

Letter to the Editor
Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans

When Senator Tom Daschle was the majority leader of the Democrat-controlled Senate, there was legislation brought up to rebuild the levees in New Orleans to the necessary #5 category, which would withstand any hurricane, but they turned it down, leaving the levees at the #3 category. The Democrats who have controlled the state of Louisiana and the city of New Orleans for at least 60 years were satisfied at that time.

Four days before the hurricane struck New Orleans, President Bush asked Governor Kathleen Blanco of Louisiana if he could arrange to have the federal government help out when the hurricane strikes, but she turned him down. The mayor of New Orleans also refused any help from the President.

At that time, there were 206 school busses left in New Orleans school yards, which if used to evacuate people before the hurricane became worse, could have removed more than 200,000 people if they had worked night and day – but the governor and mayor did nothing. As a result, these 206 busses were under water when the hurricane hit and some may never be able to be used again.

What you are not being told is that on August 27th, 3 days before the levees were breeched, President Bush declared a state of disaster in New Orleans, but Governor Kathleen Blanco rejected this assistance. As a matter of fact, 70% of the black population left New Orleans before the disaster struck. Mayor Ray Nagin said, “You’ve got to get out of town,” but the governor said, “You’ve got to stay.”

There are many things the media has ignored. Louisiana has received more aid under President Bush than it ever received under President Clinton.

There is one other thing that you’ve probably never heard, because it was only reported once, to my knowledge, in the media. There was much discussion prior to the hurricane regarding upgrading the levees to Category 5 (which should have been done originally), but we are told they listened to environmental radicals, who claimed that such a project might be harmful to the beavers’ habitat. It was also reported on the back page of the newspapers that the environmentalists filed a lawsuit over 40 years ago that stopped the Government from upgrading the levees.

Why has this not been reported by the liberal news media? Is it because they have never been against anything that the fanatical zealots in the environmental movement have proposed? I would also like to know why the media is blaming Bush when the mayor, the governor and the environmentalists have blocked all logical solutions before the disaster struck.

Frank Drewe

[Editor’s Note: Please write and let us know what you think. Send your letter to the AOA office closest to you and to the attention of the Editor. Thank you!]