If they don't like you, screw it. There's nothing you can do about it. And the biggest mistake you can make is to change who you are to try to make them like you. If they don't like you, they have the problem.

Now, we're assuming here you're not a reprobate, a criminal and all this sort of stuff, where all things being equal here. Don't – don't – don't be ridiculous. I mean I'm not defending rapists and this sort of stuff. I'm just talking about ordinary people here. Not everybody can get along. Not everybody's going to understand everybody. But if – if – if people, you know, blame themselves for why other people don't like them, they are screwed. If you are not liked by a lot of people and you're blaming yourself for it, you are in deep doo-doo. It's not your problem that people don't like you. It's theirs.

Same thing here. It's not our problem that these Islamo – Islamofascists don't like us. It's not our problem that the Arab terrorists don't like us. It's theirs. But we're not in this to be liked. It's not what we're doing here. We are doing this to protect ourselves. We have been attacked. We are targeted every day. We are sitting ducks every day for these people who don't like us for whatever reasons that we can't change.

There's only one way to deal with this, and it's not to try to change them. How many times have you tried to change somebody anyway? It doesn't work. The only person you can change is yourself, but you can't change somebody else. Ask the people who have been divorced all these times about changing somebody. It doesn't work.

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And it's not going to work here. We cannot change these people. We could peacefully coexist with them if they would just stay to themselves and not bother anybody else, but that's not what they're doing. They hijacked some airplanes of ours and flew them into the World Trade Center, killed 3,000 people, destroyed the buildings, tried to blow up the Pentagon and who knows what else. Now that's – at this point I couldn't care less why they don't like us. Figuring that out's not going to stop anything because I'm not going to change who I am just to make these people like me and so they'll stop blowing up my country. Isn't going to happen anyway.

So when I hear people talk about, “Well, these pictures really trouble me because – have to – put a bad image of the United States out there. We are – well, all these say this is immoral.” They already think we're immoral because of Britney Spears. They think we're immoral because of the movies and records that we play. They think we're immoral because of the TV shows we watch. They think we're immoral because we're not Islamists. There's nothing we can do about it, short of becoming what they are. And even if we tried that, they wouldn't accept it as genuine. They'd think it's trap.

There's only one thing to do here, folks, and that's achieve victory over people who have targeted us for a long, long time, well over 15, 20 years. It's the only way to deal with this. And that's why obsessing about a single incident or two of so-called abuse in a prison is nothing more than a giant distraction, and could end up being something that really ties our hands and handcuffs us in what the real objective is here, which is the preservation of our way of life and our country.

And that's why I'm not going to sit here, obsess, and join the rest of the media with this, and turn this into a campaign issue, try to convince as many people that George Bush is incompetent, needs to be thrown out of office, because that's all this is. But in the process, what all that does is weaken the resolve of the people of this country because it's going to make all the people to whom – “God, we are horrible people. Look at what we did.” We didn't do it. Select few Americans did it. It's not about all of us. They did it. It doesn't speak for us unless we let it.

This is real, real frustrating to me, and I – I – I – it's probably not a view you're going to get too many other places because “the natural, normal, compassionate thing to do is to try to relate and understand, and understanding that people are hurt.” Well, screw all this. You know, it – it's time for a little hard-nosed reality here.

We got to take a time out. Be back and continue right after this. Stay with us.

(station break)

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RUSH: Oh, yeah, a little Booker T and the MGs action. Time is tight, but we will squeeze it in. Ladies and gentlemen, you may be aware that the John F. Kerry campaign has begun a new series of TV commercials to again introduce the candidate to the American people, the American voter. Some fear that this is a late campaign, should have been done shortly after he see – sowed it all up in the primaries. But nevertheless they are getting around to it. And you may not have heard, there – there – supposedly there are two ads. There's actually three. And here's the one that you haven't heard.

KERRY: Hello, I'm John F. Kerry, and I approved this message, except for the parts that you may not agree with.

ANNOUNCER: Introducing John F. Kerry. John F. Kerry has a vision for America.

KERRY: When I look out over America, I can help but think of Vietnam.

ANNOUNCER: John F. Kerry on the economy.

KERRY: George W. Bush's tax cuts wound the poor, just like I was wounded in Vietnam.

ANNOUNCER: John F. Kerry on the environment.

KERRY: Every child in America should be able to enjoy these dolphins, just like I did from my swift boat in Vietnam.

ANNOUNCER: John F. Kerry on Iraq.

KERRY: We should let the United Nations handle Vietnam.

ANNOUNCER: John F. Kerry for President. Teresa Heinz Ketchup, treasurer.

(music)

RUSH: Guess he wants to make it clear that he served in Vietnam. All right. From TheHill.com comes this story, "Kerry Gathers Doomsday Team." There's so much – there's so much great stuff on Kerry today. There – this guy Robert Sam Anson who wrote this piece in *Vanity Fair* on – on Clinton has just written a – I could have written this guy's piece today in *The New York Observer*, just making fun of Kerry as an inept, bumbling buffoon. He's a Democrat. This Anson guy's a big Lib.

And then there's an editorial in *The New York Observer* today that talks – that Kerry, just – it's – it's – it's almost unsalvageable, he's just got to get out of there. This is – it's horrible. We got the story in *The Hill*. "Kerry's presidential campaign is preparing for a so-called October Surprise, including the capture of Osama bin

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Laden, and a potential terrorist attack in the United States.” He's actually gathering his advisors to come up with a strategical (sic.) response in case the Bush people happen to announce the capture of Osama bin Laden in October, or if there is another terrorist attack. And they call this the – the – the group that is able to think “outside the box.” The issues they are discussing are being kept secret by the campaign, but we found out about them. Nevertheless – (laughter) nevertheless, more in just a moment. Stay – (laughter)

(station break)

RUSH: I – I just saw this on the Drudge Report and I am – I don't know why I'm surprised I'm surprised. I ought not be, because I'm not – because I'm just not this stupid. But I – I'm just too optimistic. I keep thinking that idiocy is eventually going to come to a screeching halt in the country. And I keep thinking that the people in this country are going to collectively recognize idiocy and reject it, but no – the idiocy just keeps expanding.

Get this. From the *Daily Iowan*, a college newspaper. “Adhering to a policy instituted 10 years ago but not always followed, the University of Iowa Athletics Department recently canceled a baseball game with Bradley University of Peoria, Illinois, because the school's mascot is the Braves.”

