

EXHIBIT 9B

CBS NEWS - 60 MINUTES WEEKNIGHT

"BUSH GUARD"

INTERVIEW WITH DAN BARTLETT

CORRESPONDENT: JOHN ROBERTS

PRODUCER: MAPES

#1

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:46:50:12

You've had a chance to look over these documents-- get-- get a good look at them. What do you say?

DAN BARTLETT:

12:46:54:27

Well, I think generally it's obviously that it's-- election season now. That-- every time (UNINTEL) near another election, all the-- innuendo and rumors about (UNINTEL) service and the national guard come to the forefront. And-- the fact that it's coming up now, by the time we're (UNINTEL) reading the polls, it's not surprising that people like (UNINTEL), a long time activist, democrat activist who is a vice chairman of John Kerry (PH) would be-- making these--

recycled charges at President Bush.

12:47:26:16

The fact of the matter is that-- the files-- (UNINTEL) provided by this president to the public, demonstrate that he served his country. He logged hundreds and hundreds of hours as a fighter pilot in the Texas international guard. After four years of flying, he requested and received permission to do-- training in Alabama.

12:47:49:10

He-- got that request. He-- did it in non flying capacity because they weren't flying his aircraft. He did his drill. He came back. He met his (UNINTEL) then when he came back. And that's why he received an honorable discharge. So-- and in many of the documents we have here tonight, affirm just that. That President Bush asked for permission and received permission to do just that.

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:48:12:17

Interesting that he's not gonna (UNINTEL) because we were talking because that-- I Wall Street talking about these documents. What-- what about these two official documents-- signed by (UNINTEL)-- rumor and innuendo.

DAN BARTLETT:

12:48:24:05

Well, it's impossible for anybody to read the mind of a dead man. Jerry Kenyan (PH) has-- writes memos to himself in this style. But--

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:48:34:00

That's not the (UNINTEL) stuff, I'm talking about the two official documents.

DAN BARTLETT:

12:48:38:18

The two official documents that notify that he did not take a flight exam, which is exactly-- you know-- it is explained in the document that-- he did not take a flight exam because he was going to Alabama in a non flying capacity. Because in Alabama

they weren't flying the same plane that President Bush was trained in.

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:48:52:28

But what about these two documents-- the rumor (PH) and innuendo?

DAN BARTLETT:

12:48:57:18

Well, again-- the surfacing of these charges by many people who have-- partisan-- purposes behind it-- they have what (UNINTEL) President Bush, (UNINTEL) Barnes who has spoken to your program about his alleged involvement in President Bush's entry into the National Guard.

12:49:11:24

All of these things are coming out now. Also-- (UNINTEL) every year, when President Bush goes to an election. But these documents state exactly what we said. And that is-- President Bush didn't take the flight exam because he was going to a unit that didn't (UNINTEL) his plane.

12:49:25:22

And in that very document it's shown, it says that he was working out with the staff-- (UNINTEL) find a unit that he could train with. But it was gonna be in a non flying capacity.

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:49:36:06

Right.

DAN BARTLETT:

12:49:37:07

You (UNINTEL) that (UNINTEL). (LAUGHTER)

12:49:41:01

(OFF-MIKE CONVERSATION)

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:49:51:12

It's interesting the way that these things suddenly surface during an election campaign. Should these have not been a part of the record that the White House released of the president's military service earlier this year?

DAN BARTLETT:

12:50:03:21

Well, in fact, my understanding is that it was part of another person's personnel file. The (UNINTEL), that was not the president's personal file. He really has control over

his own files and he has ordered for the full release and he happily released every document that the Department of Defense has regarding the President Bush's service.

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:50:18:19

But these are key official memoranda. Any idea why these would not be in the record?

DAN BARTLETT:

12:50:22:08

I can't explain why-- why it wouldn't be in his record, but they were found in Jerry Kenyan's personal records themselves, is what I've been told. But it-- reaffirms-- exactly what President Bush said. Everybody knows President Bush didn't take the flight exam after flying for more than 500 hours in the cockpit.

12:50:40:09

President Bush, after his fourth year in service, asked for permission to go in a non flying capacity to Alabama. There was not reason for President Bush to take a flight exam if he wasn't going to be flying.

