

White House [via Newsmax's *The Record*]

09/18/26

4:04:42 p.m.

7 minutes and 46 seconds

DANIEL BALDWIN: You kept reiterating that this generous program is 50 states participation. Do you think this is an admission from many Democrat officials who agreed to participate that your most favored nation, drug deals are actually effective at lowering prescription drug prices?

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: Well, the Democrats were — they didn't help, but they all signed up. I mean, they all signed up and they signed up quickly. You know, every one of them. I don't think we had anybody even — even threaten a little bit that they were going to sign up. Every state came on board almost immediately. I mean, if we had the process perfected, literally in one day, everybody would have been, but they signed up within a matter of weeks. Every single state. Some asked questions. I mean, I had some governors call me saying, is this really true? Or is this some kind of an April Fool's Day? But they all signed up, and they can't believe it, and their health care costs are way down because of it. [TO O'DONNELL] Yeah, please.

[REPORTERS SHOUTING]

KELLY O'DONNELL: Earlier today, you posted that you intend to ban CNN, Politico, MS NOW from the White House.

TRUMP: Yeah.

O'DONNELL: Every president takes an oath to uphold the Constitution, which includes the First Amendment.

TRUMP: Yeah, I do too. I do too. Much more so —

O'DONNELL: How do you justify this ban?

TRUMP: — much more so than you?

O'DONNELL: Is this —

TRUMP: Because they're fake news. I — you get so tired of reading and seeing fake news. When you look at CNN, it's just fake. That's why their ratings are no good. When you look at MS NOW, which used to be MSNBC, which some people call MSDNC — Democratic National Committee, it's fake news. It's fake news.

O'DONNELL: So, the First Amendment protects —

TRUMP: And — and excuse me, excuse me. And when you look at it — P — as *Politico*, I mean, they got a government — the government under Biden gave 'em like \$8 million to keep them

a float, and the stories they wrote are fake. So, there's a lot of news, and there may be others to join them, and maybe they can get better and would like to have them in. But our country has to have honest news. You know, you don't have a country unless you have, as I say, borders, good voting, straightening them out. Borders are unbelievable. Nobody's come into our country in the last 17 months illegally. But you need borders, and you need fair and free voting. And you know what you need? You need a free press. You need a fair press and an honest press."

[O'DONNELL SHOUTING]

TRUMP: And CNN, and you know it, and everybody knows it. You're intelligent. I've known you a long time. You know how fake their reporting is. It's one-sided. It's never good. I've done many, many look at this story today about favored nations on drugs. We lowered the drug costs by 50, 60, 70 percent.

O'DONNELL: It's being covered right now.

TRUMP: They won't even put it — if they put it on it, it'll be — they will find a reason why that's a negative, okay? [TO KEMP] Yeah, please.

[SHOUTING]

DANNY KEMP: Why are you doing this ban now? Is there a particular reason? Was there a particular story you —

TRUMP: No. No reason.

KEMP: [Inaudible].

TRUMP: No. Just because — no, no, it's — it's really just cumulative stories over the last two years. You get sick of it, and you call them, and you tell them, I have very good experts like people behind me, Bobby, Oz. They call, and they try, and explain things to me. They know that they know it. They know it as well. They're smart people, but they purposely write negative news, and they do that because they want to try and diminish the Republicans, and a Republican administration, and, honestly, we've done a fantastic job. Look at the numbers. Look at the economic numbers. We have more money coming into our country today than ever before. We have the highest employment that we've ever had in history. All of these things, the lowest — we have the best poverty rate — the lowest poverty rate in the history of our country, and people are making more money today than they ever had, and we do have something that I'm very proud of. Iran will not have a nuclear weapon. Now, for that, people are going to have to pay some extra gas — I think most people, if they had a vote on lower gas prices or letting Iran have a nuclear weapon, I'd be willing to vote that it would be a massive landslide. People don't want to have Iran have a nuclear weapon. And you know what? They won't, and the war is going to end soon. And when it ends, your gas prices are going to drop to a level that they

