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Sent: Saturday, June 28, 2008 3:53 AM
Subject: Nielsen Layoffs draw Dobbs' glare

<<<<< JOB DESTRUCTION NEWSLETTER No. 1883 -- 6/28/2008 >>>>>

Lou Dobbs had three excellent reports about Nielsen replacing American workers at the Oldsmar location. The three videos on Youtube and the transcripts are below:

Nielsen replaces workers with H-1Bs from Tata Part 1
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h66IGgxog60>

Nielsen replaces workers with H-1Bs from Tata Part 2
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJAnZUB6zyE>

Nielsen replaces workers with H-1Bs from Tata Part 3
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbWfr0sz8i8>

So far mainstream media has ignored this story. Is there anyone in Florida who could get more media coverage of this travesty? Perhaps WKMB (the station that did the Mike Emmons/Siemens stories) would take this on if prodded by Florida residents. In case you don't know about the Siemens story, go to this web page and search for "WKMG".

<http://www.jobdestruction.info/ShameH1B/MediaClips.htm>

If anyone in Florida sees local news coverage of the Nielsen story, please record it and then contact me.

Materials Included

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/business/article646366.ece>

Layoffs draw Dobbs' glare

<http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0806/23/ldt.01.html>

Dobbs, June 23, 2008

<http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0806/25/ldt.01.html>

Dobbs: June 25, 2008

<http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0806/26/ldt.01.html>

Dobbs: June 26, 2008

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<http://www.tampabay.com/news/business/article646366.ece>

Layoffs draw Dobbs' glare
By Theresa Blackwell, Times Staff Writer

Published Thursday, June 26, 2008 8:25 PM

OLDSMAR -- When Lou Dobbs speaks, even extraterrestrials quake.

The host of the Lou Dobbs Tonight show on CNN covers national issues with an abundance of certitude.

So when Dobbs took up the Nielsen Co. layoffs in Oldsmar, with reports on Monday and Wednesday nights, many current and former Nielsen employees took heart.

They hoped Nielsen's outsourcing story would reach the national agenda.

"Exactly what needed to happen!!!" a current Nielsen employee, who asked not to be named, wrote in one of many e-mails to the Times. "The bigwigs have been meeting all day to discuss the ramifications of the news."

"I'm glad something is finally happening," said former Nielsen systems administrator Kristie Otto, who was seven months pregnant when she lost her job in October.

"What burns me up the most is that they are bringing all these people in from India at the same pay rate that we were getting paid," Otto said. "So where are the savings?"

Monday night, Dobbs and CNN correspondent Bill Tucker reported that Nielsen is laying off workers and outsourcing jobs at the company's Oldsmar facility and replacing them with workers from India on guest-worker visas. Tucker said council member Janice Miller was the only city official angry about it.

"I am incensed that our government would allow this to happen to the American people," Miller said on the show. "This is all about driving down wages in this country. It's un-American."

Oldsmar Mayor Jim Ronecker was pilloried by Dobbs, his smiling face superimposed over a photo of the Nielsen headquarters entrance.

"Well, maybe if we started outsourcing the mayor's job and those other City Council jobs and replacing them with . visa workers, maybe the people of Oldsmar would be getting more value," Dobbs said.

Ronecker said his e-mail in box was jammed with hate mail the next day -- "a lot of four-letter language, short and sweet," he said.

Ronecker said the way he was portrayed Monday failed to mention that he led Nielsen to forgo government incentives that would have netted the company up to \$3.1-million in future tax refunds for creating jobs.

On Wednesday night's report, Dobbs turned his focus to the federal government.

"Now, some communities are telling Washington they've had enough of seeing jobs in their communities shipped overseas or labor shipped overseas to their communities," he said.

Dobbs said Nielsen has a virtual monopoly in their market.

He suggested that people contact Florida's legislators, including U.S. Rep. Mike Bilirakis, and U.S. Sens. Bill Nelson and Mel Martinez.