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:50:52:28

So you see it-- paint that as an option. That he could have taken the flight exam if he wanted to continue to fly. But didn't really have to take it. But this first document dated fourth of May, 1972, specifically says, "you are ordered to report for a physical examination." So he either ignored or didn't fulfill direct orders. Not an option.

DAN BARTLETT:

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Well, in fact, the memorandum show-- the other memorandum in your possession shows that he spoke to the commander who made that order to talk about his personal situation in the fact that he is going to Alabama. So-- at every step of the way, President Bush was-- (UNINTEL) requirement. Granted permission to meet his requirement. And that's why President Bush received an honorable discharge.

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:51:39:06

You also said that-- President Bush was removed from flying status because he failed to-- make the physical requirement. He didn't take the physical. Yet the second memo from-- Lieutenant Colonel Kelly (PH) and dated First of August, 1972, says-- he was suspended from flight status. Due to failure to perform to Air Force, International Guard Standards, and failure to meet the annual physical exam. So there's two reasons in there that he was removed from flying status.

12:52:07:18

Not the single reason that the White House has talked about that he didn't meet the physical requirements.

DAN BARTLETT:

12:52:10:03

He--

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:52:11:04

He didn't meet performance requirement.

DAN BARTLETT:

12:52:13:20

There-- no-- the-- records have been clear for years that President Bush did not take a physical because he did not need to take a physical because obviously the choice was that he was gonna be performing in a different capacity.

0T00:05:41:

That might be official language, but the bottom line is President Bush did not-- take that physical. So-- that does not suggest, nor is there any evidence, that President Bush did. And the reason why is as I stated-- that it was clear-- in the (UNINTEL) documents that President Bush talked to the commanders about the fact that he'd be transferring to a unit that no longer or did not fly a plan that he was trained in.

12:52:50:09

He was trained ion a fighter pilot, an F102, which he flew for four years. And in this

case, he was going to a unit in Alabama that didn't fly that plane.

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:52:58:18

All right-- the White House has also-- the White House has also backed up the idea that-- it wasn't necessarily-- that important that-- the future president continue his flight training because they were phasing out the F102. Yet in this very same memo, Killian (PH) writes, "I suggest that we fill this-- critical-- billing with a more seasoned pilot."

12:53:24:03

It would suggest that your view of how important the F102 was and Killian's (PH) view of how important the F102 was, are somewhat (UNINTEL).

DAN BARTLETT:

12:53:32:00

I-- I don't agree with that characterization. Again, we're trying to-- suggest the comments or the orders of somebody who is no longer alive. But the

fact of the matter is, is that-- just because they weren't flying the F102 anymore doesn't mean they were not flying a new modern aircraft.

12:53:46:13

The point was, is that it didn't make sense for the Texas International Guard to train President Bush in a new aircraft at the end-- toward the end of his service when he was being given permission to attend Harvard Business School. It's a critical bill (PH)-- any slot for a pilot is critical.

12:54:04:18

But the-- the critical nature of it is that there's an ongoing mission at that unit. It just-- in the future-- is not going to be in the F102.

JOHN ROBERTS:

12:54:11:23

Right--

12:54:12:26

(OFF-MIKE CONVERSATION)

12:54:14:26

(BREAK IN TAPE)

DAN BARTLETT:

13:04:00:01 Rumors about President Bush in the National Guard coming to the forefront-- and the fact that it's coming up now-- by the time (UNINTEL) President Bush to take--

13:04:08:07 (BREAK IN TAPE)

13:04:17:16 (OFF-MIKE CONVERSATION)

TRANSCRIBER'S NOTE-- BREAK IN TAPE HERE

13:05:01:12 13:05:01

13:05:02:06 02

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13:05:04:11 04

DAN BARTLETT:

13:05:09:29 I think generally it's obvious that it's election season now. So-- every time President Bush gets near another election, all the-- innuendo and rumors about President Bush's service in the National Guard come to the forefront. And the fact that it's coming up now-- by the time (UNINTEL) President Bush has taken a lead in the polls-- it's not surprising that people

like Ben Barnes-- longtime activist--
Democrat Activist who is a vice chairman of
John Kerry-- would be-- making these--
recycled charges at President Bush.

13:05:41:18

The fact of the matter is that-- the files--
have been provided by this president to the
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country. He logged hundreds and hundreds of
hours as a fighter pilot in the Texas
international guard. After four years of
flying, he requested and received permission
to do-- training in Alabama.

