

Reporting on War in the 21st Century

Handout #1: Relevant Media Definitions:

hard news – important factual information about current happenings

soft news – news that entertains as well as informs, but is less timely and appeals to emotions

inverted pyramid – form of news story with most important facts first and remainder in order of descending importance

lead – opening elements of story, usually summary statement

Associated Press (AP) – cooperative wire news service owned by its member newspapers and radio and television stations

pool reporting – a group of reporters from different news sources who share gleaned or reported information for a common, larger group

embedded – a term used currently to describe the assigning of a reporter to an actual combat unit to enable reporting from within and from the actual site of the breaking news