Don't give me that knowing look like, oh, yeah, you understand. This is absurd. It's – no, no. It's not Iowa. It's America. What is this? The Steelers going to cancel their game with the Red Skins in the NFL because of the name, Red Skins? What if the St. Louis Cardinals refused to play the Braves? I mean, this is asinine.

“The game was originally scheduled to be played today, but the athletics department canceled the game in February, recognizing that Bradley's nicknames, the Braves, falls under the University's policy to not schedule non-conference games with teams that have American Indian mascots.”

Now this – this actually goes to what I was just talking about, about trying to make people like you and not offending people and so forth and –

You know, let me give you another example of this. I was telling somebody over the weekend and I don't think this person understood. I have this belief – and I went through a monologue on this once – that if two people sitting around – and I'm not – look – again, this is all things being equal, but let's just say, speech. Let's just keep it within the realm of speech.

Let's say that I offend you. Let's just talk about you and me. Say, I offend you. Just saying things. I'm not cursing. I'm not – I'm not being profane, or anything, but just – I just offend you. My contention is, it's your problem. It ain't mine. You get offended. Deal with it. But that's not what happens in America. If I offend you, you know what happens? Somebody out there is going to try to get me

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shut up. Somebody's going to try to make me silent. Somebody's going to say, I don't want to hear that. Well, it's – if you don't want to hear it, go somewhere where you don't have to. But it's not your right and responsibility to silence somebody just because they offend you, but that's what's happening here.

So, people out there – we – and I'm – I'm not saying it's OK to offend people, but I'm saying, you can't help it, and it's the person that gets offended who has the problem. If somebody's going to be offended that a university baseball team is named the Braves, it ain't the team's named the Braves problem. But the team that's offended, here, has just affected the game. Not going to play it because your name offends us.

Well, screw that, as far as I'm concerned, because the person that's offended, or the university that's offended, here, is seeking power they don't have. They are, in essence, seeking to change the decision of the Bradley University as to what mascot name they're going to have. It's not the University of Iowa's business what the University of Bradley does. And vice-versa. But the University of Iowa wants to make it its business and that's what I call a busybody with too much time and sensitivity on its hands.

And now, you can take that and you can expand it to whatever is happening, here. I'm offended by what we're doing. Whack them if it – hey.

Let's say that we're offending the Islamofascists. Let's go back to that for just a second, and let's go back to this business, you know, that it's OK if we're offending them, or if we're doing something that makes them not like us, it's our fault. Because that's what way too many people think.

OK. So what could we do, then? If our existence offends the Islamofascists, the militant Islamists, what could we do? Well, how about this – let's just get down to the hard, cold, crass reality. Let's say that in an effort to stop offending the Islamofascists around the world and let's suggest in a further effort to make them like us, let's ban every religion in this country except Islam. There you go. Problem solved. We'll become an official Islamists country and therefore they'll like us and they won't –

And you're saying, oh, and come on, Rush! We can't do that. Well, why not? If the objective is to make them like us, don't we have to become like them? And be what they want us to be? Don't we got to give them that power – to let us define ourselves so they like us? I mean, that's how stupid and ridiculous all this is, folks, is the only point I'm trying to make.

And now, an institution of higher learning, canceling a baseball game over something as petty as the opposing team's name – its mascot name!

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There are far more important things going on than this kind of tripe that's getting people all worked up and distracted and it doesn't – it's not productive. It's not helping anything and it's not making the people who are offended happier. Last I looked, the people who're offended by the names of mascots, still mad. They're going to be mad about something.

Once they get power by being mad, you think they're going to go away? Once you give them the power to change what they don't like, they're going to come up with something else they don't like because they like the power they've just been able to exercise. This is a big mistake, folks. All this is. And that's because everybody has the wrong attitude on people not liking them, or people being offended by them. Everybody blames themselves for this when it's not their fault. It's the other person's problem to deal with.

Who's next on this program? Robin in Santine, Illinois. Nice to have you on the program. Welcome.

ROBIN: Yeah. Hi, Rush. It's Robin from Champagne.

RUSH: Oh, Champagne, did you –

ROBIN: Champagne, and yeah I am –

RUSH: Thanks, Mr. Call Screener. I never heard of Santine, Illinois. I'm the one with the hearing problem! Makes me look like an idiot. I didn't mean to offend you.

ROBIN: That's not a problem and tall-hearted dittoes from a proud resident of Chief Illiniwek country.

I was calling because I wanted to let you know that I am not the least surprised that women are involved in this because no one does humiliation like women, and if women want to dispute that, I mean, we know that from kindergarten up. You know, when girls do –

RUSH: Hey, hold it. Don't assume I know this. Let's start at kindergarten and you tell me how this happens.

ROBIN: Well, Marta could tell you. Little girls, when they – OK. Little boys. When little boys fight, they want to bloody a nose. They want to blacken an eye – you know – and then they'll pat each other on the back. Girls will hold a grudge and they won't bloody your nose. They will go after who you are. And they and their little friends will get together like the movie *Mean Girls*. They'll spread rumors. They'll spread gossip. They'll destroy your reputation. I mean, they're just vicious. I would much rather have some boy at school mad at my daughter than any other girl because they'll destroy them. And they – you know, if –

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RUSH: You know, some of the fathers – and I’m not one – but some of the fathers in the group, here, are nodding in agreement with you.

ROBIN: Yeah. Yeah. Because girls – you know, and I’ve been a victim of it and unfortunately have been part of it. You know, it’s just – I don’t know what it is and you can even see it in the workplace. Grown women will do it – not all, you know, but there are some women out there that, you know, if you’re prettier than they are, or if you’re more successful than they are, or – I mean, they are, they can get real vicious. And they will – you know, as an example, you know, when I was dating someone two years older than me and the girls were all jealous at school, they spread around the school that I was on the pill and that’s why this guy was seeing me. And so, of course, I became, you know, for a short time, that was the reputation. It didn’t last because it wasn’t true, but you know, that’s what they do.

RUSH: Well, I know. But that’s high – high school’s vicious.

ROBIN: But it can – it can be –

RUSH: On everybody. I mean, high school’s vicious on –

ROBIN: It can continue in women. Women. Women can do it. (laughter) I mean, I’m not surprised, and from what I’ve heard on FOX news and your program is that one of objectives of this was not to torture, but to humiliate.

RUSH: Yeah, but, but, but – again – yes. That’s absolutely right. But the thing is, they, the story is, they were under orders. Somebody gave them these orders and they were to intimidate and humiliate for the purposes of softening up the prisoners for interrogation the next day. I mean, I guess we’ll find out of that’s true at some point. Sadly, what’s going around is this was being done for the fun of it and that, people find that, just doubly outrageous. Why – somebody called yesterday – “I think – they looked like they were having fun. I really was bothered by that.”

