

From: **Dick Bernard** dick\_bernard@msn.com  
Subject: Fwd: P&J#13 NEWS DISSECTOR FEB 7: ANN COULTER AND TED KOPPEL  
Date: April 6, 2015 at 9:15 AM  
To:

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Dick Bernard" <dick@chez-nous.net>  
To: <dick@chez-nous.net>  
Subject: P&J#13 NEWS DISSECTOR FEB 7: ANN COULTER AND TED KOPPEL  
Date: February 9, 2005 at 6:20:38 AM CST

Danny Schechter's NEWS DISSECTOR, is a daily media compilation (in total 13 pages with links yesterday, if you read it all), and its companion MEDIA SAVVY (5 pages with links yesterday). Both are extraordinarily useful as a tool to learn, every day, about the extraordinary misuse of the media in the U.S. by the Right Wing, and the intended deception of its followers.

No, I don't read it all. But it's there in my mailbox, reliably, every day. And it's free.

(Danny Schechter's new film, Weapons of Mass Deception, is coming to Minneapolis May 6 for one week. It's being brought here by the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers (MAP), and Danny Schechter will be here for the opening. Mark it in your calendar. You are the first to know. Danny spoke at the MAP annual celebration of peace two years ago. He was very well received.)

The two examples, below, are from Schechter's posting yesterday, about Ann Coulter and Ted Koppel. These would be amusing, except that they reflect a disturbing daily reality about too many of the U.S. media in the Age of Bush – the 'truth' is completely irrelevant; all that is important is the impression that is planted in unsuspecting consumers who watch/listen/read, usually from only one 'side', by 'journalists' and 'pundits' who seem unable (and even unwilling) to distinguish a lie from a truth. There are names for people like Coulter: 'liar' is one of the more gentle.

I pass this portion of NEWS DISSECTOR along because of a specific piece of disinformation passed along to me by a probably totally unsuspecting good guy in California, who seems to have bought the mantra of the radical right wing in total. About a month ago he sent me a Dec 27, 2004, column of right-wing columnist David Horowitz which said this, amongst much other dishonest rhetoric: "Four months after the Democrats cut off aid to Cambodia and Vietnam in January, 1975, both regimes fell to the Communist armies. Within three years the Communist victors had slaughtered two-and-a-half million peasants in the Indochinese peninsula, paving the way for their socialist paradise. The blood of those victims is on the hands of the Americans who forced this withdrawal: John Kerry, Ted Kennedy, Howard Dean, and George McGovern – and antiwar activists like myself" [www.frontpagemag.com/Articles/Printable.asp?ID=16439](http://www.frontpagemag.com/Articles/Printable.asp?ID=16439) (In the same article, Horowitz said he was a war protestor at Berkeley in 1962. I have no way to dispute this, though I was in the Army then, and I can say from a soldiers perspective that none of us had even the tiniest thought of a war soon to come in Vietnam – though it could have been the Cuban Missile Crisis buildup he was protesting.)

I challenged my friends data, and thought I had heard the end of it. But a couple of days ago came back the statement without comment "The slaughter of over 2 million was largely in Cambodia. The communists violated the '73 peace agreement and took over in '75 when we had conveniently pulled out." This gave me something to work on, anyway. This would have been the genocide at the hands of the Khmer Rouge. I simply entered Lon Nol and Khmer Rouge in the search engine, and one of the first sources to come up was [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khmer\\_Rouge#Rise\\_of\\_the\\_Khmer\\_Rouge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khmer_Rouge#Rise_of_the_Khmer_Rouge). (For reference, the Nixon-Ford presidencies began in 1969 and ended in 1977.) Of course, Cambodia under the Khmer Rouge was a horrible genocide, but what is noteworthy is the suggestion in the wikipedia article of U.S. contribution to the rise of the Khmer Rouge, entirely during Nixon-Ford days.

