

May 20th, 1993

[REDACTED]
Moorestown, NJ

08057
[REDACTED]

Mr. Brian Lamb, President, CEO & Founder
C-SPAN
Suite 650
400 North Capitol Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Lamb:

I am writing to you because I object to C-Span Audio 2, which is a direct, 24-hours-a-day live feed of BBC World Service from London. I object for the following reasons:

1. BBC World Service is totally funded by the British Foreign Office.
2. "The Board of Directors of the BBC are public figures appointed by the Queen on recommendations from the government." (N.Y. Times, 3/21/93)
3. Broadcasting is a state monopoly under the Wireless and Telegraphy Acts, and the BBC's License and Agreement states: "The Minister may direct the Authority in writing to refrain from broadcasting any particular matter or matter of any particular class, and the Authority shall comply with the direction."
4. BBC World Service is currently operating under a form of state censorship called the Broadcast Ban:

On October 19th, 1988, the British Home Secretary, Douglas Hurd, announced to Parliament the Government's decision to curb access to the broadcast media by certain organizations:

"I have today issued to the Chairmen of the BBC and the IBA (Independent Broadcasting Authority) a Notice, under License and Agreement and under the Broadcasting Act respectively, requiring them to refrain from broadcasting direct statements by representatives of organizations proscribed in Northern Ireland and Great Britain and by representatives of Sinn Fein, Republican Sinn Fein, and the Ulster Defense Association. The Notices will also prohibit the broadcasting of statements by any person which support or invite support for these organizations."

This form of legal censorship may be right and proper in Britain, but it is the opposite of what Congress intended

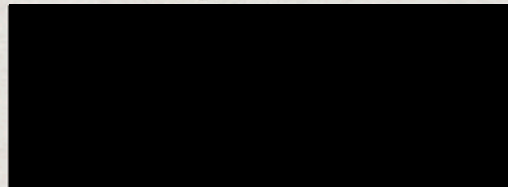
when it wrote the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967, "to facilitate the development of public telecommunications and to afford maximum protection from extraneous interference and control." (47 U.S.C. 396(a)(8))

C-SPAN is violating the spirit of this act by broadcasting state-censored news and failing to provide a "health warning" to listeners indicating that fact. State news should be labelled as such, whether it comes from Iraq or Britain.

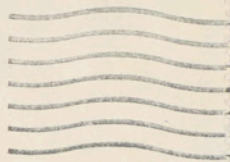
I know of the BBC's sterling reputation, but keep in mind that the so-called "Mother of Parliaments" has no written Constitution, no Bill of Rights, and no Freedom of Information Act. It is a Monarchy with a State Church and one hereditary House of Parliament. All these concepts are unquestionably un-American, and so is Britain's state-financed, state-controlled, and state-censored news.

If you have any doubts about the facts given in this letter, I will provide you with further proof. If you accept these facts, please write to me concerning how you will remedy this deplorable situation.

Respectfully,



Moorestown, N. J. 08057



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