13:06:02:05

He-- got that request. He-- did it in non
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permission and received permission to do just that.

JOHN ROBERTS:

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Interesting that he's not gonna (UNINTEL) Barnes because we were talking because that-- I was talking about these documents. What-- what about these two official documents-- signed by Jerry Killian-- rumor and innuendo.

DAN BARTLETT:

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Well, it's impossible for anybody to read the mind of a dead man. Jerry Killian has-- writes memos to himself in this style. But--

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:06:48:11

I'm not talking about those memos to himself, I'm talking about the two official documents.

DAN BARTLETT:

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The two official documents that notify that he did not take a flight exam, which is exactly-- you know-- it is explained in the

document that-- he did not take a flight exam because he was going to Alabama in a non flying capacity. Because in Alabama they weren't flying the same plane that President Bush was trained in.

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- (UNINTEL) find a unit that he could train with. But it was gonna be in a non flying capacity.

JOHN ROBERTS:

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Right.

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JOHN ROBERTS:

13:08:01:22

Dan, you said it's interesting the way that these things suddenly surface during an election campaign. Should these have not been a part of the record that the White House released of the president's military service earlier this year?

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Well, in fact, my understanding is that it was part of another person's personnel file. Jerry Killian's, that was not the

president's personal file. He really has control over his own files and he has ordered for the full release and he happily released every document that the Department of Defense has regarding the President Bush's service.

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President Bush, after his fourth year in service, asked for permission to go in a non flying capacity to Alabama. There was not

reason for President Bush to take a flight exam if he wasn't going to be flying.

JOHN ROBERTS:

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Okay, so you seem to think that is an option. That he could have taken the flight exam if he wanted to continue to fly. But didn't really have to take it. But this first document dated fourth of May, 1972, specifically says, "you are ordered to report for a physical examination." So he either ignored or didn't fulfill direct orders. Not an option.

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Well, in fact, the memorandum show-- the other memorandum in your possession shows that he spoke to the commander who made that order to talk about his personal situation in the fact that he is going to Alabama. So-- at every step of the way, President Bush was-- meeting his requirement. Granted permission to meet his requirement. And that's why President Bush received an

honorable discharge.

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13:10:19:16

Not the single reason that the White House has talked about that he didn't meet the physical requirements.