were before, maybe even lower. When I left Iowa, just before I started this, I had no choice. I said to my people I'd have to do an excursion down to Iran — the Islamic Republic of Iran — because they're going to have a nuclear. If we don't hit them with the B-2 bombers, they right now would have a nuclear weapon, and if they hadn't, it would be a matter of days. I equate it somewhat to the Democrats. If they ever got into power, they will terminate the filibuster, and they will immediately have D.C. as a state. They will immediately have many other things take place. But D.C. and Puerto Rico will become immediately — that gives them four more senators. That gives them lots of other things, like 12 congressmen. They want to have, ideally, 21 Supreme Court justices. They will have everything they ever dreamed of. And frankly, Republicans should terminate the filibuster because if you don't do it, they're going to do it. And — and you — and you can't let that happen.

[SHOUTING]

WILLIE NELSON: Mr. President, Willie Nelson with Salem media. Mr. President, reports say the holdout juror in the Lindsay Clancy case, and — excuse me, reports say the holdout juror in the Lindsay Clancy case and his family were doxxed and threatened so badly he left Massachusetts. What's your take on that?

TRUMP: Well, I just don't know. I think the case is very sad. It's a horrible thing. She was on all sorts of drugs and — and she was very messed up. She killed three children, her three children. It's a very tough situation, And I know the jury was certainly not a friendly one in terms of that one person, but it's not for me. Look, you had a jury, and the jury was hung, and we'll see whether or not they have another trial.

[SHOUTING]

NELSON: Mr. President. Mr. President, many leading Democrats have condemned far left streamer Hasan Piker. What is your take on him and do you think he's a liability for Democrats?

TRUMP: I do. I think he's a terrible liability. I think they — he's — he's got a power over some of these Democrats, and he'll be voting that way. I mean, he's a communist. There's no question about it, and the Democrats have a lot of communists, and the communists can hold up the party because it only takes a few votes when you have a close election — or you'll have a fairly close, I hope the Republicans are going to do well, but you're going to have it's going to be pretty close. And a group of three, four, five, ten people can steer a party in a certain direction. That's, you know, both parties. Yeah, no, he's a guy who's very — I mean, his statements are so bad how a Jewish person could vote for a Democrat is not, even if you think of it, not even believable, and yet, they will. It's amazing, but it is not possible in a world of rationality that somebody who's Jewish, that somebody who's black could vote to be a Democrat, could vote for a Democrat. The things that have been said about different groups of people by them are

incredible, and the mainstream Democrats, I know many of them, and I'm friendly with many of them, but they've gone way left because they've had no choice, not because — they don't believe it. They know communism has never worked. They know socialism has never worked. But these people are petrified of the radical left, and he's one of them.

(....)

4:15:22 p.m.

6 minutes and 56 seconds

CATHERINE LUCEY: Mr. President, freedom of the press is enshrined in the First Amendment.

TRUMP: Oh, thank you for telling —

LUCEY: Are you trying to —

TRUMP: — thank you for telling me.

LUCEY: — are you trying to intimidate the press from doing its job?

TRUMP: No, no, no, no. I dislike dishonest press like you. I think you're terrible, but I dislike dishonest — I like to see honest press.

[SHOUTING]

NAOMI LIM: In the first administration, you tried a similar ban against CNN, and it didn't survive a court challenge. What makes you think that this move will?

TRUMP: Well, we'll see. I mean, it didn't — we didn't have to take it too far because the reporter that you're talking about discredited himself. He became a joke, so he no longer was very effective, so it didn't matter. No. But I think it's good. I think it's good to point it out, whether it survives or doesn't. I mean, I don't think a court should allow — depends on the judge you get, to be honest with you. I don't think that a court should allow fake news to be written day after day after day. I think that somebody has a right to keep them away, if they're going to write false stories all the time. I don't think I've had — look, I won the presidency. I won all seven swing states. I won the popular vote. I won 87 percent of the counties. That's why the maps are all red when you look, except for two little blue lines on each side on each coast. I won a landslide and I get no — I get I don't get fair press. I get it from Breitbart. I get it from a little bit from Fox. Fox is the worst. I think Fox has, frankly, the worst polls in the whole business. I think they should have gotten rid of their pollsters years ago. They've been calling me wrong for ten years, but my polls have been very good. You know, I get good polls, I get good everything. But what I do ask is just a semblance of truth. CNN is fake news. MS NOW is fake news. They're fake news. They know it. They're put there for a reason. Politico was bailed out by our government from going out of business. I don't know if it was \$8 million or something, but they

