

9 May 1997

Brian Lamb, CEO
C-SPAN - DC:

re: rampant Tocqueville-ism and
the "Other Shoe" Long Suspected (AND
FALLEN)

As you begin this sojourn about a French pundit who
visited us in our formative years, let me use one of his
best:

" It would seem that if despotism were to be
established among the democratic nations of
our days...it would be more extensive and more
mild; it would degrade men without tormenting
them. "

From Democracy in America#, of course.

How prescient to foresee television. I add another
piece of wisdom from one Benjamin Ginsberg in The Captive
Public: How Mass Opinion Promotes State Power (1986):

" Perhaps elections, referenda, parliaments, and the
like mean that citizens will continue to control the
state. But more and more the process of control is
of the sort that de Tocqueville foresaw two centuries
ago---interludes in which citizens proudly and cheer-
fully wave their own chains. "

From the same work:

" When rulers acquire sufficient power to do good,
can they be prevented from employing their power
for evil purposes? "

On this initial day of the pilgrimage redux, a review
was given, one proving to me that C-SPAN is manned by those
operating from innocence or malice---possibly an admix. To
actually admit with apparent pride that your first "Booknotes"
interview was with---pause for emphasis---Richard Barnet of
The Institute for Policy Studies is ^{to} admit publicly that who-
ever did this and now revels in it is a disgrace.

In Covert Cadre: Inside The Institute for Policy Studies
by S. Steven Powell (Ottawa, IL, Green Hill, 1987), the author
tells a grim tale of treason which cannot be dealt with; and,
worse, those who toady to this obscenity.

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2. C-SPAN

C overt Cadre spells it out and with photographs of a faction which ^{was} ~~##~~ little more than a home-away-from-home for Soviet bloc agents. All the guiding lights of the native hard-left (including bomb-throwers) congregated at IPS--- whether dead now or in remission (Roger Wilkins). Barnett went to Hanoi in 1969, did you know, to hobnob with Vietcong leaders? Does it matter to you at all? The other degenerate ^{honcho} (no easy way to say it) Marcus Raskin declared "We're all Marxists here." One well-placed media person of IPS actually expounded about the hoped-for defeat of the U.S. in Nam. As a former Navy man, you might find this a bit off-center, shall we say? No? Understandable if all you wish to do is be accepted as a quasi-intellectual with one special area of expertise (Alexis himself).

How major media used IPS is a tragedy for another day's exposition. What now disturbs those with a background in our single most horrendous wrong-turn (broadcasting as a governmentally-ensured, ad-based monopoly in 1934) is how to even be heard when the surely best of the squalid lot promotes the dislike and mistrust of all big media today. The saved soul David Horowitz ends his Intro to Covert Cadre with the concept that taboos about speaking of IPS and its lickspittles must fall if those dangers are to be avoided.

Frankly, C-SPAN has so "conned" the republic---by beginning a long overdue process of unmediated access/with severe restrictions---that the salivating callers-in are like the proverbial dehydrated visitors to the oasis. Gulping down what is parceled out to them, the grateful ones cannot see a sinister side at work.

3. C-SPAN

In truth, Mr. Lamb, you and your associates are direct descendants of the "destructive generation" Horowitz delineates so brillinatly in his latest effort. You are part and parcel of the scandalous thirty years war on the Second Amendment, which may well turn out to be the most horrendous gambit of all in that the continuum against self-defense by firearm (and its offshoots) culminated in the Oklahoma City horror.

Your "Booknotes" meeting with a University of Kentucky James Madison scholar is in the pantheon of blithering idiocy writ large. Madison was not only a founding father, but was the father of Amendment II as a verity. There was not a single question directed to this fellow about Amendment II; and, finally, he began to register disgust disguised, in my view. You showed your true colors there, pal. Furthermore, not a one of the myriad books on our government gone amok has made its way to either of your reviewing sections. Evidently, the selectors settle for silly stuff (Chris Buckley) and non-entities (Belle Hooks). Anything to be politically correct. And nothing is more "PC" than to exclude by omission and commission those who might help an uninformed electorate sort out the genuine from the overtly mendacious, violence-wise.

Naturally, the cultural crippling of your staffers precludes any true breakthrough for a suffering nation, information-wise.

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In time, a class action litigation will be brought about to secure guaranteed access. In that thrust, you can be said to have shown the discrepancy in what obtains against what is good.

cc: others with bigger
megaphones
*laugh not, for the courts looked
seriously at counter-commercials
during NamTime; and, this will
put you out of business.

Most cordially, from one
Buffoon to Another (takes one
to know one), [REDACTED] -
(also known as "Junior Happiness" and "Bladder Rat" in his
Korean tongue).
Counsel for Chiropractors for
a Sane Telecommunications
Policy/Okarche Junction, IT

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irm G-5 (CELTIC)