

April 1, 1994

Mr. Brian Lamb,
CEO C-SPAN
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Lamb,

First the obligatory, and richly deserved accolade, of "Brian, you and your people do good work". This was never more reinforced than by the experience of my wife and I today as we visited the C-SPAN schoolbus during it's stop at the Ford library on the U of M campus at Ann Arbor.

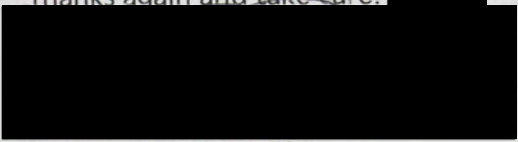
We were fortunate to be treated to two hours of explanation and conversation with Larry Pratt as part of a small group of seven or so. Do not take offense at the time he spent with us as we were the only ones present. I take equal measures of chagrin and pleasure in that: the former in that we were in the middle of one of the better centers of learning at the time, and the latter in that we had it almost all to ourselves. Upon reflection, perhaps that is as good a metaphor for C-SPAN as one could conjure up.

I would be remiss if I did not extend the same thanks to Rich, Don (I believe that was his name), and the driver whose name escapes me. All represented the organization as I'm sure you wish it to be

There was some measure of coincidence present as the driver was punching up the map program and the itinerary showed the next stop to be Milan, OH (Edison's birthplace) while Larry was explaining outbound events for the summer when school was not in session (the visit to Illinois to commemorate the Lincoln/Douglas debates). As it happens we moved to Michigan from Milan and were pleased to give some tips on other local points of interest in what is textbook small town America. And we had moved there from Decatur, IL where we had both been born and raised. Perhaps the triad could be completed as Decatur has a courthouse where Lincoln practiced law while he rode the judicial circuit, and it was right outside of Decatur where his family initially settled when they came to Illinois. If my local history hasn't become faulty with age, it was at a political convention in Decatur that his name was first mentioned for the presidency.

It is within my nature as an Engineer to view things with an eye to improve them. You make that difficult. The only two things I might offer are to endeavor to have a rotating coverage of world news as it is broadcast nightly in other countries (as opposed to just from Moscow each night), and to have a "screen saver" programmed for the bus monitors so as to extend their life. Jewels don't need a lot of care, just protection.

Thanks again and take care.


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