(sighs) Sometimes, folks, it’s really tough here to deal with some of what I hear. I just want you to know this and I try to be as calm and cool and understanding as I can be, but they’re are times I want to blow my top – look like they were having fun? (sighs)

I have two reactions to that. Number one, we’re not in their shoes. They’re being fired at. These prisoners are people that tried to kill Americans. If I had somebody in a prison that tried to kill members of my nation, I might enjoy taunting them a little bit. I don’t know. I might.

The second aspect of this is, we don’t know the kind of stress and pressure these people are under, and the idea that – where does this come not supposed to enjoy themselves? I know it’s – you know, the humiliation of others and so forth, but, you know, this isn’t Romper Room and it’s not Junior High or High School. This

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is a war and it was a military prison. And I just – I just think there needs to be some perspective. If you can't agree with what all happened over there, and nobody does, there needs to at least be some effort to try to understand it rather than just the immediate knee-jerk reaction of condemnation.

Anyway, I appreciate your call. Thanks, much.

Well, let me stay with this Kerry story, here, before the break because this is – there's two things here. "The Kerry team" – this is according to the Hill. "The Kerry team has a doomsday team, an advisor, that's sitting out there, preparing for an October surprise, including things like Bin Laden's capture, and maybe a terrorist attack on the United States. By design, the group includes several outside advisors who are free of the day-to-day management of the campaign and can thus think outside the box. Membership of the group and the issues they are discussing being kept secret by the campaign. Campaign officials dislike discussing this October surprise issue at all for fear that it makes the campaign look intent on taking political advantage of what might be a catastrophic event, such as a terrorist attack."

Well, it is! It is. OK. Let's go inside the meeting. We've got these non-regular campaign members and they're sitting in there and they're strategizing about what to do in case bin Laden's captured. All right. So you know they're sitting there, going, OK, how are we going to deal with that problem? You know, right there, they're cooked. These guys, the Kerry people, know they've got a problem, if bin Laden's captured.

Now, what does that tell you? What – that fact alone – what does it tell you? That they're going to try to spin the capture of bin Laden. Well, how can they spin it? Well, they go get Madeleine Albright and say, "Well, she heard in the green room at FOX three years ago that we already had bin Laden captured. Just waiting for the right time to release it." Or, get Michael Moore to do some stupid movie about it. I mean, if I – what – this is just – it – it's amazing. Why can't you figure out a way to join in the happiness that people will feel about it, or the relief, or whatever and try to get yourselves in on it in a positive way? Instead of trying to figure out how to spin the bad news that bin Laden has been captured, if, indeed, it happens.

And of course, part of the spin will be that the Bush administration just made it up. Had – just – that they had – been keeping it under wraps. He's been captured for a while and so forth. They'll have to have some spin like that. And of course, their voters – Kerry's voters – will demand it.

Have you also heard of this? Kerry is now blaming his speechwriters for his Benedict Arnold comments? You haven't heard this? He'd been out there, calling American corporations Benedict Arnold corporations, and in an interview with the *Wall Street Journal*, Kerry said this about his campaign attacks on Benedict Arnold companies. He said, "Well, the Benedict Arnold line applied, you know, I called a

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couple of times to over-zealous speech writers. I said, look, that's not what I am saying." He is blaming it on his speech writers.

Well, how long has he been saying it that he didn't blame them? How long has he been letting them write it for him and he's been eagerly saying it? You search his Website and he has been saying exactly what his Website says. He has this – this – this is what he said in the *Wall Street Journal*. "Benedict Arnold does not refer to somebody who, in the normal course of business, is going to go overseas and take jobs overseas. That happens. And I support that. And I understand that. I was referring to the people who take advantage of non-economic transactions, purely for tax purposes. Sham. Sham transactions. Giving up American citizenship is what I meant." If you go to his Web site, it doesn't show that. He thought a Benedict Arnold corporation is one that outsources and has locations overseas, maybe doing it for tax reasons, or whatever, but it has nothing to do with abandoning citizenship. But now he's blaming this on over-zealous speech writer.

Is it any wonder the Democrats are pulling their hair out? Now, he's not even controlling his words now and he can't stop his speechwriters from putting words in his mouth – for months at a time.

And by the way, we've got polling data. You know, I talked to you about Zogby yesterday, and this country is more divided than ever, and the undecideds are smaller than ever? Well, I don't know about that because we got a poll and the undecideds are still undecided and they're not any closer to becoming undecided. They're undecided out there and it's not good for Kerry.

I have the details, all that and much more, coming up right after this quick EIB profit center break.

(station break)

RUSH: OK. To the phones. We go next – Ann in Alaska. Nice to have you on the program. Welcome.

ANN: Thanks, Rush. I was calling about your comment about the names of the sports teams.

RUSH: Yes.

ANN: And I guess I used to agree with you until I began to think of different names for sports teams. And I was just wondering why calling a team the Braves wouldn't be akin to calling a team, for instance, the New York Jews, which would be offensive?

RUSH: Well, no, I don't think calling them the Braves – the Braves is a very powerful, positive term.

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ANN: Well, so is Jews.

RUSH: Yeah, but you don't – there are no sports teams that name themselves after religions. I mean, we don't have the Pittsburgh bin Ladens. You know, things like – look, the point here is hypocrisy. The point here is hypocrisy and hyper-sensitivity. It – and we just had a drive-by caller who made this point and it's a good point.

The Iowa game that's been canceled with Bradley is a non-conference game – the Bradley Braves. Can't have that. Get them out of there. However, Iowa's not canceling a conference baseball game against Illinois. Everybody says, so? Big deal? It's the Fighting Illini of Illinois. Well, what do you think of the Fighting Illini is? It's Chief Illiniwek – the mascot out there, the Fighting Illini is Chief Illiniwek. And they're not going to cancel a conference game, are they? They just – they don't want to go to Peoria. Who would? I'm just kidding. Ah – I love Peoria. That's one of the first places I went – oh, they saw me, too. No, no. I was just – stereotypical humor. I love Peoria. I've been on the Rush lecture tours. It's one of the first places I went and – no. I'm just kidding.

They canceled this non-conference game against Bradley – the Bradley Braves – but, you know, if you give me an example where we start making fun of people's religions and that sort of thing with mascot names, then I'll listen. But I think that's reach. That's a bit of a stretch.

