I. Corporate News: War as Militainment

A. Democracy and War

1. Government is acting “in our name”

2. Citizens are responsible

3. Citizens need to be informed

B. Journalism in Democracy

1. must perform First Amendment function

2. inform and separated truth from falsehood

3. not infotainment or propaganda

C. Corporate News: “That’s Militainment” Pre-Iraq II War

1. TV shows

“Showdown with Saddam,”

“The War Room,”

“The War on Terror”

2. Headlines

a. “smoking gun . . . mushroom cloud”

b. “he definitely has WMD”

c. “Anthrax”

3. (Not just TV) NY Times: six articles

a. “. . . Hussein Intensifies Quest for A Bomb Parts”

b. anonymous sources corroborating Bush

administration claims

c. not a “smoking gun” a “silver bullet”

4. Corporate Media repeated administration claims

a. Threat: WMD

i. IAEC Report

ii. Niger Documents

iii. British Intelligence Report

iv. National Intelligence Estimate

b. Iraq/Al Qaeda and 9-11

c. Democracy to Middle East.

d. UN Resolution 687 and 1442

e. “ quick victory” “Greeted as liberators” “No cost $, or lives”

5. Experts:

a. government and military

b. expertise, objective, consensus

6. The “evil” French

D. Media: could have known, should have known, and should have

reported it but not “entertaining” and undermines propaganda

1. War: Domestic and International Law

a. justification for war

b. Nuremberg Tribunal

c. U.S. Constitution

d. UN Resolutions

2. Global Anti-war protest

3. Cost

a. casualties

b. $

4. experts

5. “proof”: Niger documents, IAEA, British Intelligence, NIE

6. NY Times: sources

7. Other reasons and goals

a. National Security Strategy

b. Cheney Energy Policy

8. Weapons inspectors

9. Powell: Before U.N. testimony: BS

10. Easy!

E. Iraq War II: “That’s Militainment”

1. New Season, New Show: “Operation Iraqi Freedom”

2. Look: set, music, video, team, embedded reporters, experts

F. War Stories

1. “Shock and Awe”

2. “Racing to Baghdad”

3. Saving Private Lynch

4. “Down with Saddam’s Statue”

G. Not for commercial media “War Stories”

1. Looting

2. Civilian casualties/refugees

3. “Dumb bombs” 15,000 10%, Cluster bombs: 2 + million,

Depleted uranium, Napalm and white phosphorous

4. Saving Private Lynch: Wag the dog I

5. Down with Saddam: Wag the dog II

i. Internal US Army Study

ii. one of many psychological ops

6. Ethnic Cleansing

7. Blowback