## C-SPANAMERICA\*S NETWORK

Suite 155 • 400 N. Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

Release:

IMMEDIATE

Contact: Susan Swain Liz Bauer (202) 737-3220

--C-SPAN TO OFFER IN-DEPTH COVERAGE OF INAUGURAL FESTIVITIES --

WASHINGTON, D.C. — This weekend, January 18 - 21, cable viewers will have access to some of the most extensive coverage of a presidential inauguration ever offered as C-SPAN cameras blanket Washington for in-depth looks at official and behind-the-scenes plans for the presidential inaugural.

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"Our goal as a public affairs network," says C-SPAN programming director Carrie Collins, "is to serve as an alternative for the viewer. Other networks will be there to provide instant analysis and commentary on the day's events. We plan just to let our cameras roll for extended periods of time to give our audience a real sense of 'being there'."

Throughout Monday, C-SPAN will schedule a <u>variety of viewer call-in guests</u> to provide their perspectives on inaugural arrangements. Guests include former Reagan

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C-SPAN's live coverage of inaugural events begins Friday at 6:00 pm est as President Reagan kicks off the weekend with a ceremony from the White House Ellipse. On Saturday, C-SPAN moves to Washington's Constitution Hall, where Vice President George Bush and others address 3,000 young people from across the nation in a "Leadership Forum for Young Americans" (9:45 to 11:30 am est). And on Saturday and Sunday, C-SPAN will videotape a variety of events for inclusion in Monday's day-long Inaugural programming.

C-SPAN will reair the inaugural ceremony at 4:00 and 11:00 pm est on January 21 to make it available to a wider audience. Currently, C-SPAN can be seen in 20 million homes via 2,000 affiliated cable systems.

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