And see, you are looking to be offended. You are finding a way to be offended. That's what's wrong with this. You go out, looking for reasons to – and we got whole groups of people that do this now, by the way. I mean, the concern, the offended. They go out and they try to get offended because it gives them power. We have ceded power to people who claim they're offended about this.

And not everybody – I mean, a lot of people offended at CNN. Yip, yip. But those people don't get anything out of it other than turning it off – now, which you should do. If FOX offends you, turn it off. This program offends you, turn it off. But don't meddle and try to change it so it doesn't offend you. It's not your privilege, power, or right to do that. And yet, the offended engage in this kind of control. What do you think political correctness is? It's speech codes. It's restrictions on speech simply because somebody's offended by something they hear. Right.

So you've got – you can't now say – you can't say – you can't call somebody ugly. That offends somebody, because the ugly know who they are, let's be honest. So, what you have to do is you would have to call him the pleasingly appearance challenged, or some such bogus. You know, everybody knows what you're saying anyway. But somehow, saying it with more than one word is not offensive. The vertically challenged? We're talking about short people. You know, the – you name it. It's just – it's just patently ridiculous.

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Anyway, I'm out of time, here, for this segment. That's too bad, too, because I'm on a big role. Back in just a second. Stay with us.

(station break)

RUSH: OK. Two hours down and one in the can, ladies – or, one to go. Two in the can and one to go and then we'll be hitting the highways and byways and the air corridors, as we fly home to the EIB Southern Command this afternoon.

We'll be back in just a jiffy. Stay with us.

HOUR 3

RUSH: With talent on loan from God, Rush Limbaugh, the Excellence in Broadcasting Network. I am the happiest and the most optimistic figure in American media today. And I'm happy about that. The telephone number is 800-282-2882 if you'd like to join us. The e-mail address rush@eibnet.com.

I can't get over this picture. I'm still looking at this picture – I – I just wanted to – the reason I turned on the Dittocam, so let me zoom in on this thing a little closer. Little GI – not little GI, but a GI over in Iraq holding a little baby bird. Just so touching, loving, compassionate.

I mean – my favorite bird is the pelican. You can't hold them in your hand. You can't even catch them. I go out to the beach there and it just – I follow them home. Those things fly 35 miles an hour. It's faster than the speed limit where I live, even in my new car. Can't keep – just – I'm fascinated by those birds. They look like wise old men. One of them got screwed up one day, was on the golf course trying to drink out of the fresh water lake. And I thought we've got a retarded pelican here, you know, because they're – they're – they're salt water birds. And it was – I walked up to it and it was standing there – things are huge. I was walking up to it and I got – I got within five feet. I thought, my gosh, I'm going to make it. And then, just sheer panic and the thing flew off. It was like I was a prison guard or something.

So anyway, winging my way home, this is the final hour here. We'll be going back to the EIB Southern Command this afternoon. Flying approved air corridors.

(laughter) But before we go, ladies and gentlemen, I want to review the program up to this point for you. There – there's a new Lib Web site out there. Have you heard about this David Brock's Web site? This is – I have to tell you the truth about this. When I – when I – when I got into town on Sunday night, having flown up from the EIB Southern Command, I got – as usual I walked into my fashionable Upper East Side penthouse, minding my own business, bothering nobody and fired up the computer and there's all these e-mails. "Rush, get this, look at this."

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So I looked at it. And they've got this new Lib Net on radio, then they've got Gore's – Gore's new Lib cable network. Now they've got Lib Web. And David Brock, who by the way, I have said positive things about throughout his career on this program. I have praised David Brock's work in *The American Spectator*. I have defended David Brock when he was assaulted for being gay by mean-spirited people in Washington who happen to be Republicans. And I even talked to him on the phone once, told him I regretted this and that it – it – it was unfortunate it happened and so forth. But Brock – something happened. David's done – and he's done a 180 and he's now on the Left. He's – he's – he's running the – they've sunk two million bucks into this Lib – into this Lib Web site, which – whoever does – they've got two people.

David, let me just say something. We started my Web site here, which is far better than yours, on a shoestring. Two million. You people waste more money starting up your projects. I – I don't – I don't have any clue how you expect to make any money doing what you're doing. Of course, that may not be the objective. But they've got two people assigned to transcribing this program every day and – and – and they monitor other Conservative media, and they simply report it so that people will know what's actually being said here.

Of course, I transcribe this program each day and it's on my own Web site. If you – if you wanted to hear what was said on this program, you can go on my Web site. It's right there. But they're doing me a service. I mean, they're promoting my Web site and my program on theirs.

But they have – their initial offering featured 77 classic Rush outrageous remarks, subdivided by topic. "Limbaugh Assaults Gays." "Limbaugh Assaults Women." "Limbaugh Insults Religious Catholics" or whatever it is. And they've got these – these quotes from my program. I have to tell you folks, and please understand this,

I went to the David Brock – it's called Media Matters America, so that's what – American in the – everything they do now. Just call it Lib Web. Media Matters America, something like that. I read these 77 things. Forgive me for saying this. I laughed myself to tears in my eyes. I had no idea I was this funny. I'm – I'm reading some – this is great stuff. And then I started laughing even – even harder because they are outraged by it. And I'm thinking, who are these people that they've had transcribe this program. These guys have to be, whoever they are, sitting there privately laughing at this stuff themselves because it's funny.

I don't have it in front of me, but what – remember one of them and it's not by any means the funniest one. It just – for some reason it – if it's not – it's an out of context comment. We were talking about outsourcing in states welfare department of Arizona and I said – here's the comment they have in these "Limbaugh Insults Welfare Recipients" is the headline. "Limbaugh Insults Welfare Recipients." And it says – has me quoted as saying, "Imagine this poor welfare recipient in Arizona, his check is less than he thought it was and the food stamp won't stick to whatever

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he's trying to mail." (laughter) Honest to God, I – I can't remember when I said that. That's hilarious. I'm sitting there laughing at it. The things they have me saying about women are just outrageously funny, and they just – they're over there. You can just see them being mad as hell and they want people to – to know by virtue of reading the Website just how outrageous and – (laughter) the things that are said on this program are.

So we have prepared to save them some time and money – a summary of today's program and arranged it here by topic for the new Lib Web site. Headline "Limbaugh Insults the Ugly." The transcript says, "The ugly know who you are." "Limbaugh Makes Weird Sexual Comments." And this is the typical headline on their Website. "Limbaugh makes Weird Sexual Comments." This is what I said. "CNN, I'm telling you, it was a mass orgasm." No, actually it was mass foreplay. They were hoping they were going to have an orgasm. They would orgasm if the President would apologize over and over, so it was just mass foreplay because he didn't apologize.

