

cc: L. Wright

[REDACTED]
Skokie, Ill. 60076
[REDACTED]

C-SPAN
400 North Capitol St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

April 21, 1992

Gentlemen:

I have never been convinced of the efficacy of "letters to the Editor" type communications. When a letter is written to a newspaper, of course, the true purpose is to have one's prose be exposed to the readership of the newspaper not to affect the views of the editor. Since the differences in the media are obvious, I hope you will consider this note a suggestion of an interested viewer rather than an irate letter from an irascible subscriber.

Your airing of the news from Moscow was cute, initially. It got old in a hurry. If I care for amateur news coverage I can get it on our local college station. Further, I have long prided myself on my own ability to discern bias in newscasters by their inflection, expression and choice of angle in news stories; but when I have to deal with a foreign tongue and a translation by a person whose bias is not identified, I am at a loss to catalogue the information properly.

I am making my point badly. Let me suggest instead. Would C-SPAN be comfortable in the accuracy of the simultaneous translation if it knew it was being done by the CIA or the KGB or by the Israelis or Poles, or Germans, for that matter? Well, do you know who is translating?

Should you think it valuable to expose your audience to foreign viewpoints, wouldn't the BBC Foreign Service be a better choice? Or for a different world view, wouldn't the French newscast offer us in America some fresh grist for our mill that might, indeed, be more provocative.

[REDACTED]