were given this massive subsidy prior to my coming into office, because they write only negative, you know, only negative. Now, we've done something that nobody's ever done politically. I've had a political career like nobody else in history. On occasion, it would be nice if we had some fairness. It's all fake news. [TO KIM] Yeah, please.

SEUNG MIN KIM: Mr. President, to put a finer point on it, though, how is this action legal and constitutional, considering the First Amendment? And Governor Sanders, you were White House press secretary. Do you agree with this plan to ban news outlets?

TRUMP: Well, I'll just answer it again. I'll say it the same way. I don't think somebody should be allowed to come in and write fake stories. They're fake news, and that's why they have no credibility. That's why. So, I had 96 percent negative coverage during the election. And I won because they have no credibility. I got 96 — I guess NBC was 93 percent negative. So, 93 — with all of the victories I've had, everything's been a victory. It's all been a victory. And I won the election like nobody's ever seen anything like it. I get no — they never write a good story. They won't write a story about. I just reduced drug prices by 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 percent. I won't get a good story out of these people. From some of them, I will. I'll get one from him. I'll get one from him. I'll get a few of them. But it's sick. I mean, there's something wrong with a country that can allow people to write purposely negative stories. Now, if they want to write them, that's fine, but I don't have to — let them into my — into the people's house.

[REPORTERS SHOUTING]

TRUMP [TO SANDERS]: Go ahead.

GOVERNOR SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS (R-AR): Sure. I think it's hard for you to argue against a free press when you're literally standing in the Oval Office asking questions of the President of the United States. [REPORTERS SHOUTING] He's been more accessible and easier to talk to than any President in history. Think about the previous administration where he could barely get through a press conference. And yet, you have the opportunity to stand here in the Oval Office and ask questions to the leader of the free world. I mean, that's pretty free — [O'DONNELL SHOUTS] — and you're standing here asking those questions. I think the President is right to support the First Amendment, but he's also right to ask that you be honest and fair. That's not an unreasonable thing.

TRUMP: Well, look at the way you treated Biden. He went a year and a half without having a press conference! a year and a half, and what was the question you asked him most? What is your favorite flavored ice cream, okay? What — I think you asked him that question once.

O'DONNELL: No, sir, that is not true.

TRUMP: What ice cream do you like the best? I mean, I heard that question so many times and you always say vanilla. That's a good thing. It was very consistent. I'm surprised he got that right. But he'd always say vanilla. [TO LIM] Yeah, please.

LIM: On another note, are you disappointed that Senator John Thune isn't bringing the Ratepayer Protection Act to the floor?

TRUMP: He's not what?

LIM: He's not bringing the Ratepayer Protection Act that the House passed? He's —

TRUMP: Well, I'm talking to him about it. We'll see what happens.

[REPORTERS SHOUTING]

KEMP: President Xi's coming here next week.

TRUMP: A great honor.

KEMP: China is one of the most repressive countries for journalists in the world. What signal is it sending that you're [INAUDIBLE].

TRUMP: Well, I don't know about that. I think — I think we're repressive also. We get fake news. We don't — we don't repress. But they write fake news. No, I think he's going to come. We get along very well. It's nice that we get along very well. We've had a good relationship. He'll be here next week. I can tell you this. It's too bad we don't have the ballroom open because, if we did, we could have — we'd have thousands. We could have 2,000 people having dinner they would love. We have a very tiny little room. That's where it's going to be squeezed out at about 125 or so people, but I literally could tell you that thousands of people would love to be at that dinner. This is a very tough ticket for me. I've told a lot of very good friends of mine. You just can't come, just can't come. It's — we're going to have a very good meeting. We're going to have a meeting. We get along well. We're doing very well with China, I would say others maybe not so well, but we're doing very well with China. And President Xi and I have a good relationship.

