

Jan 1998

Dear Susan Swain
and Crew of a Visit to China

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, O.

It is so exciting to see your video, interviews, and in-studio experts. C-Span is providing many Americans the first objective view, combined with historical perspective, that I've ever seen of China. It's long overdue and I hope that you will consider an annual update!

In ^{so} many ways - we Americans are as provincial in our knowledge about other cultures as the Chinese peasant is about ours.

In 1977, I had the serendipitous experience of being in Beijing on New Year Eve - when Diplomatic Relations were officially established between China and The U.S. I visited elementary and secondary schools - and had many momentous encounters during my visit.

I had the opportunity to return, in 1992 and was amazed by the profound changes. - I am both envious and grateful that you have documented your ¹⁹⁹⁷ visit so effectively.

O. China

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I especially appreciated Rone Tempest's Historical and current perspective. His observations and comparisons together with Ann Thurston, Xiao Qiang, and Hongying Wang's insights and your objective reporting help us to begin to SEE the truth for ourselves. It powerfully augmented my own personal experiences.

Although some of my questions were answered, I hope C-span will continue to pursue and provide information on Asia in greater depth. It is essential for us to become more aware of world events and the consequences of government actions.

As an aspiring videographer - with 6 hours of tape from my 1992 visit, - I was eager to ask Linda Wright what equipment was used ^{in China} and what small camera she used in Chendu?

I am a C-Span Junkie - and send Kudos - for Washington Journals continuing objective balance, Book notes and The de Tocquille programming.

Sincerely

Austin Texas
78731

PS:

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Fri Feb 6, 1998

This morning's amiable dialogue between Brian Lamb and Marge Amy gave impetus to the following request. Is it possible to involve viewers - in the decision making about future programming? - or what's being considered - Could you do a mini-documentary about C-Span itself and how decisions are made (behind-the-scenes) from the conception of an idea to fruition of the project?

Separately - I have a suggestion. There is a monograph in preparation at PFAW on the topic of "Politics and The Media". When it is Available, it would be interesting to have a Spokesperson - from - People for the Am Way - as a guest.