"Limbaugh Encourages Breaking Anti-Smoking Laws." I can't believe I'm in the so-called greatest city in the world. I'm watching the people in this town cower in fear when a cop car goes by because they've got a cigarette cupped in their hand trying to hide the smoke, trying not to be seen. "Limbaugh Insults the Pope and Catholics." You know, I drive around in the Rush-mobile here and I open the windows, I've got my cigar puffing in the back, I want it to look like the Pope's been chosen.

"Limbaugh Trashes New Age Psychology." We can't continue to be not who we are for the rest of our existence just in order to make people like us. This is a question that's born of New Ageists. And this is what they put on the Website as though – as examples of offensive, outrageous, dangerous stuff, so we just thought we'd try to save them a little time.

Dick Morris has a new book out. Everybody's got a book. It is unbelievable how many books there are out there. Everybody has a book. His new book is *Rewriting History* and – and – have you seen Hillary's book – what was the name of her book? *Living History*, right? She's got that black and white picture we saw from it. Well, Morris's book, they cut that picture in half and they've got Hillary's chin and her mouth on the top half and her eyes and eyebrows and forehead and hair on the bottom half. And then where it says *Living History* in the middle they've got a piece of tape over it and it says *Rewriting History* or – yeah *Rewriting* – He actually – he couldn't use – he wanted to use her cover but lawyers said no, can't do that, so they cut that picture up. Same picture just the face is 180 – what's top is bottom, bottom's top.

In this new book, Morris reveals that he has guarded and kept a secret about the Whitewater scandal for nearly 10 years that could have led to Clinton's removal from office. "What I was not talking about, and have not for eight years, is an

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incident that took place in 1996. I –” Pardon the sniffles, as I say, it happens when I laugh. He was on Hannity & Colmes last night on the Fox New Channel.

What Morris did, he alleged that Clinton improperly influenced US District Court Judge Henry Woods to dismiss Whitewater charges against then Governor R. Jim Guy Tucker who had threatened to go public about Hillary’s involvement in the fraudulent Casa Grande land deal. “After Janet Reno ruled that Ken Starr had jurisdiction over Tucker’s involvement in Whitewater, Tucker was furious, Morris said. So using Morris as a go between, Tucker sent a warning. (as Tucker) ‘You tell the President if that SOB. wants to play the game this way, I know all about the IDC,’ which is the formal business name for Casa Grande.

“When Morris passed on the threat to Clinton, Morris says Clinton turned white as a sheet and said, ‘Oh my God, do you know what he means?’ Morris said, ‘No, but I think you know what he means.’ Later that night, Morris said Clinton told him, (as Clinton) ‘I took care of that problem today. There’s no problem.’ Three weeks later, Judge Woods tossed out the Tucker indictment. Though the case was later reinstated, Tucker never followed through on his threat, which according to Morris, could have precipitated perjury and fraud charges against Hillary. He furthermore said that the billing records that were – nobody could find, that somebody did find after this indictment was thrown out in the White House, would have indicated she had done the work for Casa Grande all this time saying she didn’t know anything about it.” And Morris kept this secret for eight years.

And he was asked well why – why are you – why are you going public with it? He said, “I told all this to the grand jury. I didn’t tell – tell – I kept it secret for as long as I could legally, so –” Anyway, so now Morris is getting questions. “Why are you turning on Clinton? Why all of a sudden are you turning on Clinton?” And he’s got answers for that. But I – I got to take a real quick timeout here. We’ll be back and continue on the EIB Network shortly. Stay with us.

(station break)

RUSH: Speaking of books, I have two books that I want to tell you about. The first one – we got a brand new – just heard about this one folks. A new book by Calypso Louie.

(begin Farrakhan parody)

ANNOUNCER: Minister Louis Farrakhan is back from the mountaintop with a new bestseller.

FARAKHAN: Yes, my brothers and sisters, I have 19 brand new ancient truths, handed down from a higher source in my newest book, *The Original 19 Undeniable Truths of Life*.

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ANNOUNCER: Minister Farrakhan groundbreaking discovery using prime numbers, quantum physics and *The New York Times* Sunday crossword puzzle brings new enlightenment to all of mankind, like Undeniable Truth Number Three.

FARRAKHAN: Ours is a world governed by the aggressive use of force by gentlemen in bow ties.

ANNOUNCER: Or Undeniable Truth Number Seven.

FARRAKHAN: We should all admire the women's movement, especially when it's wearing a black, full-length burka.

ANNOUNCER: And Undeniable Truth Number Nineteen.

FARRAKHAN: Golf is a game stolen from us by wicked white devils. It originally had 19 holes.

ANNOUNCER: Get the truth as delivered straight from the space wheel mother ship directly to the tiny voices in the minister's head.

FARRAKHAN: Yes, I hear them speak to me and then I speak the truth to you.

ANNOUNCER: *The Original 19 Undeniable Truths Of Life* available only through your friendly, well-dressed, door-to-door sales associate.

FARRAKHAN: They are ready now to help you with your purchase. I suggest you buy 19. Hurry up. Open that door.

(music)

RUSH: Well – yeah. (laughter) A little ZZ Top. I always love it when Calypso Louie reemerges. All right. There's another book out. Bill Salmon, who is the ace White House reporter for *The Washington Times* is out with a new book called *Misunderestimated: The President Battles Terrorism, John Kerry and the Bush Haters*. And Bill sent me a copy of this book last week. The publication date is May the 11th. What is – what is the date today? This is the 5th. I knew that. So I – his note to me says it comes out May 11th.

Drudge got a copy of the book and has thumbed through it and has prepared an exclusive report on what's in this book. And again, it is called *Misunderestimated: The President Battles Terrorism, John Kerry and the Bush Haters* and I will – I will – I will wager you that Bill Salmon will not be invited on *60 Minutes* to talk about this book. And I will wager you that Dick Morris will not be invited on *60 Minutes* to talk about his book. And I will wager you that Calypso Louie will not be invited on *60 Minutes* to talk about his book *The 19 Original Truths of Life*.

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“But – but Bill Salmon has found a President and an administration that is unlike any Bob Woodward ran into. For example, Salmon reports in this book that President Bush vows to make John Kerry regret disparaging the Coalition of Liberated Iraq. In exclusive interviews with President Bush and lengthy one-on-one, on the record sessions with his closest aides, as opposed to Woodward's background interviews, Bill Salmon threatens to out-Woodward Woodward, who convinced only Bush and Rumsfeld to speak on the record.

