

# Saudi Prince No. 2 Fox Owner

By DIANA WEST

**Newspaper Enterprise Association**  
Should Fox News register with the State Department as a foreign agent — an agent of Saudi Arabia?

First off, is that a far-fetched question? Not when a leading member of the ruling family of the Sharia-totalitarian "kingdom" of Saudi Arabia, Prince Alwaleed bin Talal, has made himself the second-largest shareholder of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp., Fox News' parent company.

Just as Steven Emerson believes that American universities using Saudi megamillions (many from Alwaleed) to set up Islamic studies departments should register as Saudi agents, I believe an American news channel part-owned and part-influenced by the Saudi prince should, too.



West

Alwaleed's long march through U.S. institutions is a mainly post-9/11 progression greased by his purchase of about a 5.5 percent stake in News Corp. in 2005, and his purchases, I mean, gifts, of \$20 million apiece to Georgetown and Harvard Universities, also in 2005.

There have been other eye-catching displays of Alwaleed's largesse — \$500,000 in 2002 to the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), a Hamas- and Muslim-Brotherhood-linked entity, and a whopping \$27 million, also in 2002, to the families of Palestinian "martyrs," aka suicide bombers. These, along with Alwaleed's self-described "very close relationship" with Murdoch son and apparent heir-apparent James, a left-wing global-warmist with virulently anti-Israel views, should only deepen Americans' concerns about Fox's ties to "the prince." Recently, Murdoch and Alwaleed have discussed expanding their business relationship through the Murdoch purchase of a substantial stake in Rotana, Alwaleed's huge Arab

media company.

Before entering his Murdoch association, Alwaleed gave a remarkably candid interview in 2002 about what Arab News described as his belief that "Arabs should focus more on penetrating U.S. public opinion as a means to influencing decision-making" rather than boycotting U.S. products, an idea of the moment.

The Arab News reported: "Arab countries can influence U.S. decision-making 'if they unite through economic interests, not political.'" (Alwaleed) stressed. "We have to be logical and understand that the U.S. administration is subject to U.S. public opinion. We (Arabs) are not so active in this sphere (public opinion). And to bring the decision-maker on your side, you not only have to be active inside the U.S. Congress or the administration but also inside U.S. society."

And active inside U.S. society living rooms — even better. Alwaleed would seem to have hit on a Fox strategy some time after Rudy Giuliani refused to accept,

on behalf of a 9/11-shattered New York City, his \$10 million check-cum-lecture that essentially justified the al-Qaida attacks as having been a response to U.S. foreign policy. This was "such an egregious, outrageous, unfair offense that I would have nothing to do with his money either," Sean Hannity said at the time on Fox News' "Hannity & Colmes," his remarks (and those of other Fox personalities) recently re-examined by the left-wing group Media Matters. "This is a bad guy," Hannity said. "Rudy was right to decline the money." Bill Sammon called Alwaleed's check "blood money," adding, "we're better off without it."

How terribly ironic that this same "bad guy" is now a News Corp. blood-money boss, a boss who must be handled with care as, for example, Fox host Neil Cavuto did in a deferential interview with Alwaleed last month.

How does this influence Fox News coverage? It's impossible to say. Alwaleed has

bragged that it only took a phone call to ensure that Fox coverage of Muslim rioting in France not be described as "Muslim" rioting in France, a boast News Corp. has never denied. This week, security analyst Joseph Trento, in light of recent negotiations between Alwaleed and Murdoch, mused online whether his own recent interview on "Fox & Friends" didn't appear in Fox's online video cache because he had told host Steve Ducey that "Saudi Arabian money was still financing al-Qaida." The doubt itself is damaging.

Meanwhile, spokesmen for terrorism-linked and Alwaleed-endowed CAIR still appear on Fox shows, for example, while Dave Gaubatz and Paul Sperry, likely Fox guests as conservative authors of the sleeper-hit book "Muslim Mafia" (an expose of CAIR and the Muslim Brotherhood), get zero airtime. The more important question becomes: How does Alwaleed's stake in News Corp. affect what Fox News doesn't cover?

