

MURDOCH'S SCANDAL

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For more than a half century, Rupert Murdoch's business acumen and political shrewdness built one of the world's most powerful media empires. Now his dynasty is under threat—not from outside competition, but from shocking allegations of invasion of privacy and journalistic impropriety as well as criminal allegations of obstruction of justice and bribery by employees and executives at Murdoch's now-defunct *News of the World*. In a joint production with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), FRONTLINE correspondent Lowell Bergman tells the story of phone hacking, bribery and the battle over the future of News Corporation in *Murdoch's Scandal*.

It's a saga still unfolding. The scandal has prompted criminal investigations on both sides of the Atlantic. Dozens of journalists and top executives from Murdoch's papers have been arrested. And both Murdoch and his son James were summoned to appear before the parliamentary committee investigating the crisis.

In *Murdoch's Scandal*, Bergman interviews three individuals who endured considerable intimidation from News International—the British arm of Murdoch's empire—during their lonely battles to force the scandal into the light: Nick Davies, the reporter who broke the phone-hacking story for rival newspaper *The Guardian*; Labour MP Tom Watson, who keenly questioned Murdoch at his parliamentary hearing; and Mark Lewis, the lawyer for more than 80 alleged phone-hacking victims. In a practice called “monstering,” Murdoch's tabloids vanquished those who got in the way, using the papers to embarrass and intimidate. But despite News International's efforts, Davies, Watson and Lewis have been at the forefront of a campaign to bring accountability to Murdoch's papers. Murdoch and his top lieutenants declined to speak with FRONTLINE.

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CREDITS

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