

cc: L. Wmgt

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April 23rd, 1992

Editorial Offices
C-SPAN
400 North Capitol Street
Washington, D.C.

Dear sir or madam:

Recently I wrote you a letter about the super-imposition of the English sub-title "Evening News Moscow" over the Russian sub-titles in the news program "Novosty 1", which caused a problem.

During the last few days I have been enjoying the game which your technicians are playing with the Russian technicians. The score at present on average is:

Russians: 15 points Americans: 1 point

The Russian technicians flash their sub-titles so quickly that Russians I have spoken to cannot read them. I am informed that there is an attempt to extend the time of the Russian sub-titles. This will probably take a few weeks of re-education of the Russian technicians.

Meanwhile the American technicians on C-SPAN are playing a losing game. When they see the Russian sub-titles on the screen, they press a button to clear "Evening News Moscow" so that one may read the Russian sub-titles. Unfortunately by the time they press the button, the Russian sub-title has disappeared as well. What a waste of effort!

May I make a simple suggestion? Only have the English sub-title "Evening News Moscow" on the screen while the anchorman or anchorwoman is speaking. There are no Russian sub-titles once their names have been shown. As soon as the scene shifts to another on-site location, there will most likely be sub-titles (95% of the time). Since the television programs shift back and forth during the half-hour duration between the anchorperson and other sites, there is plenty of opportunity to show the English "Evening News Moscow" sub-title only when the anchorperson is on the screen.

I am on your side, but don't make life harder than the Russians are doing. Your technicians will feel relieved from the strain of pressing the button at the right time, which is already too late.

Good luck!

Sincerely yours, /
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]