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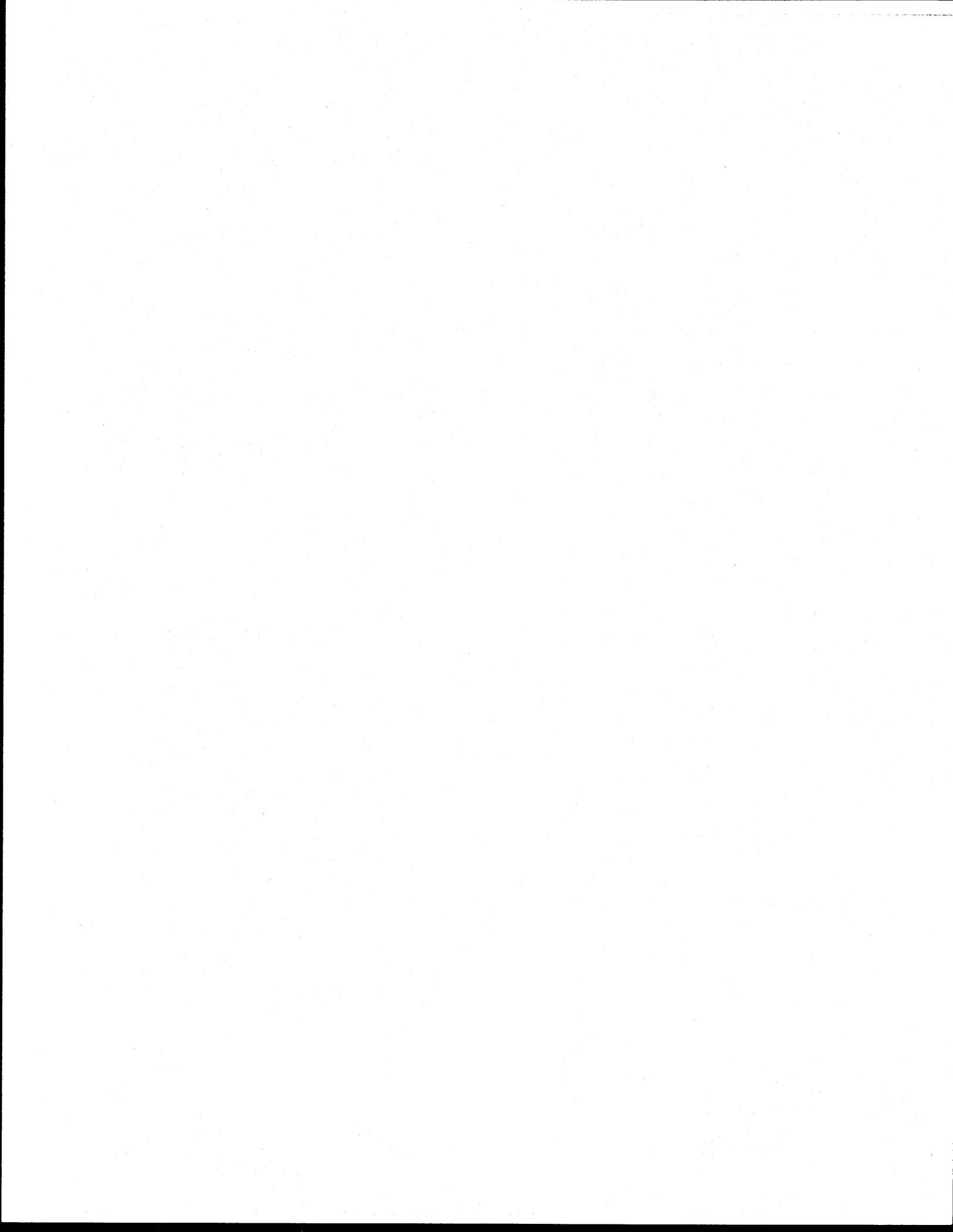
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13:11:03:24

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13:12:15:27

But the-- the critical nature of it is that there's an ongoing mission at that unit. It just-- in the future-- is not going to be in the F102.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:12:24:16

Right-- now this goes to his national file, I wanna point that out. A couple of points that he makes. He says that the President has come to him to-- talk about how he

(UNINTEL) both-- get out-- some of these (UNINTEL). I guess he was trying to avoid something. He also says that-- (UNINTEL) the future President of the (UNINTEL) National Guard (UNINTEL) invested and his commitment to be (UNINTEL). Which Killian seemed to suggest he would be shirking if he were to transfer out.

DAN BARTLETT:

13:12:57:11

Well, anybody could try to-- interpret-- or presume to know what somebody who is now dead was thinking, (UNINTEL) I think is-- very difficult thing to do. (UNINTEL) do know, and maybe you know some people who are alive today. But why President Bush preformed his duties well as a pilot, that he sat in a seat (UNINTEL) document.

13:13:17:14

It says what he was doing. He was-- not (UNINTEL)-- he wasn't even there to do the drill because he was gonna be in another state to perform him civilian occupation.

Which is very (UNINTEL) then. And very telling in regard today. That if the civilian occupation which allows him to also fulfill the military obligation, and-- President Bush-- was working with the commanders at the point, at that time, to find out how he could fulfill his duty, as well as (UNINTEL) the duties in civilian life.

13:13:47:03

That's one of the duties of the national guard system that you can do both. The bottom line is we've got President Bush would not have received honorable discharge that he was granted when he returned from Alabama, if had not met his requirement.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:14:01:08

Now-- (UNINTEL) the reading the-- intent and the point of view of these memos was, Bobby Hodges, who was the commander of the 147. Killian's (UNINTEL) said just this week-- these documents accurately described how

Killian felt. And-- Robert (UNINTEL), the administrative data at the National Guard said these documents are consistent with what he saw on the job every day and consistent with the man he knew Killian to be.

13:14:23:19

So there is-- there were certainly some opinions out there by former members of the military. That these documents did (UNINTEL) describe how Killian felt, what Killian thought about the situation.

DAN BARTLETT:

13:14:34:07

Well, again, these are people who have--

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:14:35:22

It's not open to interpretation.