The – Salmon quotes in this book – quotes the President plotting to beat Kerry by turning his own words against him. Bush reveals for the first time why I deserve a second term and how he is encouraging Kerry to misunderestimate him. Rove details for Bill Salmon the Bush campaign strategy to paint Kerry as a condescending elitist whose blatant attempts to capitalize on his Vietnam experience will ultimately backfire. Andrew Carr, the White House Chief of Staff, speaks on the record, goes even further, by deriding Kerry as a JFK wannabe who lacks the mettle” – M-E-T-T-L-E for those of you in Rio Linda – “to even be President.

“In Salmon’s book, Bush faults his own father for having cut and run early from Iraq after the Gulf War in 1991. Andrew Carr in Bill Salmon’s book, who’s worked for both of the Bush’s, describes Bush 43 as an action-oriented Texan with street smarts, while his father is the consummate diplomat who governed without bravado or braggadocio.

“On the way to his infamous landing on an aircraft carrier, Bush toyed with his Secret Service agent by intentionally shaking the plane from side to side and then nosing downward so sharply they lifted out of their seats. Bush was flying the plane. The President’s daughters, Barbara and Jenna feared he wouldn’t survive his Thanksgiving visit to Baghdad, the secrecy of which was nearly compromised when First Lady Laura Bush inadvertently asked an out of the loop Secret Service agent for her husband’s location.” Remember that?

“In the book, Colin Powell, speaking on the record, declares the press is fixated on Vietnam. This unhealthy obsession, according to Bush aides, threatens to influence the President’s contest with Kerry, a decorated Vietnam veteran. And months before Howard Dean’s ‘I have a scream speech’ Rove quietly produced a TV commercial featuring an earlier Dean outburst, found that even Democratic focus groups were turned off by the anger of the Bush Haters.”

And there’s an entire chapter on the Bush Haters. And in fact, I talked to – I got a note from – he sent me a book – a note with the book, and it happened to be the day that we were talking about this Bush hating bunch out and there’s this Website out of Oregon that had written this – this horrible thing about Pat Tillman. They posted all these anti-Pat Tillman – Pat Tillman’s an idiot. Pat Tillman’s not a hero. Pat Tillman’s stupid. There’s a whole chapter on that Website – or that Website is included a whole chapter on the Bush Haters in this book.

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It is an excellent book. It's going to be a – so – such a – such a far cry from the Richard Clarks and the Bob Woodwards and the whoever else that come along and it's – Bill Salmon had more access than Woodward had. He had on-the-record access to Rove, and to Andrew Carr, and to Bush, and to Colin Powell, whereas most of these people in Woodward's book were only able to speak to these people on background and not quote them.

Again, the name of the book is *Misunderestimated: The President Battles Terrorism, John Kerry and the Bush Haters*. It's Regan Books, Harper-Collins imprint. *Misunderestimated: The President Battles Terrorism, John Kerry and the Bush Haters* by Bill Salmon, who is the ace White House correspondent for *The Washington Times*.

Up on National View's Web site today, National View Online, Byron York has a most incredible story from the doctor who treated one of John Kerry's injuries for which he was awarded a Purple Heart – Vietnam – describes this injury as something so insignificant and says that this injury was perhaps even self-inflicted. So as to qualify – you get three Purple Hearts, you're out of there. Get three Purple Hearts and you get sent home. I'll have the details, coming up right after the break. We've only just begun and a half hour to go.

END OF TAPE

RUSH: A man, a legend, a way of life. Rush Limbaugh, America's truth detector, America's doctor of democracy, America's happiest and most optimistic media figure. Frankly, my friends, if you were me, you would be, too. Here's Eileen in Pine Bush, New York. Welcome to the program.

EILEEN: Yes, hi Rush, my pleasure to talk to you.

RUSH: Thank you so much for calling.

EILEEN: OK, you're welcome. I – I'm in the military. I'm a reservist. I served in Iraq last year, this time last year exactly. I was two – one of two females in my unit that went out with 18 plus guys. Everyone was extremely professional. The military is not in the business of making tough women in respect to that photograph. We go out and do our job. We're highly trained. Those are the actions of some very young, influenced, unprofessional people.

RUSH: Let me ask you a question. I just got an e-mail from a woman who told me that – and she just guessing – but her theory is you – you – I mean, you didn't say this, but you got – you – you got close in one respect. She said that if – if – it's possible that these women regretted all this that night, whenever this happened, after the pictures were taken, that they were probably ordered to do it or felt they had to go along with what was going on in order to be part of the unit, but that they probably

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didn't like it and they felt – they just – she's just guessing, but it's an alternative theory. And I – you got – you said something that got close to that, and I just wanted to run that by you.

EILEEN: Yeah, I've been thinking the exact thing. I've been listening to the show. Yeah, I would – my opinion that they were encouraged – I don't mean ordered or demanded. No one put a gun to their head. I just think they were encouraged to go along with the group, to yes, definitely be a part. I was actually very surprised when I saw that girl. I was surprised when I saw that girl, because I personally would not do that. And I probably would have something to say to guys if they wanted me to get in the picture, but I saw, in looking at the picture, they thought that would be very cool to do. Younger, to take it home with them and have these photographs later on. That's not something anyone in my unit was doing or anyone around us was doing at all.

RUSH: I find this fascinating, though, that a – just a – a woman in this audience, could look at the picture, say that woman – and I'm talking about the one with the cigarette dangling and she pretended she had a machine gun in her hand, aiming at these nude Arab guys. She looks at the picture, says “ah, she regretted doing this.”

Now, I've come to believe in women's intuition and I – enough years in my – in my – in my tank here, but I – you – you pretty much confirmed this, that how do we know this. I mean, how do you draw that conclusion from that picture she looks like she's enjoying it, cigarette dangling out of her mouth, and yet there's an automatic – apparently some women – an automatic assumption that she didn't really like that, she's forced to do it, probably regretted it that night? Where does that come from? Where does that come from?

EILEEN: Well, you know I – and I want to choose my words carefully, but – because I don't want to say the wrong thing here, but I have heard – I have not personally seen this, but I have heard that women were somewhat encouraged to do things within the bounds obviously of what we can do in the military, like drive a vehicle. The Iraqis hated that. Escort prisoners, the Iraqis hated that. Anything with a woman that was in the military, the Iraqis hated it, and that's kind of one of the ways that you could get to prisoners, just – we've got women in the military and they so did not consider their women to be anything of value in this country early on. You know what I'm saying, and –

RUSH: Yes, so just tweaking them?

