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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC

September 8, 2006

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Mr. Robert A. Iger
CEO
The Walt Disney Company
500 South Buena Vista Street
Burbank, California 91521

Dear Mr. Iger,

I was appalled to read in one newspaper that Cyrus Nowrawsteh acknowledged that the scene of Sandy Berger slamming down a phone was a falsification of history, had not been in the script, but apparently developed spontaneously during the filming and seemed sufficiently dramatic to justify leaving it in. This is an outrageous disregard for the truth. Where you are dealing in a fantasized version of things, you are entitled to fantasize. You are not morally – I concede that you are legally – entitled to fantasize about reality. Having read some of the criticisms leveled by people who had been engaged in these activities and found themselves being misportrayed, I expected your defense to be that they were wrong and you would portray things accurately. I am appalled to read you and your representatives essentially saying yes, we were inaccurate, but it meant for better ratings, so the hell with the truth. I have long been a defender of artistic freedom and I will continue to be legally. I voted against the most recent effort to increase fines. That leaves me all the more disheartened that an institution whose freedom of expression I have defended uses it in such an abusive way.


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