KEMP: Do you expect an AI safety deal or any talks on that?

TRUMP: We're going to have a lot of different deals. Yeah. We intend — we're not just doing it for our health. We're going to have some pretty important meetings. You know, China is paying us a lot of tariffs, and you remember I had it up to 145 percent at one point. But it was too much. It was really — it was really hurting them badly and I didn't want to do that. No. We get along very well. We have a good relationship. Now, you know, somebody said, oh, they spy on us. And I said, maybe they do, but we spy on them too. You know, I don't want to give any, any

certified or classified information, but we spy on them too. They said they spy on you, sir. I said we spy on them too.

(....)

4:25:43 p.m.

42 seconds

LUCEY: What do you mean by others to come, and how is this ban going to work?

TRUMP: Others to come in terms of fake news?

LUCEY: Yes. That's —

TRUMP: Well, you know, look, *The New York Times* is fake news. *Washington Post* is fake news. They're crummy papers, both doing very poorly, by the way. But we'll see. We'll probably not going to display the paper anymore in the White House, those papers. But we haven't taken the step of throwing them out. But they're fake news. Totally. New York Times is so fake.

Washington Post is disgusting. I mean, they're disgusting. I don't get it. Why would they be — you know, we're doing so well, and they'll take the most positive story and make it as negative as possible. [TO *WASHINGTON EXAMINER*] Go ahead, please.

LUCEY: It's only free when you agree with it?

TRUMP [TO LUCEY]: No, no. [TO *WASHINGTON EXAMINER*] Please.

(....)

4:33:25 p.m.

2 minutes and 26 seconds

KIM: On the ban, what does that mean in practice? Are you taking away their badges? Are you banning them from the pool? What does this actually mean?

TRUMP: When you say the ban, which ban?

KIM: Of [inaudible].

TRUMP: You know, you know how many any bans I'm involved in? I've got more bans than —

KIM: On the — on the news outlets.

TRUMP: — I've got more bans going than any human being!

KIM: On the three news outlets, sir. What does that mean in practice? Are you taking away their badges? Are you banning them from the pool? Are you banning them from the Oval Office? What does that mean?

TRUMP: Well, I still don't know. What's she —

[REPORTERS SHOUTING]

O'DONNELL: What do you envision the ban to look like? For the media outlets?

TRUMP: Oh, the ban on — on the free press, right? Very simple ban. I don't want them in my office. I don't want them here. I would say the ban would go as far as you can. And, if they could straighten themselves out — you know, if they could straighten themselves out, I'd love it. Look, they're very dishonest people. They write in a very dishonest way. ABC fake news gave me \$16 million that was agreed to — \$16 million that I won from ABC News, because George Slopapopoulos wrote incorrect stuff. CBS gave me \$38 million because they broadcast Kamala Harris on *60 Minutes*, and the question bore no relationship to what she said. You saw that I'm right now suing BBC because they have the granddaddy of them all. They have where I said, walk freely and patriotically — having to do with January 6 — and they put horrible fighting words into my mouth with my — with me actually saying it. I said, I never said that, and when we checked, it was — BBC actually changed my language, and they put words in my mouth. That's the furthest I've seen. So, that — we have numerous lawsuits. We'll be suing these people too. But the ban is because they are fake news. They cannot write the truth, and *Politico* is very bad. And *Politico*, frankly, I think what they did was illegal. They accepted a the world's largest subscription. They got \$8 million or something like that for a subscription to their stupid, you know, lightweight paper. But I will say *Politico* and MS NOW, which nobody ever heard of, and CNN, which is doing very poorly — the reason they do so poorly is because they have no credibility. And if they had credibility, I wouldn't be sitting here right now. So, we are banning them. Yes, we are, and there may be others to follow.