

NBC's *Today*

06/08/26

7:01:27 a.m. [TEASE]

18 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Ticked Off]

SAVANNAH GUTHRIE: Ticked off. Scott Pelley speaking out in his first televised interview about his *60 Minutes* firing.

SCOTT PELLEY [on *The New York Times's The Interview*, 06/07/26]: Right now, CBS News, in my view, is on fire.

GUTHRIE: What he's now saying about his dismissal. The new allegations he's making against the network and how he feels about the other correspondents' decision to stay.

(...)

7:19:36 a.m. [TEASE]

10 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: 7:30 AM; Scott Pelley Speaks Out]

GUTHRIE: Still ahead, Scott Pelley speaking out and making concerning new allegations against CBS News in his first interview since being fired from *60 Minutes*. We will hear from him.

(...)

7:30:48 a.m.

3 minutes and 50 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Scott Pelley Speaks Out]

CRAIG MELVIN: But right now, though, let's get to your news here at 7:30. We're going to start with the latest on the ousting of veteran *60 Minutes* correspondent Scott Pelley.

GUTHRIE: He is now speaking up for the first time since he was fired from the show last week, describing in a new interview what he calls political bias at CBS News. NBC's Erin McLaughlin's got the story. Good morning to you.

ERIN MCLAUGHLIN: Guys, good morning. In the hour-long interview with *The New York Times*. Scott Pelley says he's heartbroken while also calling on Paramount — the parent company of CBS — to step in to save one of the most successful broadcast in American history. This morning, veteran *60 Minutes* correspondent Scott Pelley is calling out CBS leadership as incompetent and inexperienced.

PELLEY [on *The New York Times's The Interview*, 06/07/26]: Right now, CBS News, in my view, is on fire.

MCLAUGHLIN: Part of an emotional interview with *The New York Times*, his first since being fired from the storied broadcast.

PELLEY [on *The New York Times's The Interview*, 06/07/26]: There are people in that room who go to war zones when they are pregnant. [SCREEN WIPE] To have people running CBS News who don't know that have never felt that, and don't understand it is a tragedy I never expected to see.

MCLAUGHLIN: Pelley was let go after accusing Bari Weiss — the network's editor-in-chief — of “murdering” *60 Minutes* during a closed-door staff meeting last week, railing against the decision to dismiss correspondents Sharyn Alfonsi, and Cecilia Vega, as well as the show's senior producers. In the hour-long sit-down, Pelley alleged editorial interference at a time when CBS's parent company, led by David Ellison, is trying to push through a \$110 billion mega-merger, which requires regulatory approval from the Trump administration.

PELLEY [on CBS's *60 Minutes*, 02/01/26]: As Good moved forward and to the right —

MCLAUGHLIN: Pelley pointed to his February coverage of the killing of ICE protester Renee Good, alleging Bari Weiss directed his team to make the protesters look more violent, and to describe Good as driving toward the officer who shot her.

PELLEY [on *The New York Times's The Interview*, 06/07/26]: There was a thumb on the scale for the President's version of events that I felt was a level of political influence that I had never seen in 37 years at CBS News.

MCLAUGHLIN: In the end, Pelley says he refused to make Weiss's changes. In a statement to NBC News, CBS says the email from Weiss “had no motivation and were proposed solely to make the piece as strong, fair, and accurate as possible.” Pelley was also visibly shaken when asked about these scathing comments the President made about him.

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP [on *New York Post's Pod Force One*, 06/03/26]: Scott Pelley's a stiff, and he's afraid, and he's part of this, you know, gang of crooked, stupid people that don't care about our country.

PELLEY [on *The New York Times's The Interview*, 06/07/26]: You become a journalist because you love the country. [SCREEN WIPE] There is no democracy without journalism.

GUTHRIE: Erin, there had been so much speculation about the three remaining correspondents, whether they would stay or go. They made a decision. They issued a statement.

MCLAUGHLIN: Yeah, that's right. All three — Lesley Stahl, Bill Whitaker, Jon Wertheim — issued this joint statement, saying that they're going to be staying put for now, that they do not

want to see the story broadcast die while also pointedly saying “newsrooms are not supposed to be run like dictatorships.” Now, Pelley says he hasn’t talked to the remaining three since he was fired, but they previously had a conversation about the possibility of leaving. They decided to stay to uphold the principles of the broadcast. Pelley says he would have stayed had he not been fired.

GUTHRIE: It’s an interesting interview because he said he didn’t expect to walk in his boss’s office, and be fired even after that fiery meeting, so it’s a fascinating interview. Erin, thank you very much.