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Founded 1875  
400 Isabella St.  
Waycross, Ga. 31501

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Thought for Today "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." 1 John 4:4

## DNA Bill Constitutional?

Marietta Daily Journal

Expanding the state's DNA database for criminal prosecutions is a good idea. The state should not cast and how much of the state's DNA database for buy.

State Rep. Robert... committed a... serious enough to... to file a... evidence?

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Georgia... many questions and pos... Georgia has always been a strong law... and expanded DNA testing is... worth serious consideration.

Others, however, were reserving judgment on the proposal. Among them was Cobb Board of

## Dalai Lama Irks Chinese

By FOSTER KLUG  
Associated Press Writer  
An AP News Analysis

WASHINGTON — Just a week after enraging China with an arms sale package for rival Taiwan, President Barack Obama risks more damage to this crucial relationship by agreeing to meet with the Dalai Lama in two weeks.

The truth is, he has little choice. Obama already postponed the visit once, angering U.S. lawmakers and human rights groups. As Obama struggles to regain his footing after political setbacks, the last thing he needs is to open himself up to fresh criticism that he is kowtowing to China.

So his administration has confirmed what had long been expected: Obama will meet with the Dalai Lama when the Tibetan monk visits Washington on Feb. 17-18.

China immediately urged the United States to scrap the meeting to avoid hurting bilateral ties. China accuses the Dalai Lama of pushing for Tibetan independence, which the Dalai Lama denies, and believes that shunning the exiled Tibetan monk should be a basic principle of international relations for countries that want to deal with China.

In reality, China could not have been surprised by Thursday's announcement.

Every U.S. president for the last two decades has met with the Dalai Lama, and those visits are considered powerful signs of the American commitment to human rights. Obama also told Chinese leaders last year that he would meet with the monk.

The Dalai Lama enjoys widespread support in the United States. High-profile celebrities call him friend; college students flock to his frequent campus lectures;

powerful U.S. lawmakers would call another postponed meeting a betrayal.

Obama is focused on domestic matters as he deals with a struggling economy and a series of Republican political victories. He does not want to add an outcry over his snubbing the Dalai Lama again.

For the last year, Obama has faced criticism that his administration is more eager to win Chinese cooperation on nuclear standoffs with Iran and North Korea and climate change and economic crises than to hold Beijing accountable for what activists call an abysmal rights record.

Much of that criticism stems from Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton's comments during a trip to China a year ago that human rights should not interfere with improving U.S.-China ties. Activists also said Obama failed to make human rights a big enough priority during his China trip in November.

Just a month before that high-profile trip, Obama faced anger for putting off a White House visit when the Dalai Lama came to Washington.

Still, he has little to show from China for his outreach. As Beijing refuses to give ground on many key issues, the Obama administration has shown an increasing willingness to get tough.

In September, Obama slapped tariffs on a flood of Chinese tires entering the United States. Although he antagonized China and heard complaints about U.S. protectionism, he was praised by powerful union allies, who blame Chinese tire imports for the loss of thousands of jobs.

In recent weeks, the administration announced the \$6.4 billion arms sale to Taiwan, the self-governing democratic island Beijing claims as its own; Clinton urged Beijing to investigate hacking attacks that led to Google's threat to pull out of China; and Obama vowed to get tough with China on a currency dispute.

Now, China's anger will be focused on the Dalai Lama's visit.



Dalai Lama



## Uphill Fight For Black Senate Candidates

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
An AP News Analysis

That historically all-white club known as the U.S. Senate is likely to lose what little diversity it has after November's elections.

Two white men will be competing for President Barack Obama's former seat in Illinois, now held by Roland Burris, the chamber's lone African-American. Appointed by the scandal-tainted former governor, Burris won't be seeking a full term.

