Name of Correspondent: Steven Murray

Subject: Encloses a copy of a letter one of his clients sent to the LA Times re television coverage of Saddam Hussein

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<tr>
<th>ROUTE TO:</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>DISPOSITION</th>
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<td>Tracking Date YY/MM/DD</td>
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Referral Note: See comments

ACTION CODES:
A - Appropriate Action
C - Comment/Recommendation
D - Draft Response
F - Furnish Fact Sheet
to be used as Enclosure

I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
R - Direct Reply w/Copy
S - For Signature
X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:
A - Answered
C - Completed
B - Non-Special Referral
S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:
Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: No action necessary, close.

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.
C. Boyden Gray, Esq.
Counsel to the President
THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Gray:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter one of my clients sent to the Los Angeles Times, which is self-explanatory.

I have followed the "Saddam Hussein Saga" with great interest, but I have yet to see any "disclaimer" by any purported "journalist" travelling abroad, "reporting" on American television.

Just as pseudo-documentaries must affirmatively state that they are paid advertisements, I suggest so should pseudo-newscasts. I do not think the First Amendment precludes the President from exercising his constitutional authority to conduct foreign affairs.

Very truly yours,

STEVEN W. MURRAY

SWM:msb
Encl.

cc: Dolores Cardelucci
August 30, 1990

Letters to the Editor
LOS ANGELES TIMES
Times Mirror Square
Los Angeles, CA 90053

Gentlemen:

We the people of the United States are spoiled. We are accustomed to "instant" everything. I believe it is "Instant Gratification", and I feel for the most part that we have earned it - and probably at times - need it.

However, after watching Dan Rather last night, I had a rude awakening. A surge of disgust and humiliation ran through me. Our men and women have given up their lives and their homes to go out there and wait for battle. Our civilian men, women and children are held hostage and must sit there and wait upon the whim of Saddam Hussein.

I watched and heard Dan Rather sit there and ask questions, as though he was having an audience with a great man. Dan Rather, the American, and we Americans who help these TV ratings to go up, are instantly creating a celebrity out of Saddam Hussein. Instead of ignoring Saddam Hussein, he is becoming a TV star. Our attention creates "stars".

The real stars out there are our men and women who are ready to die for us. Instead of hearing what they have to say, we are hanging on to the words of men like Dan Rather and Saddam Hussein.

I heard Dan Rather say "the American people want to know who is Saddam Hussein." How dare he speak for the American people. Dan Rather speaks only for CBS News, a private profit making business.
I was never asked if I want to know who he is. I know the American people were never asked this question; we are intelligent enough to have formed our own opinions. We have seen what Saddam Hussein has done and that's what he is. Did Dan Rather forget the statement he made a few years ago - "if it looks like a Duck, if it talks like a duck, and if it walks like a duck, then it must be a duck."

Believe me, it is we the working people who will have to pay for this war. It will not affect the pockets of the Dan Ratners. While we are paying the higher prices, Dan Rather will be receiving a higher salary, because CBS got higher ratings. Saddam Hussein will become "higher" on power. This TV charade is getting out of hand. It is no longer "good news" - it is a soap opera.

Someone should tell the heads of foreign states, whose systems of government are different, that American free enterprise and the profit motive are the base upon which news organizations operate. Other countries whose media are more tightly controlled do not realize that a Dan Rather does not work for, speak for or otherwise represent our country. Until the distinction between our governmental spokesmen and private showmen is clear to others, the Saddam Hussein's of this world believe their notoriety equates with power.

It is time for us to pull together, become patient, stand behind our leaders and let our armed forces know that they are not out there for nothing.

Very truly yours,

DOLORES CARDELUCCI

DC:msb