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October 3, 1992

C-SPAN
TV Cable News HQ
Washington, DC 200
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Att: Education Editor

Gentlemen,

I am motivated to write you by my concern for the future of twelve grandchildren.

The newspapers, magazines and TV News tell me that: we have political grid-lock, our technological edge is slipping, our national defense system is being reduced and releasing many technical personnel into an economy where the poor are getting poorer, the rich are getting richer and our middle income workers are becoming the working poor. And that education is the key to correcting these problems.

Our education system is antiquated and in gridlock. It can not remain so, when we have the technology to produce a personal tutor for anyone in our nation. The Cold War is over and we need to make education our new national purpose. as a soft political & economic starting point, May I suggest the following:

1. Industry should give each child entering education a "Lap-top" computer.
 - A. The keyboard should be jelly & coffee proof.
 - B. It should have a module for replaceable 'read only memory' disk.
 - C. It should have a voice module for oral instruction of the child.
 - D. The software should make learning a game and be progressively advanced.
 - E. It should permit the child to advance as far and as fast as he likes.
 - F. The child should carry the computer home, as he would a book satchel.
 - G. It should interface with the TV so the family might join the learning game.
 - H. It should be a playmate-tutor to the shut-in child, before mother gets home.
 - I. The child should carry the computer from one grade level to the next.

Estimated Cost: less than \$500.00 ea.

2. Government should give each "Head-start" or Kindergarten teacher a computer.
 - A. The teacher's computer should interface with each child's computer.
 - B. The software should analyze the child's computer activity.
 - C. It should brief the teacher on the child's home learning activities.
 - D. It should prompt the teacher on areas where the child needs attention.

Estimated Cost: less than \$2500.00 ea.

3. Government should add computers for teachers of the next grade each year.

The child that is left alone, due to working or negligent parents, would gain most from having a "Lap-top" computer as personal playmate-tutor. It would accelerate the learning process and it would help level the "playing field", between the "haves and have nots" in education.

For each five year old child in the nation, there are probably one hundred are more adults that now fear and resist computer technology. These include parents, skilled and unskilled labor, small businessmen, teachers and other professionals. It would be difficult for an adult to maintain his fear of computers when he sees and hears a small child using one as a playmate and as an educational tutor.

Within ten years:

The primary education system would break out of its grid-lock of fear of change. Parents & older siblings of these children would have lost their computer fears. Government would have made a relatively small investment in a better education. Industry would have made a wise "tax deductible" investment in it's own future. We would have regained our technological edge on the rest of the world.

Lap-top computers are now available that can be made child proof. Expandable educational software that will interact with a CD ROM disk can be developed. [One of these disk store more information than ten sets of encyclopedias.]

Many of the defense system personnel and others, that are now being released, could be put to work building computers and writing software for the on going demands.

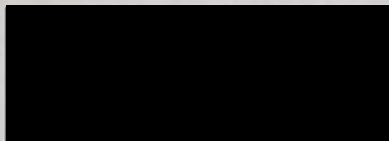
It is my hope that industry and business will adopt schools and that each year they will buy a computer for each of the first-year students and that the computer hardware and software people will supply their products at cost.

Within the second year, the demand would probably be such that the computer hardware and software people would sell twenty units at their normal profit for each unit sold at cost.

Should you choose to help instrument these suggestions, you will help generations of children and you will have the sincere gratitude of one concerned grandfather.

The rest of the world is not likely to wait. So, we had best get on with it.

Sincerely,



ps. copies of this letter are being mailed to key people in: computer software, computer hardware, news media, large industry, education and politics.