"Because if they are going to just simply turn a blind eye to this kind of behavior, the country, the state of Florida, is lost," Dobbs said.

Several Oldsmar council members were interviewed, including Eric Seidel, who said, "I wish we had the authority to do something here."

Council member Suzanne Vale suggested people should contact presidential candidates Barack Obama and John McCain.

Nielsen's response?

"Because of who we are, we can't comment on a client's program," said Gary Holmes, Nielsen spokesman. "Instead, we are moving forward, building a competitive facility that will continue making significant contributions to the local economy."

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<http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0806/23/ldt.01.html>

Aired June 23, 2008 - 19:00 ET

DOBBS: Well, most Americans know that Nielsen brand as a TV ratings company, of course. The company is not headquartered, however, in this country. It's a Dutch company owned by a group of hedge funds and despite revenues that topped a billion dollars in the first three months of this year, Nielsen is firing American workers and replacing them with foreign workers in its Florida office and I suspect that we -- well I'm sure we're not putting at risk the ratings for this broadcast by bringing you the news on Nielsen and cheap labor. Bill Tucker reports.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BILL TUCKER, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Globalization is taking the toll on the employees of Nielsen. The company has announced it is cutting seven percent of the jobs at Nielsen Media in Oldsmar, Florida and the number is likely to increase. Nielsen executives won't be specific about how many employees have lost their jobs or likely to lose their jobs, conceding only that it is in the range of 150 to 300.

Rubbing salt into the wound, the Nielsen workers are being replaced by people on guest worker visas employed by TATA Consulting Services of India, one of the top five users of the H-1B visa program. The action has one city council member furious.

JANICE MILLER, OLDSMAR, FL CITY COUNCIL: I am incensed that our government would allow this to happen to the American people. But as I said before, this is all about driving down the wages in this country. It's -- it's -- to me it's un-American.

TUCKER: The city's other movers and shakers don't seem to be as angry as the councilwoman. The mayor's not. He points to the city's broad employer base and says the city, quote, "will weather the economic downturn."

The Chamber of Commerce is not angry. It calls Nielsen, quote, "an excellent business and community partner" and neither the Chamber nor the mayor expressed outrage when asked about the company's requirement that fired employees must train their replacements as a condition of receiving their severance.

The company defends its actions as necessary in a globally competitive environment where speed and cost are key. Quote, "the overwhelming majority of Nielsen's work today is handled by the company's own talented employees. In addition, many of the U.S. positions that have been transitioned to outside partners remain American-based jobs." "American-based jobs" not necessarily held by American workers.

Now, none of the workers were willing to talk to us on the record or on camera, understandably so for fear of losing their severance or jeopardizing their own jobs and the jobs being outsourced are not just I.T. jobs, as you are used to hearing. Nielsen also out sources its payroll, its finance, as well as jobs of employees responsible for producing those daily

and weekly ratings reports that everyone hears about all the time, Lou.

DOBBS: And the mayor thinks it's just hunky-dory, huh?

TUCKER: Well...

DOBBS: Well maybe if we started outsourcing the mayor's job and those other City Council jobs and replacing them with H-1B visa workers, maybe the folks in Oldsmar would be getting more value. What do you think?

TUCKER: Well and I think the mayor might be influenced by the fact that Nielsen is their largest employer, Lou, so I'm afraid -- I think he's probably afraid to go against the company as a matter of fact. DOBBS: Well, you know, you would like to believe that he would be more concerned about the fact that those jobs are going to be replaced. Those people are losing their jobs, are going to have American-based jobs filled by H-1B visa workers?

TUCKER: Right.

DOBBS: And this City Council does not understand that that is simply a drive lower in the international wage scales? I mean that -- that doesn't occur to them?

TUCKER: The only City Council member who has spoken out and who is outraged about this is Janice Miller, the woman who was in my piece.

DOBBS: I got to tell you people -- you know what -- if the people there in Florida think this is fine, then you know they're going to be part of the reason that the quality of life and the standard of living in this country continues to decline because Nielsen doing this, shouldn't even be allowed to rate U.S. television networks and broadcasts period.

