**NEWS CORP** Form 4 December 29, 2004

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

Check this box if no longer

subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction **SECURITIES** 

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* LIBERTY MEDIA CORP /DE/

> (First) (Middle)

12300 LIBERTY BLVD.

(Street)

(State)

Symbol NEWS CORP [NWS; NWS.A]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 12/27/2004

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

**OMB** 

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

**OMB APPROVAL** 

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner Other (specify Officer (give title below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line) \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

6. Ownership

Form: Direct

(Instr. 4)

(D) or Indirect Beneficial

Person

5. Amount of

Securities

Owned

Beneficially

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

ENGLEWOOD, CO 80112

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

Security (Instr. 3)

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

Code

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8)

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

Following Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Conversion Security or Exercise (Instr. 3) Price of

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

4. 5. Number Transactionof Code Derivative (Instr. 8) Securities

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of 8. Price **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

7. Nature of

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

SEC 1474

(9-02)

Indirect

Derivati Security (Instr. 5 Edgar Filing: NEWS CORP - Form 4

	Derivative Security				Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)						
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Variable Forward Contract (oblig. to sell variable amount)	<u>(1)</u> <u>(2)</u>	12/27/2004	J(2)			0.83	(1)(2)	(1)(2)	Class B Common Stock	(1) (2)	(1) (2)
Variable Forward Contract (oblig. to sell variable amount)	<u>(3)</u> <u>(4)</u>	12/27/2004	J <u>(4)</u>			0.83	(3)(4)	(3)(4)	Class B Common Stock	(3) (4)	(3) (4)

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
LIBERTY MEDIA CORP /DE/ 12300 LIBERTY BLVD. ENGLEWOOD, CO 80112		X					

## **Signatures**

By: /s/ Charles Y. Tanabe, Senior Vice
President

12/29/2004

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

# **Explanation of Responses:**

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Prior to the Reporting Person becoming a 10% owner, Liberty NC, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Reporting Person, was a party to a variable forward contract with a financial institution ("FI") which required Liberty NC to deliver a variable number of underlying securities not to exceed 40,000,000 shares to FI on June 8, 2006 in exchange for an aggregate of \$598,080,000. The number of underlying

(1) securities to be delivered would be based upon the average market price of the underlying securities during an averaging period prior to the delivery date. If such average market price is less than \$14.952 per share, then Liberty NC would be obligated to deliver the full amount of underlying securities to FI, and if such average market price is above that price per share Liberty NC would be obligated to deliver a lesser amount of underlying securities to FI based upon a predetermined formula.

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- On December 27, 2004, Liberty NC and FI agreed to terminate a portion of the variable forward contract with respect to 33,200,000 shares thereby reducing the maximum amount of shares deliverable thereunder to 6,800,000 shares. Such variable number of shares would be deliverable in exchange for an aggregate of \$101,673,600. In connection with such termination, Liberty NC agreed to pay FI \$28,350,000.
  - Prior to the Reporting Person becoming a 10% owner, Liberty NC, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Reporting Person, was a party to a variable forward contract with FI which required Liberty NC to deliver a variable number of underlying securities not to exceed 40,000,000 shares to FI on January 9, 2007 in exchange for an aggregate of \$598,080,000. The number of underlying securities to be
- (3) delivered would be based upon the average market price of the underlying securities during an averaging period prior to the delivery date. If such average market price is less than \$14.952 per share, then Liberty NC would be obligated to deliver the full amount of underlying securities to FI, and if such average market price is above that price per share Liberty NC would be obligated to deliver a lesser amount of underlying securities to FI based upon a predetermined formula.
- On December 27, 2004, Liberty NC and FI agreed to terminate a portion of the variable forward contract with respect to 33,200,000 shares thereby reducing the maximum amount of shares deliverable thereunder to 6,800,000 shares. Such variable number of shares would be deliverable in exchange for an aggregate of \$101,673,600. In connection with such termination, Liberty NC agreed to pay FI \$28,350,000.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.