

15 May 1993

Brian Lamb/Terence Murphy
C-SPAN - #650 -
400 N. Capitol St.,
Washington, D.C. 20001

RE: Making a Good
Product Better

Dear Directors Lamb and Murphy:

Yesterday, I noticed your program featuring Asian Journalists in a roundtable format. Fine. This, of course, opens the door to other alluring suggestions, which, I feel, will better serve the republic in our huge press crisis.*

Why not # similar time slot(s) for:

- African-American journalists;
- Asian-American journalists;
- Native Indian journalists;
- Feminist journalists;
- Teenage journalists;
- Contra-Bass Sousaphone journalists;
- Military-Industrial Complex journalists;
- Underground journalists;
- Incarcerated journalists (few, if any, exist due to the utterly invulnerable status enjoyed when breaking laws to get stories);
- Starving journalists; and, yes....
- Journalist-journalists?

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Nothing less will suffice in your avowed quest to let us see what is happening all around us. Indeed, C-SPAN is a shining beacon compared to the other squalid lot.

Soon, the so-called Brady Bill will arrive in the hoppers. Perhaps pending now. Very little is known about this measure, for it is not seriously arguable that our electronic newsgivers (including C-SPAN) have studiously suppressed all dissections of this unproductive (in my view) measure. Let us move to end it.

In your area reside several expert sources on all things that go bang, plus the attendant history of crime and violence in the world. Allow me to list them for you, even though you may already know of them. In this way, you will not repeat; and/or, be thwarted in getting a balance.

*What a breakthrough to -1- (contd)
interview Jerome A. Barron, Professor of Law, in a nearby university (name escapes me); he of the common carrier theory of solving our grotesque broadcast mess.

Naturally, anti-gun rights outfits like HCI, Inc. (or, whatever it is labeled today) should get equal time, even though theirs is inordinately proffered overall in major media. No matter, we are used to such savaging; and, it is best to allow each faction its own periods. This is almost mandatory, for the Disarmament Lobby can never keep to data as it panders endlessly to emotion, hype and ad hominem assaults (no pun) on NRA, etc. An admix would be spent correcting HCI-Bradyism, and# little in the way of substantive material will be let through to the viewers. We are surely not fearful of direct confrontation, overdue. When an open debate is secured, please be advised that Second Amendment advocates will be there. Why will C-SPAN not structure such an encounter? Crime by gun is a genre affecting all Americans. Everywhere.

If such a compendium is decided on---unlikely---seek out:

Dr. Paul Blackman, PHD,
Research Director
National Rifle Association
of America, Inc.,
Washington, DC

Dr. Gary Kleck, PHD, Professor,
Sociology Dept.,
Florida State University,
Tallahassee, FL 30306

David B. Kopel, Atty.&
106 W. Ellsworth Criminologist
Denver, CO 80223

Don B. Kates, Jr., Atty., &
Criminologist, % Pacific Research
Foundation - 177 Post St.,
San Francisco, CA 94108

Wm. R. Tonso, PHD, Prof.,
Sociology Dept.,
University of Evansville,
Evansville, IN 47722

Aaron Zelman, Director
Jews for the Preservation of
Firearms Ownership,
2872 So. Wentworth Ave.,
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Jos. Tartaro, Ed.
GUN WEEK - Box 488 - Sta. C-
Buffalo, NY 14209

Second Amendment Foundation,
Alan Gottlieb, Dir.
12500 NE Tenth Pl.,
Bellevue, WA 98005

Larry Pratt, Dir.
Gun Owners of America,
8001 Forbes Pl., #102
Springfield, VA 22151

Neal Knox, Dir.
The Firearms Coalition,
Box 6537 - Silver Spring, MD 20906

and,

Academics for the Second Amendment (AIIA)
Jos. Olson, Pres. - Box 131254,
St. Paul, MN 55113.

The lone, un rebutted appearance of Rep. Jack Brooks of Texas, in the wake of the Waco-Gate hearings, was a black mark against the otherwise spotless record (almost) of your innovative enclave. Shame.

P.24 → I recall something that made me shudder for the future of the republic some time ago, i.e., when this piece of legislation was first put into the machinery on the hill, C-SPAN pandered--the very word indicated---to anti-gun-rights Congresspersons such as the retired Larry Smith (D-FL)†, who is emblematic of all that is wrong with the Congress, in my view. His venom was unacceptable---unless opposing members are given a chance to correct this one-dimensional mindset. It is no# longer seriously contestable that federally-empowered firearms expropriation is desideratum on the agenda (in the Clinton administration, Janet Reno, AG, has already committed to an ultimate schema to remove guns from the scene. Really. Quoted in the May 1993 issue of Guns & Ammo). As long as our only paladin of broadcast/narrowcast respectability goes on as amanuensis of the anti-gun lobby---by silence, as devastating as the sin of commission---the affair will remain a sore spot, untreatable with sops such as using Dr. Blackman of NRA on your "Close-Up" program for young people (admirable, but restricted). Who can forget the clear favoritism afforded HCI's Barbara Lautman about a decade ago, as you reran her time without fairness? Shame again.

The BATF hearings in Congress will also be forthcoming. If this is carried, fine. Much more, however, needs the light of day. Larry Pratt of GOA has a film on BATF's outright horror stories of entrapment and other extralegal skullduggery going on for about 30 years. Our Gestapo will be transferred to another agency, or dissolved. No rightwing manuals alluded to, just the inside dope from DC.

Finally, your Book Review section is remiss. Two monumental new additions to the understanding of gun-violence in the world are at hand, done by prestige authors.* If C-SPAN keeps on using lesser authors, that too will send a signal. Namely, that you are part and parcel of a dread continuum that has all but rent all press trust.

cc: Gun Week

*POINT BLANK by Kleck; and, THE SAMURAI, THE MOUNTIE, AND THE COWBOY by Kopel.

Please surprise me,

Libertarian
Tulsa, OK

Stunning data and opinion. A&E has already done a fine special entitled "The Killing Culture," using Kopel and others for II.

Kates is the leading strategist in the movement.

*Libertarian
all the way*

[REDACTED]
Tulsa, OK 74119



Board of
Directors/ attn: Brian Lamb, Terence Murphy
C-SPAN - #650 -
400 No. Capitol St.,
Washington, D.C. 20001

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