You can read the article for yourself, and I hope you do. I have used Wikipedia quite often for questions serious and mundane, and it seems to be pretty good. If your understanding about what happened in

Cambodia is different than that conveyed by wikipedia, please let me know. On this one, I'll keep you all in the loop as it is a learning opportunity. We all know the biases of written history, and if the inferences of the above article are incorrect, I'd like to have at least your opinions.

Later I will pass this along to my California friend, and most likely he will reject it out of hand. He says, probably correctly, that "we're not on the same planet", and with this I would tend to agree.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [MediaChannel.org](http://MediaChannel.org) [<mailto:mediachannel@democracyinaction.org>]

**Sent:** Monday, February 07, 2005 9:10 AM

## **NEWS DISSECTOR FEBRUARY 7, 2005**

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### **More Media Mishigas**

Doug Ireland reports on an interview raving rightist Ann Coulter gave on Canadian TV:

"Interviewed for the Canadian Broadcasting Company's Bob McKeown for the investigative TV broadcast "The Fifth Estate," which devoted an hour-long special on January 26 to how U.S. media have been highjacked by conservative bullies, Coulter was berating Canada for not sending troops to Iraq when she displayed her empty-headedness in the following exchange:

Coulter: "Canada used to be one of our most loyal friends and vice-versa. I mean Canada sent troops to Vietnam - was Vietnam less containable and more of a threat than Saddam Hussein?"

McKeown interrupts: "Canada didn't send troops to Vietnam."

Coulter: "I don't think that's right."

McKeown: "Canada did not send troops to Vietnam."

Coulter (looking desperate): "Indochina?"

McKeown: "Uh no. Canada ?second World War of course. Korea. Yes. Vietnam No."

Coulter: "I think you're wrong."

McKeown: "No, took a pass on Vietnam."

Coulter: "I think you're wrong."

McKeown: "No, Australia was there, not Canada."

Coulter: "I think Canada sent troops."

McKeown: "No."

Coulter: "Well. I'll get back to you on that."

McKeown tags out in script:

"Coulter never got back to us ? but for the record, like Iraq, Canada sent no troops to Vietnam."

[direland.typepad.com](http://direland.typepad.com)

AND HERE IN THE USA

Rabbi Arthur Waskow, a long time peace activist was invited to appear on Ted Koppel's Nightline "Town meeting" last Friday. He was then invited not to speak. He explains;

"It started this way: I was invited to bring a religious voice to Ted Koppel's Town Meeting show on January 27 to address the Iraq war. It was held in the same place, St. John's Church across from the White House, as his Town Meeting had been held in March 2003, two weeks before the invasion of Iraq.

"But at the show itself, the producers asked for a written card summarizing the comments I intended to make. They had invited me knowing in general what my views were. So ? with honesty, but perhaps a whiff of naivete ? I wrote that I intended to speak about a power-addicted Presidency that is bringing down plagues upon our heads, reminiscent of the archetypal power-addicted Pharaoh whose downfall is at the heart of our tradition.

"Nothing doing! They made clear I wouldn't get to speak at all.

I don't take kindly to being silenced, especially when I have been specifically invited to speak, and to spend five hours on a train at my own expense to bring my voice.

And especially when I discover that what had been called a Town Meeting has been rigged to silence almost every voice ready to call for an end to the occupation of Iraq.

And when I discover that the rescinding of my invitation to speak was connected with a decision to give much more time to "the military" ? but not to surviving soldiers, or the families of the fallen, who wanted the war to end.

So I spoke anyway. Out of politeness and some measure of respect for Koppel's past work, I waited till a commercial break to stand up and say my piece, off camera. But I think we should all be aware how much even this last sector of what was relatively independent network news has become flackery for the Pharaoh?."

Rabbi Waskow later wrote to Ted: "I would be glad to meet with you to discuss this face-to-face, and in any case I urge you to make some kind of personal redress to your national audience and to produce a balanced examination of the war, including voices from the religious communities of this nation that you silenced last week."

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