

**For Immediate Release
MEDIA ADVISORY**



Link TV

Your Connection to the World

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**LINK TV TO BEGIN AIRING *DEMOCRACY NOW!* ON JULY 19th
Award-Winning News Program Now Available on DIRECTV!**

(San Francisco, July 8, 2004)—Continuing its commitment to provide Americans with a much-needed platform for the civic dialogue and engagement on the critical issues of our day, Link TV is proud to announce that, beginning on Monday, July 19th, it will begin broadcasting the award-winning alternative news program *Democracy Now!* Monday-Friday at 8am PT, 11am ET.

Hosted by award-winning journalists Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzalez, *Democracy Now!* is produced out of the Downtown Community Television Center a community media center in New York City's Chinatown. Offering daily news and analysis, *Democracy Now!* is committed to bringing the voices of the marginalized to the airwaves. Goodman and Gonzalez's engaging—often enraging—reporting features interviews with activists, muckrakers, visionaries, artists, academics, and "ordinary folks" who share a commitment to truth, justice, diversity, and peace. With on-the-ground coverage from Washington to Iraq, Quebec City to Porto Alegre, Brazil, *Democracy Now!* brings groundbreaking news stories from the streets to the airwaves. To meet a growing demand for trustworthy, independent news and information for the upcoming Presidential election, *Democracy Now!* will offer expanded two-hour coverage during the Democratic and Republican Conventions.

Broadcast on Pacifica, community and national public radio stations, public access cable television stations, on Free Speech TV, channel 9415 of the DISH Network, shortwave radio and the internet, this national, listener-sponsored, public radio and TV show is part of the largest community media collaboration in the country. And now, that independent media collaboration is even larger. Through its collaboration with Link TV, *Democracy Now!* is now available to an additional 12.6 million DIRECTV subscribers.

Link TV is a nationwide public satellite television network offering global perspectives on world events, issues and culture. Its programs air on **DIRECTV channel 375** and

Dish Network channel 9410 and are selectively streamed on the Internet. Dubbed “television without borders” by Peter Jennings on *World News Tonight*, Link TV has consistently been recognized for presenting viewpoints rarely offered by the U.S. media by the *New York Times*, *Lehrer News Hour*, *U.S. News and World Report* and many others.

This collaboration between two of America’s most independent media outlets is all the more important given last June’s FCC ruling which brought unprecedented attention to the subject of media consolidation and its consequences for the independent media. “By airing *Democracy Now!*, Link TV will be furthering its commitment to connect American viewers with news and views, not covered in mainstream media,” says Link TV’s Head of Programming, Jack Willis.

Adds Amy Goodman, “journalists must challenge those in power, hold them accountable and ask the hard questions. Corporate-sponsored news outlets are just now beginning to admit that they failed in reporting on the lead up to the war with Iraq. *Democracy Now!* was asking those questions and bringing them to the airwaves. We are grateful to Link TV for joining with *Democracy Now!* to bring Americans this daily news hour that truly is the Exception to the Rulers.”

About Amy Goodman and *Democracy Now!*:

Amy Goodman began her career in community radio in 1985 at Pacifica Radio's New York Station, WBAI. She produced WBAI's Evening News for 10 years. In 1990 and 1991, Amy traveled to East Timor to report on the US-backed Indonesian occupation of East Timor. There, she and colleague Allan Nairn witnessed Indonesian soldiers gun down 270 East Timorese. Indonesian soldiers beat Amy and Allan, fracturing Allan's skull. Their documentary, "Massacre: The Story of East Timor" won numerous awards, including the Robert F. Kennedy Prize for International Reporting, the Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia Silver Baton, the Armstrong Award, the Radio/Television News Directors Award, among others.

In 1996, Amy helped launch Pacifica Radio's *Democracy Now!*. Two years later, Amy and producer Jeremy Scahill went to Nigeria. Their radio documentary "Drilling and Killing: Chevron and Nigeria's Oil Dictatorship" exposed Chevron's role in the killing of two Nigerian villagers in the Niger Delta, who were protesting yet another oil spill in their community. That documentary won the George Polk Award, the Golden Reel for Best National Documentary from the National Federation of Community Broadcasters, and a Project Censored award. Amy Goodman and her brother David Goodman's new best-selling book is *The Exception to the Rulers: Exposing Oily Politicians, War Profiteers and the Media That Love Them*. Ms Goodman is currently on an 80-city *Exception to the Rulers* book and media tour.

About Link TV:

Founded in 1999, Link TV is the first U.S. network offering a global perspective on news, current events and culture, presenting viewpoints seldom covered in the U.S.

media. In fact, 95% of the station's first-run documentaries on global issues have never before been shown in the U.S.

Link is seen nationwide via satellite broadcast on **DIRECTV Channel 375** and on **DISH Network channel 9410** and is accessible to more than 22 million households in the U.S. Link's programming, combined with its innovative use of two-way digital link-ups and a participatory web site, deepens audience engagement and encourages active participation. Link TV is a national non-commercial channel funded by viewer contributions and grants from major foundations. For complete program scheduling and Internet streaming, go to <http://www.linktv.org>