DAN BARTLETT:

13:14:38:14

Yeah, it is-- it is-- when you're talking about a memo to somebody's self-- there's a memo (UNINTEL) file, people are trying to-- read the mind of somebody who is no longer with us. The fact of the matter is, is that

the files and the President's documents--
the record speaks for itself.

13:14:54:09

The fact is, is that he received an honorable discharge. He was given permission at every step of the way, when President Bush had a request, whether it was a referral, his civilian occupation, or-- to do his training, to make sure he met the requirements-- he received the permission necessary to do it. And that, I would say, is-- why he received an honorable discharge.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:15:13:08

Do you know if the President handled his transfer to the Alabama National Guard strictly through Killian or did it go through other people as well?

DAN BARTLETT:

13:15:22:17

Not just-- I'm sure-- the-- commanders there-- are involved in the paperwork for all their pilots.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:15:27:15

But do you know if he talked to them or did anybody else talk to them?

DAN BARTLETT:

13:15:30:10

Again-- I can only go by what the documents show. All the documents up and down the chain of command approved his permission-- gave him permission-- that he sought and received-- up and down the chain of command.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:15:42:03

But (UNINTEL) Killian writes (UNINTEL) opinion here, he believes that the President was talking to someone upstairs.

DAN BARTLETT:

13:15:46:25

Again, it's conjecture on the part of somebody--

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:15:51:06

That's what I wanna ask you-- if you knew.

DAN BARTLETT:

13:15:51:09

No idea.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:15:52:23

Okay.

DAN BARTLETT:

13:15:52:15

But the bottom line is that-- up and down the chain of command, he received the necessary-- permission to fulfill his obligation.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:15:59:22

Mmm-Hmm (AFF.) Also-- one other opinion-- again-- I wanna gain an opinion-- in a memo titled-- CYA (PH) that Killian wrote to himself, that he believed that there was pressure coming from-- upstairs-- the General (UNINTEL), of the International Guard. He quotes, "sugar coats" the President's record. And-- Killian wasn't about to do that.

DAN BARTLETT:

13:16:19:20

Well, you know-- it-- it is-- Colonel King (PH) at the time, who approved, as would other members in the chain of command, President Bush's service, approved his (UNINTEL), approved-- gave him permission to go to Alabama. Again, we are trying to read

the mind of somebody who had been dead for more than ten years.

13:16:37:17

The fact of the matter is there are people alive today who performed his duty and received his honorable discharge because he did perform those duties-- as he was told to do so.

13:16:50:27

At any given time, somebody-- a commander-- or-- anybody-- could have told him, you're not fulfilling the obligations. And he would have met them. But he did meet them-- and that's why he was given an honorable discharge.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:17:02:17

Killian writes that-- he was fact dating (PH)-- the officer efficiency training report. Anything irregular about that?

DAN BARTLETT:

13:17:07:22

Again, these are cryptic lines-- back date, won't rate (PH)-- these things. Again--

what were asked to do is to try to read the mind of somebody who is no longer with us. I think what we ought to look at-- and what the public can look at-- is a full file-- hundreds and hundreds of pages that demonstrate that President Bush fulfilled his duty.

13:17:27:02

Again-- this is-- this is-- part and parcel, so it happens on the Presidential campaign. People come forward for whatever motive-- to put forward innuendo-- or-- (UNINTEL) rumors about President Bush's (UNINTEL). But the official files tell the facts. And the facts are President Bush served, he served honorably, and that's why he was honorably discharged.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:17:48:00

Are you questioning at all the veracity of these documents or just the point of view?

DAN BARTLETT:

13:17:50:18

I think its' a point of-- after-- 32 years

ago-- and all the politics that have taken place, it does seem-- raise questions that some documents will be given-- to the media-- 55 days (PH) before the President's-- election. Right when he takes over in a national poll.

13:18:06:22

At the same time when a partisan democrat-- who supports John Kerry comes forward with a recycled charge, like Ben Barnes has done, to try to-- raise concerns or-- attack President Bush on his (UNINTEL), President Bush has made it clear that Senator John Kerry served admirably.

13:18:23:16

In fact he said he served more admirably because he went into harm's way. But President Bush is proud of his service. He's proud of the fact that he flew fighter jets and trained as a pilot for four years. He's proud of the fact that he got the permission to meet his requirements. And

he's proud of the fact that he was honorably discharged.