EILEEN: Yeah, you got it. We don't have to cut their throats or anything like that, we just need to take their clothes off and parade women around in front of them and that what floors these people. I think they found a soft spot with the enemy, to be perfectly honest.

RUSH: (laughter)

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EILEEN: You know what I'm saying? What I'm saying is there's stuff within bounds.

RUSH: Pardon me folks.

EILEEN: These are reasonable things that women can do, to drive a truck, you're authorized to escort prisoners, and too bad if the prisoners don't like it. That's your job. There were Australian and Brit coalition forces there. All had women. Everybody's armed. They have women, too.

RUSH: You – you – you said in the pre-interview with the call screener, where we determine whether or not you agree with me before we let you on the air – just kidding, that's for the Lib Website.

EILEEN: Oh.

RUSH: (laughter) You said –

EILEEN: I totally agree with you.

RUSH: No – no – no seriously. You said that it's not the military or Iraq that's hardening women, that the world has hardened them. What do you mean by that?

EILEEN: Well, I mean that simply you could – that's an environment that, of course, has now made news, and it's a pretty tough environment, no doubt. But you could take women and put them down the street in a gas station and they could work there for five years with a bunch of grease monkeys. I guarantee you they're going to be a little tough. Their language is going to change. That has nothing to do with the military.

RUSH: My experience of being a grease monkeys would change, and they wouldn't be as greasy and – there would be a kitchenette in the garage and –

EILEEN: If you had one grease monkey and 10 women, maybe yes. But I still believe it's a man's world, especially in the military. I do. And I know I'm probably pissing off a lot of women, but – in the military, but I'm still of the belief it's a man's world. There's less of us, I believe, than there are men, and when you go out on a deployment, it proves it. I was one of two women (phone beeps) plus men from my unit, but they are very professional. We're older. We're a little more mature (beeps). We handle this maybe differently than those folks did in those photographs.

RUSH: This is – this is all very interesting. I – I'm glad you called, because it's just – it's coincidental you called shortly after I got this e-mail from somebody who said this is not what it looks to be. I mean, these women did not decide to do this on

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their own, but that's an interesting take. So you – what is your overall impression of the reaction to these pictures?

EILEEN: My overall –

RUSH: I mean, are you sitting out there, are you all mad? You're wringing your hands, how could we be so crude?

EILEEN: No, no. No, I'm not. No. I don't think I – overall, it just – it's a couple of people, they obviously look – the girl looked fairly young, so I would say that she was going along with a group of people, they're sitting in that environment. She's young, probably wasn't thinking. Never even thought this would get out on the news. I think we're making a bigger deal out of it than needs to be, but it does need to be dealt with and brought to the attention of proper authorities. I think it shouldn't be – it's all over the news like it was the worst thing in the world that could happen.

RUSH: There's one thing, I just – since you say that they didn't – had no idea it would get on the news, somebody's out there taking pictures. That's not the smartest thing in the world is to let that go on if you're really –

EILEEN: Exactly.

RUSH: And – I'm not – I'm not suggesting this go on nobody take pictures. Don't misunderstand. Look, Eileen, thanks much for the call. I appreciate it. Most informative, and enlightening, and earthy as well.

We appreciate it. Moving – moving on. Let me get this story out. The National Review Online, Byron York, who is mainstream Washington reporter, "Kerry was treated for the wound," he writes. I'm picking this up in progress. "At a medical facility in Cam Ranh Bay. The doctor who treated Kerry, Lewis Letson is today a retired general practitioner in Alabama. Louis Letson says he remembers his brief encounter with Kerry 35 years ago because some of his crewmen related that Lieutenant Kerry had told them he would be the next JFK from Massachusetts." That's a quote from the doctor.

"Letson says that last year, as the Democratic campaign began to heat up, he told friends that he remembered treating one of the candidates many years ago. In response to their questions, the doctor says, he wrote down his recollections of the time. The doctor further says that he has had no contact with anyone from the Bush campaign or the Republican Party. What follows is Lepton's memory as he wrote it.

"I have a very clear memory of an incident which occurred while I was the medical officer at a naval support facility Cam Ranh Bay. John Kerry was a JG, the skipper of a swift boat, newly arrived in Vietnam. On the night of December

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two, he was on patrol north of Cam Ranh up near the Nha trang area – Nha trang area. The next day he came to sick bay, the medical facility, for treatment of a wound that had occurred that night.

“The story he told was different from what his crewmen had to say about that night. According to Kerry they had been engaged in a firefight, receiving smaller arms fire from on shore. He said that his injury resulted from this enemy action. Well, some of his crew confided that they didn’t receive any fire from shore, but that Kerry had fired a mortar round at close round to some rocks on shore. The crewmen thought that the injury was caused by a fragment ricocheting from that mortar round when it struck the rocks. That seemed to fit the injury which I treated.

“What I saw was a small piece of metal sticking very superficially in the skin of Kerry’s arm. The metal fragment measured about a centimeter in length and was about two or three millimeters in diameter. It certainly didn’t look like a round from a rifle. I simply removed the piece of metal by lifting it out of the skin with forceps. I doubt that it had penetrated more than three or four millimeters. It did not require probing to find it, did not require any anesthesia to remove it, did not require any sutures to close the wound. The wound was covered with a Band-Aid.” Taking the Band-Aid off probably hurt more – well, he didn’t write that, I just threw that in there. “No other injuries were reported and I do not recall that there was any reported damage to the swift boat.

“To me, John Kerry went to Vietnam with an agenda, the JFK agenda. I think he was going to command a PT-109. He was going to get some medals. He was going to leverage it all for a political career. A premeditated, hyped up resume for political office. No one was going to stop him from getting those Purple Hearts. It’s maddening to think that one of these things got Kerry” – this is the doctor – the doctor has stopped talking here about this, but – at any rate, he went to the doctor apparently. He made up a story about enemy fire. He wasn’t going to waste a perfectly good superficial wound, and this is a wound that Byron York says, “I wouldn’t want to show my parents. I had worst wounds most days at my restaurant. How many times are you hurt worse in touch football –” maybe it is the doctor still speaking. The quote marks are not clear.

The bottom line here is that this – this was something that Kerry told one version of and his crewmen told another. And these things are starting to dribble out now, and the Democrats are all worried about this and nobody ought to be surprised by it. I mean, the guy has a – a ringingly familiar similarity with truth-telling to Bill Clinton. It really is eerie. It – it – it’s just – it’s so similar as to be stunning, to me anyway. Quick time out, we’ll be back right after this. Don’t go away.

