

Though Bush's White House and his Republican allies may stand out as the principal villains in this tragic story, a large share of the blame also must fall on accommodating Democrats and careerists in the Washington press corps. They protected their political flanks and their nice salaries by playing along.

Indeed, McClellan calls **the U.S. news media** “**complicit enablers**” in the White House's “carefully orchestrated campaign to shape and manipulate sources of public approval” for invading Iraq, according to a New York Times preview of McClellan's book, *What Happened: Inside the Bush White House and Washington's Culture of Deception*.

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