I mean, how dare them? How dare them? So, we'll, you know, we'll see how this plays out with the usual acquiescence, I suspect. Thank you very much, Bill Tucker.

Well, big corporations like Microsoft and Google have pushed for an increase in the number of these so-called temporary visas in order to bring more cheap foreign labor into this country. There is a cap of 65,000 regular H-1B visas.

Another 20,000 of those visas are set aside for high-tech workers with advanced degrees each year. This April the Citizenship and Immigration Services Agency received 163,000 applications for those H-1B visas next year. The H-1B visa program is intended to be a temporary worker program, but is in fact anything but.

The H-1B's are now issued on a three-year basis that can be extended to six years. No government agency, no government agency actually monitors these workers to make certain they leave the United States when their visas

expire. And by the way, most of those visas are going to low-skill workers, not to high-skill workers, and seven out of the top 20 companies using them are Indian companies based in the United States for the purpose of outsourcing work just like what you're watching happen there with Nielsen in Bill Tucker's report.

That brings us to the subject of our poll tonight. Do you believe the government of the United States should, at a minimum -- at a minimum -- keep track of people who are in this country on what are called temporary visas? Cast your vote at loudobbs.com. We'll have the results here later.

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<http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0806/25/ldt.01.html>

June 25, 2008

DOBBS: No Americans need apply. It's fast becoming corporate America's mission statement and mantra.

On Monday, we reported that the Nielsen Company, the company that measures television ratings, has been replacing American workers with cheap foreign labor. Nielsen, like many companies before it, is replacing good-paying middle class jobs and abusing the federal government's H1-B visa program process in the future. The biggest users of H1-B visas in fact are Indian outsourcing companies. Now some communities are telling Washington they've had enough of seeing jobs in their communities shipped overseas or labor shipped overseas to their communities.

Bill Tucker has our report.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BILL TUCKER, CNN CORRESPONDENT: The city counsel in Florida is not suffering quietly the sting of Nielsen's actions. The company is taking the jobs away from American workers, giving the jobs to foreign workers on guest worker visas, and requiring the fired workers to train them. Most of those jobs ultimately will be transferred out of the country.

GREG RUBLEE, OLDSMAR CITY COUNCIL: What Nielsen has chosen to do in exploiting the H1-B visa program, by American standards, it's fundamentally wrong and it's fundamentally unpatriotic.

SUZANNE VALE, OLDSMAR CITY COUNCIL: I'm incensed our government would allow this to happen to the American people. This is all about driving down the wages in this country. To me, it's unAmerican.

TUCKER: Because of the uproar over the outsourcing, Nielsen said it would forego millions of dollars in tax incentives this year. It's been receiving those incentives for the past four years. Counsel members admit there's

nothing more they can do aside from express their anger. They're calling on Congress and voters to wake up now.

ERIC SEIDEL, OLDSMAR CITY COUNCIL: It's a huge issue that's getting worse, especially hitting us at times when the economy is not very good. I think Washington, it's not to pass the buck. I wish we had the authority to do something. JANICE MILLER, OLDSMAR CITY COUNCIL: People need to call Senator McCain, and Senator Obama, finding out what their stance is on this issue. They're running for the president. They need to find out where they stand. This is important. Our jobs are going overseas.

TUCKER: Nielsen acknowledges the losses but responds by noting that roughly 1,300 jobs will remain in the city.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

TUCKER: However, critics are Nielsen and Oldsmar are a little leery of any promises or assurances from the company. They pointed out that Nielsen last October signed a \$1.2 billion outsourcing contract for the next 10 years. The deal includes not only information technology support, but operational support as well.

DOBBS: Has anybody -- well, considered the fact that Nielsen is a monopoly with perhaps a sliver in this country. And we're letting this company operate here with impunity, abusing its -- frankly, our market and our hospitality, and these ignorant so-and-sos are shipping jobs overseas. Who needs them? Why in the world isn't Congress investigating why this company has a monopoly. Why in the world are we permitting such behavior from a company abusing workers in this fashion?

