

September 5, 2006

Mr. Robert A. Iger
President and CEO
The Walt Disney Company
500 South Buena Vista Street
Burbank CA 91521

Dear Mr. Iger:

I understand that ABC is scheduled to broadcast a miniseries "The Path to 9/11" which purports to portray the events leading up to the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001. The broadcast, which was prepared by your network's entertainment division, is supposedly based on the well-respected 9/11 Commission Report.

While I have requested a copy of the broadcast, I have yet to receive one. I have been informed by some who had been given the right to view the broadcast that the drama depicts scenes that never happened, events that never took place, decisions that were never made and conversations that never occurred; it asserts as fact things that are not fact.

For example, one scene apparently portrays me as refusing to support a missile strike against bin Laden without first alerting the Pakistanis; it further asserts that I notified the Pakistanis of the strike over the objections of our military. Neither of these assertions is true. In fact, the 9/11 commission reports states (page 117), "Since the missiles headed for Afghanistan had had to cross Pakistan, the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs was sent to meet with Pakistan's army chief of staff to assure him the missiles were not coming from India. Officials in Washington speculated that one or another Pakistani official might have sent a warning to the Taliban or Bin Ladin."

I fully and unconditionally supported the strike against bin Laden. The planned notification to the Pakistani military was not objected to by the Pentagon, nor insisted upon by me. It is my understanding that the notification to Pakistan was delivered once the missiles were already in the air. At no time did I inform the Pakistanis independently that a strike was to take place. The scene as explained to me is false and defamatory.

September 11th is a day none of us will ever forget. I know you are committed to the highest possible standards of accuracy and objectivity in reporting to the American people on a subject as important as the 9/11 attacks. September 11th is not "entertainment," it is reality -- the harsh reality of historical events.

Before you air your broadcast, I trust you will ensure you have the facts right. You owe it not only to those portrayed incorrectly but more importantly to your viewers and the American people.

Sincerely,

Madeleine Albright