13:18:41:18

And the fact that people are raising politics at this time, is part of the game that-- it doesn't-- ignore the fact. And the facts are-- there in his file. He met his requirement. He satisfied his commander requirement. And that's why he was given an honorably discharge.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:18:57:21

Are you suggesting that the documents (UNINTEL)?

DAN BARTLETT:

13:18:59:14

I'm not saying that at all. Important just saying that-- the fact that documents like this are being raised, when in fact all they do is reaffirm what we've said all along-- is questionable. And it's questionable that at the same time that these-- documents are-- are raised, is the very same time that the democrats are leading a new ad campaign

against President Bush and his service in the guard.

13:19:18:06

The same time that a partisan democrat who-- is aligned with John Kerry-- makes his public-- attack against President Bush and his guard service. It's not a coincidence.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:19:28:08

Let's talk about Barnes for a second. Here's a guy who, in the year 2000 (UNINTEL). That-- he fought in (UNINTEL). He-- managed to-- to secure a position for the President-- coveted President in the-- secretary of National Guard at the request of being (UNINTEL) family friends. True or untrue?

DAN BARTLETT:

13:19:47:25

What Ben Barnes has said and what he testified under oath it that-- he has no knowledge or any information that President Bush or his father was involved at all in trying to get him into the guard. The

commander who was in charge--

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:20:00:26

That's why I said at the request of family friends.

DAN BARTLETT:

13:20:04:01

But the important part is that the commander in charge-- General Bucks (UNINTEL), the person who had control and he came (UNINTEL) that, said-- it's flat out not true. Now the fact that Ben Barnes who is a partisan democrat, who left office under scandal in Texas in 1971, has his own issues.

13:20:22:09

For him to come up after 32 years knowing the 2000 presidential election. And now during the 2004 election when he supports John Kerry-- I think-- completely discredits-- the veracity of his claim.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:20:34:11

(UNINTEL) person is-- has-- issues-- that-- they're not to be believed.

DAN BARTLETT:

13:20:40:05

Well, people-- his chief of staff who was (UNINTEL) at the time, another assistant who was there at the time, also has said publicly that they did nothing to help George W. Bush get into the Texas National Guard.

13:20:50:07

I talked about the politics. They played (UNINTEL) down in Texas, I've been there, I see how it works. But the bottom line is-- is that there's no truth to this.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:20:56:27

This is dirty politics.

DAN BARTLETT:

13:20:57:09

I think it is. I think the fact that-- 55 days before an election-- that partisan democrats are recycling the very same charges we hear every time President Bush runs for reelection? It is dirty politics. It's the type of politics President Bush has tried to end by shutting down the 527s--

which-- Senator John Kerry (UNINTEL) doing. We do think it's part of the dirty politics. Recycling old accusations that aren't true? a partisan democrat who is vice chairman of the fund raising effort for John Kerry to come forward now? And make these types of claims? I think smacks of dirty politics.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:21:33:09

Let me ask you one more question. Why would would the President sign up with a-- National Guard Reserve (UNINTEL) when he-- (UNINTEL) school?

DAN BARTLETT:

13:21:42:20

Well, he was getting permission to attend school, Harvard Business School. And he received his honorable discharge to do so. If there were any requirements he were not meeting-- the National Guard at the federal level, the state level, and the local level, they all knew where he was.

13:21:55:14

He was in Cambridge, Massachusetts, going to

school. And if they felt he needed to be called up, or if there was any reason for him to-- fulfill service or go on active duty, they knew where he was and they knew he could serve. So I don't think there's any question-- that's much ado about nothing. The fact of the matter is President Bush received the permission to go-- go to school in the first place.

JOHN ROBERTS:

13:22:14:20

Could he have sought out a reserve unit and at least offered his services and not (UNINTEL)?

DAN BARTLETT:

13:22:18:21

I'm confident that President Bush followed (UNINTEL) instructions the National Guard gave him when they gave him his honorable discharge. So-- he went to school-- the Guard knew-- and (UNINTEL) state, local level. Where he was, what he was doing. And if they wanted (UNINTEL) him-- in an active duty capacity, they knew exactly

where to find him.

13:22:37:03

(OFF-MIKE CONVERSATION)

END OF AUDIO

END OF TRANSCRIPT