TUCKER: That's what every single member of this city counsel wants to know. They point out this is legal, it's within the law. Washington has crafted these policies and they're letting Nielsen do it and they're angry in their community.

DOBBS: Let's be honest. Does Washington even know? Where the heck are the Congress -- let's get with the congress in that district and the senators from that state and find out exactly what they're doing. If they're going to simply turn a blind eye to this kind of behavior, the country, the state of Florida, is lost. It's an absurdity to tolerate this corporate behavior, period.

Bill, if you would do that tomorrow, we'd appreciate it. I know Nielsen would appreciate it. Thank you very much, Bill Tucker.

Well, a group of Indian politicians is making its preference in our presidential race known. They're, by the way, for Senator Obama. The group has organized an 11-day religious ceremony for Senator Obama's success. The group is also planning to send Senator Obama a lucky charm, a two-foot tall gold-plated idol of one of the most popular and heroic gods in Hinduism. Senator Obama says he will try to keep jobs in this country but "We live in

a more competitive world, and that's a fact that can't be reversed."

That's the kind of wisdom that I'm sure will be appreciated in India if not particularly embraced in this country. Try again, Senator Obama. How about you, Senator McCain? Why don't you step up, both of you say what you're thinking about having good-paying, middle-class jobs in your country. Where does the worker really fit into the future of the nation? Got the guts to tell us? I doubt it but we'll look forward to your response. Up next, the author of an important book, "A Government Ill Executed," Professor Paul Light joins me. We'll have more on the battle to reform or dysfunctional government and push back against lobbyists.

Congressman Ed Royce joins me. He'll tell me about the efforts to keep the National Guard posted on the border with Mexico.

We'll be right back. Stay with us.

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<http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0806/26/ldt.01.html>

June 26, 2008

PILGRIM: Anheuser-Busch today rejected a takeover bid from Belgian-based InBev. Now the maker of Budweiser and other brands controls about 50 percent of the markets -- this country's beer market. Company officials said \$46 billion bid from InBev was financially inadequate and not in the best interest of stockholders. The Financial Times reports tonight that InBev will now launch a hostile bid for Anheuser-Busch.

And we have been reporting this week on a rising scandal over the Nielsen Company, the TV ratings firm. Now this company is firing American workers in Florida, replacing them with foreign workers.

Bill Tucker is here -- Bill.

BILL TUCKER, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Yes, Kitty, roughly about 300 workers at Nielsen lost their jobs down at Oldsmar, or are about to lose their job, city council is angry about the way (INAUDIBLE) powerless to do anything. The council, after all, doesn't run Nielsen, it's a large company in their community.

The company's ratings are part of a conversation about TV shows' popularity, Nielsen pretty much endemic to everything that we do. Its research literally is what sets the rates that advertisers charge. It's a monopoly for all intent and purposes. And it's hard for a company like that size, that importance for people to not be aware of who they are and what they're doing.

And for that reason you might be expected to think that maybe the people up in Congress are aware of what Nielsen is doing. But that's not the case,

because the elected officials for the people of Oldsmar, Florida, apparently don't know what's going on.

Congressman Bilirakis represents the 9th District in the House. Senators Bill Nelson and Mel Martinez are their men in the Senate. We called their offices several times today asking for their thoughts on what Nielsen is doing to the voters in their state.

Not a single one admitted to being aware of the replacement of American workers with foreign workers. None expressed concern about outsourcing of jobs. The best that we could get from them, Kitty, was, we'll look at it and get back to you later. And none of them got back to us later, at least not today.

PILGRIM: Well, let's hope they're listening now. And we'll stay on this story. Thanks very much, Bill Tucker.

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PILGRIM: Well, let's hope they're listening now. And we'll stay on this story. Thanks very much, Bill Tucker.

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