

## EXHIBIT 1K

### September 21, 2004 *CBS Evening News* Report

**Rather:** White House Communications Director Dan Bartlett accused CBS News and a high-level advisor to the Kerry campaign today of coordinating a personal attack on President Bush over his National Guard record. CBS News White House Correspondent Bill Plante has the latest on CBS News and the document investigation.

**Bill Plante:** The controversy over CBS News' handling of the disputed documents about the President's National Guard service escalated further today. A top Kerry campaign official now says Mary Mapes, the producer of the *60 Minutes* story, put him in touch with Bill Burkett, the former Texas Air National Guard officer who provided the documents to CBS News.

**Joe Lockhart, Kerry Campaign Official:** She said that he was interested in talking to me and she gave me his number. I called him, uh, he gave me some advice on how to respond to the Swift Boat smears against John Kerry. We talked three to four minutes. The Guard issues or documents never came up. And that was the end of it.

**Bill Plante:** Mapes declined today to discuss the matter, which will be investigated by an outside review panel. CBS News said in a statement: "it is obviously against CBS News standards to be associated with any political agenda. As to what actually happened here, it is one of many issues the independent review will be examining." Republicans saw the story as evidence that CBS News was coordinating with the Kerry campaign to attack the President. The Chair of the Republican National Committee demanded answers.

**Republican National Committee Chair:** What was the nature of the conversation between various senior campaign advisors for Senator Kerry and the person who apparently provided the documents? What was – what was the agreements that they had with one another, CBS, Kerry campaign and whoever provided the documents?

**Bill Plante:** Democrats insist it wasn't them and fired back.

**Joe Lockhart, Kerry Campaign Official:** The Kerry campaign had nothing to do with these documents. There is nothing to this story and if there was something to this story they wouldn't be afraid to debate me on that. What this is is a gutless political attack.

**Bill Plante:** Innocent or not, a CBS News producer's assistance in connecting a source with the Kerry campaign has at least the appearance of impropriety. It becomes a political issue in a bitter campaign. Dan.

**Rather:** Bill Plante, thanks.