(station break)

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RUSH: Your guiding light, ladies and gentlemen, Rush Limbaugh, a beacon for those seeking directions in life. 800-282-2882.

“Democrat John Kerry’s image is taking a beating with the” – this is a Will Lester story, the AP – “taken a beating with the public in the last month after more than \$60 million worth of advertising by President Bush’s re-election campaign and a steady barrage of Republican criticism.” OK, press, you can tell yourselves that’s why Kerry’s taking a beating, and it may be a factor, but he’s helping himself take the beating. John Kerry is as much responsible for his beating as the Bush ads. I don’t mean to insult the Bush ad people, they’re good ads. But John Kerry’s not helping himself at all. He’s hurting himself, actually.

“A poll released yesterday found that Americans were slightly more likely to say they hold a favorable view of Kerry, 38%, than an unfavorable view, 33%. In mid-March, 40% had a favorable view and 24% an unfavorable view,” so his unfavorable is rising, favorable is lowering. That’s according to the Annenberg Election Survey, University of Pennsylvania. “In 18 battleground states, people were almost evenly split on Kerry. Thirty-six percent say he’s good, 35% say he’s not, down from 40% favorable and 28% unfavorable in mid-March,” so different polls say things happen.

“Kerry launched a \$25 million ad campaign Monday in the swing states to focus on his personal life from Yale to Vietnam.” We have one of those ads. We played it earlier today. Kerry ad. We have one of those ads. Let you hear it in just a second, but “there’s an encouraging note,” it says here “for Kerry, in the poll. “The people who are undecided or could change their position have not changed their overall views on him yet. Among the swing voters nationwide, 38% have a favorable view of Kerry, 18% an unfavorable opinion. Bush’s popularity overall was unchanged, 51% saying they had a favorable view, 30% – 37% an unfavorable view.”

So the way to look at this, 51% favorable Bush, 38% favorable Kerry. Press says Kerry still has a chance, because the undecideds are still undecided. Yip, yip. Yip, yip. Yahoo.

So the good news for Kerry. The good news – I mean, this – this – this – the full scope of the good news for Kerry is the undecideds are still undecided and they’re undecided on Kerry. Man that’d fire me up. If I’m in the Kerry campaign, I look at the – hey, John, we are in it, man. We are making progress. We are showing our strengths. The undecideds are still undecided about you.

OK, here he is. Kerry’s new ad. We – here’s one of these new ads.

KERRY: Hello, I’m John F. Kerry and I approve this message, except for the parts that you may not agree with.

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ANNOUNCER: Introducing, John F. Kerry. John F. Kerry has a vision for America.

KERRY: When I look out over America, I can't help but think of Vietnam.

ANNOUNCER: John F. Kerry on the economy.

KERRY: George W. Bush's tax cuts wound the poor, just like I was wounded in Vietnam.

ANNOUNCER: John F. Kerry on the environment.

KERRY: Every child in America should be able to enjoy these dolphins, just like I did from my swift boat in Vietnam.

ANNOUNCER: John F. Kerry on Iraq.

KERRY: We should let the United Nations handle Vietnam.

ANNOUNCER: John F. Kerry for President.

ANNOUNCER: Heinz Ketchup, Treasurer.

(music)

RUSH: You know, look at this. The oldest person using Viagra in Singapore is 99 years old. "That shows that spirit is willing even if the flesh might be weak. "In the straight-laced city of four million where people are reputed to have less sex each year than any other place in the world, where birth rates have dropped alarmingly." Apparently there's a lot going on there that Singapore doesn't know about. The oldest Viagra user's 99. There's things going on there that the government doesn't know about. They think sex rates are dropping, but –

I was reviewing portions of Pat Buchanan's speech at the Republican Convention in '92. Remember that culture war speech he gave? Just – I mean, people of this country thought it was the most outrageous thing they'd ever heard. And you go back and you look at some of what he said, and it pales in comparison to the hate, and the anger, and the absolute outrageousness of what you hear and see on Liberal Web sites. I mean it's – here, let me just – let me – let me give you a – just a sample.

This is Pat Buchanan at the Republican Convention in Houston in '92 and I was there. "My friends, this election is about much more than who gets what. It's about who we are. It's about what we believe. It's about what we stand for as Americans. There's a religious war going on in our country for the soul of America. It's a cultural war as critical to the kind of nation we'll one day be as was the Cold War itself. And in that struggle for that soul of America, Clinton and

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Clinton are on the other side. George Bush is on our side, so we have to come home and stand beside him. We – beside – we stand with President Bush in favor of federal judges who interpret the law as written and against Supreme Court justices who think they have a mandate to rewrite the Constitution. We stand with Bush for right to life and for voluntary prayer in the public schools, against putting women in combat. And we stand with President Bush in favor of the right of small towns and communities to control the raw sewage of pornography that pollutes our popular culture. We stand with him against the amoral idea that gay and lesbian couples should have the same standing in law as married men and women.”

Remember how this – I mean, this just caused – this is – the Liberals thought this was the most outrageous piece of trash. It was the most divisive convention ever had – listen to how tame this is. Listen to how accurate this is. Not only what – it was prophetic, but it was tame. It was – it was a warning on a number of other things, but you just compare this – what they – “it was the most divisive convention this country’s ever had by the Republicans. This is the worst mistake Bush ever made was letting Buchanan anywhere near that podium. Blah, blah, blah, blah.” You just compare this with anything that the Left is saying, the hate-filled rhetoric they have. Buchanan’s not even in the same league and never was, actually. We’ll be back after this. Stay with us.

(station break)

RUSH: And that’s it, ladies and gentlemen. Sadly, there’s not enough time – well, there’s time, there’s not an opportunity here to do a fourth hour today, because it’s time to split the scene, time to hit the highways and byways out of the Big Apple to a super secret airport location and depart for the EIB Southern Command. We’ll be back down there for the rest of the week on Thursday and Friday.

To all of you here in New York, it’s been great to see you and we’ll be back towards the end of the month. Lots of golf stuff coming up at the end of the month. Charity functions out at the US Open course, Shinicack (sp?) coming up, so we’ll be back real soon. In the meantime folks, have a great afternoon and a great evening and the – I’m assuming the Website tonight’s going to be really good when we update it around 6:00, 6:30. Don’t miss that – www.rushlimbaugh.com. And see you tomorrow. Adios. Thanks much for being with us all day today.

END OF TAPE