In contests in Florida, Texas and North Carolina, black candidates face daunting challenges to joining the august body, from difficulty raising cash to lack of name recognition to formidable rivals.

Blacks comprise 12.2 percent of the nation's population, but you wouldn't know it in the 100-member Senate. Come next year, the total number could add up to zero.

"It certainly is not a desirable state of affairs," said David Bositis, a senior political analyst with the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

Bositis noted that blacks don't make up the majority population in any state and in states where there are large numbers of blacks, as in the South, there are racial divisions that make getting elected difficult.

Florida is more likely to produce the next Hispanic senator than it is the next black senator.

Former state House Speaker Marco Rubio, the son of Cuban immigrants, is locked in a close race with Gov. Charlie Crist for the Republican Senate nomination and the chance to succeed GOP Sen. Mel Martinez, who left before his term ended. Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., who was elected in 2006, is the Senate's only Hispanic member and is one of only six Hispanics elected since the 1920s.

Rep. Kendrick Meek, one of 41 African-Americans in the House, is the front-runner for the Democratic nomination in Florida, but polls show him trailing both Rubio and Crist.

In Texas, Republican Michael Williams is looking at running for Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison's seat. Hutchison is challenging Republican Gov. Rick Perry. Williams is a commissioner on the Railroad Commission of Texas, which regulates the oil and gas industries in the state.

In North Carolina, Chapel Hill attorney Kenneth Lewis, a former state fundraiser for Obama, is one of three leading Democrats seeking to challenge GOP Sen. Richard Burr. Another black Democrat, Nathaniel Cooper, has raised just \$1,600 to compete in the May 4 Democratic primary.

In Georgia, former Rockdale County chief of staff R.J. Hadley, a first-time candidate, hopes to take on Republican Sen. Johnny Isakson but has not yet raised the minimum \$5,000 filing fee.

Carol Swain, a Vanderbilt University political science and law professor, said that party leaders need to be committed to a diversified legislative body and that qualified black candidates with money must step

*'In Georgia, former Rockdale County chief of staff R. J. Hadley, a first-time candidate, hopes to take on Republican Sen. Johnny Isakson but has not yet raised the minimum \$5,000 filing fee.'*

—Associated Press

up to try to get elected. "One of the reasons why it's difficult for minorities, especially blacks, to win statewide is the cost of campaigns," she said. "It takes millions of dollars to run a Senate campaign."

On Tuesday, neither of the two black challengers in the Illinois' primary — Chicago Urban League President Cheryl Jackson, a Democrat, and little-known former suburban Chicago alderman John Arrington, a Republican — could compete against the better-funded and better-known candidates who captured the major party nominations.

Five-term Rep. Mark Kirk won the GOP nomination and Illinois Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias walked away with the Democratic nod. Both are white.

Illinois has a history of sending black senators to Washington, with three of the nation's four black senators in modern times coming from the state.

The first black senator in the 20th century was Edward W. Brooke, a Massachusetts Republican who served from 1967 until 1979. The first to hold the Illinois seat was Carol Moseley Braun, a Democrat who won it in 1992. She lost six years later to Republican Peter Fitzgerald, who is white and didn't seek a second term. Obama captured the seat in 2004 by trouncing another black candidate, conservative Republican Alan Keyes. Obama relinquished the seat when he was elected president, and it was filled by Burris.

Burris was appointed by then-Gov. Rod Blagojevich after Blagojevich was arrested for allegedly trying to sell Obama's seat.

Obama's former seat is now a prime takeover target for Republicans. The attention on it has intensified since the GOP's upset win in Massachusetts last month claimed the late Sen. Edward Kennedy's seat.

For some in Illinois, the bigger embarrassment would be for Obama's old seat to fall to the GOP.

"It needs to be a Democrat," Chicago teacher Tina Fakhrid-Deen said.

For his part, Kirk borrows a line from Massachusetts's new U.S. senator: "I think that this seat is not owned by any one particular group or politician. It's owned by the people of Illinois."