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MAR 08 RECD

Tulsa, OK 74169

Brian Lamb, Susan Swain, Terence Murphy  
(the Head Honchos)--plus, "The Unsung Lady Mr. Lamb Mentioned  
Who is 'Always Looking for Fresh Ideas and Interesting Guests'"  
C-SPAN NETWORK  
Washington, DC

APR 18 ANSD

RE: a Moderate REview of Your Record of 10 Years...

Dear Directors et al:

In this devastating press-trust-crisis we labor under, C-SPAN continues to look mighty good to the long-suffering out here; and, most of them cannot fathom why, i.e., it is relative, of course. Your access and accountability precepts are just not present in any other format anywhere on-air. That is tragic. Someday, we may even hear that discussed in depth (this week I heard yet another apologist-activist for the broadcast monopoly and against fiber optics for diversity). You have slighted the Mother Jones crowd for sure in that they in these Lollipop-Lenin factories of Red-Diaperism at least know the roots of our malaise, viz., the greatest single tragedy ever to befall a slaphappy republic (concentration of media ownership)(and ad-based bottom-lining).

I have no real quarrel at all with hearing L. Farrakhan, and Lenora Falani (Fulani?), Noam Chomsky, Barnet and Raskin of IPS, Colman McCarthy of unilateralist fame at every turn---if---and this is the rub---if we get something near a balanced-out receipt of centrist, rightist and neo-Conservative (add old-line conservatism and Libertarianism, too) spokespersons. My instructions to you are this: you subliminally cannot follow this democratic ideal for a host of reasons that add up to the Lichter-Rothman thesis of personal attributes affecting output. No matter. C-SPAN has at least dug out a soupcon of balance.

You have slighted the nation's oldest and largest sportsman's---read sportspersons'---faction, the National Rifle Association of America. I think it was consciously-done, especially when legislation was and is pending in Congress. Not one time have I heard a pro-Amendment<sup>TWO</sup> reporter on C-SPAN (they do exist!). Uniformly, the urbanites you select are anti-militia and genuinely ignorant of anything firearmswise, which entails history, current events, etc. Also empirical evidence as well. You go to conferences, birthdays, banquets of all hues but never one of NRA right in your own area! That is bias. It is clearly consciously-done, too.

Charlton Heston, Life Member, delivered a monumental address at the 1989 NRA Convention of annual standing in St. Louis. It would

2. C-SPAN & NRA (but touching myriad bases)

(contd) have certainly disabused many of the outright slander done against a group of over 3 million, and one in existence since 1871. Ergo, your birthday-time fun is askew, methinks. Tell me not about anyone "looking for new concepts and fresh viewpoints." Not yet.

It is folly, naturally, to expect C-SPAN to cover the Annual# NRA Meetings in Anaheim, CA June 8-12, 1990, even if notified this far in advance. After all, every right-thinking person knows his or her orientation in the matter of guns not suitable for our life. In its existence, NRA has trained more hunters, police and ordinary shooters; participated in more scientifically-sound wildlife ventures; helped more young shooters---and undoubtedly saved more lives---than all your #silly fad-ridden Alan Alda<sup>guest</sup> types en masse, those who could not tell a BB gun from a howitzer---yet pontificate against ideas beyond their ken.

If this sounds abrasive and not in my best interests, sorry. Decades of being maligned and shut out of the mainstream dialog may well have put too many of us in the position of not caring what the malefactors think, because relief may just be on the horizon (common carrier status for all electronically-delivered information). Then C-SPAN will be just another conduit, alas.

For the life of me I cannot guess why you would toady to myriad IPS\* enclaves and not ever use a scholar named Powell who has done the definitive book on this radical-left outfit (on "Booknotes"). After all, you allowed Michael Fumento and his demolition of the hetero-AIDS myth on. Above all, no NRA staffers in equal numbers to the "Seven Deadly Sinners of the East Coast" (Paul Johnson's apt phrase for those you consistently depend on to the exclusion of everyone else). My only guess is that you do not see IPS for what they are; and, go along with their subterfuges, rather than be ostracized at lunchtime. Or, actually believe IPS is just a liberal force. Jim Lehrer does. But he is so cloistered it hurts.

In truth, by using IPS incessantly, you owe the republic the KKK and Neo-NAZI skinheads, if ideology#-in-balance is sought. No, I guess we'll just adhere to your self-delusions and forget your watchword.

You will have matured beyond belief when you can treat NRA and ACLU and IPS and whatever equally via exposure-times. I would hold my breath.

cc: NRA

\* PS: what will poor, lil' IPS do when Victor Sheymov's exposé is dug into?!

Then, no more hiding, folks.

note: even the virulently anti-gun TIME gives some equality (encl.)

Lifer, NRA

# Here We Stand

As so many of you cancelled your subscriptions to *TIME* magazine after their "7 Deadly Days" issue, I thought you'd enjoy seeing the following as it appeared in their "Who Is The NRA?" issue:

## The Case for Firearms . . .

*The N.R.A.'s executive vice president says guns will keep America free*

By J. WARREN CASSIDY

The American people have a right "to keep and bear arms." This right is protected by the Second Amendment to the Constitution, just as the right to publish editorial comment in this magazine is protected by the First Amendment. Americans remain committed to the constitutional right to free speech even when their most powerful oracles have, at times, abused the First Amendment's inherent powers. Obviously the American people believe no democracy can survive without a free voice.

In the same light, the authors of the Bill of Rights knew that a democratic republic has a right—indeed, a need—to keep and bear arms. Millions of American citizens just as adamantly believe the Second Amendment is crucial to the maintenance of the democratic process. Many express this belief through membership in the National Rifle Association of America.

Our cause is neither trendy nor fashionable, but a basic American belief that spans generations. The N.R.A.'s strength has never originated in Washington but instead has reached outward and upward from Biloxi, Albuquerque, Concord, Tampa, Topeka—from every point on the compass and from communities large and small. Those who fail to grasp this widespread commitment will never understand the depth of political and philosophical dedication symbolized by the letters N.R.A.

Scholars who have devoted careers to the study of the Second Amendment agree in principle that the right to keep and bear arms is fundamental to our concept of democracy. No high-court decision has yet found grounds to challenge this basic freedom. Yet some who oppose this freedom want to waive the constitutionality of the "gun control" question for the sake of their particular—and sometimes peculiar—brand of social reform.

In doing so they seem ready, even eager, to disregard a constitutional right exercised by at least 70 million Americans who own firearms. Contrary to current antigun evangelism, these gun owners are not bad people. They are hardworking, law abiding, tax paying. They are safe, sane and courteous in their use of guns.

**Gun owners are not bad people. They have never been, nor will they ever be, a threat to law-and-order.**

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History repeatedly warns us that human character cannot be scrubbed free of its defects through vain attempts to regulate inanimate objects such as guns. What has worked in the past, and what we see working now, are tough, N.R.A.-supported measures that punish the incorrigible minority who place themselves outside the law.

As a result of such measures, violent crimes with firearms, like assault and robbery, have stabilized or are actually declining. We see proof that levels of firearm ownership cannot be associated with levels of criminal violence, except for their deterrent value. On the other hand, tough laws designed to incarcerate violent offenders offer something gun control cannot: swift, sure justice meted out with no accompanying erosion of individual liberty.

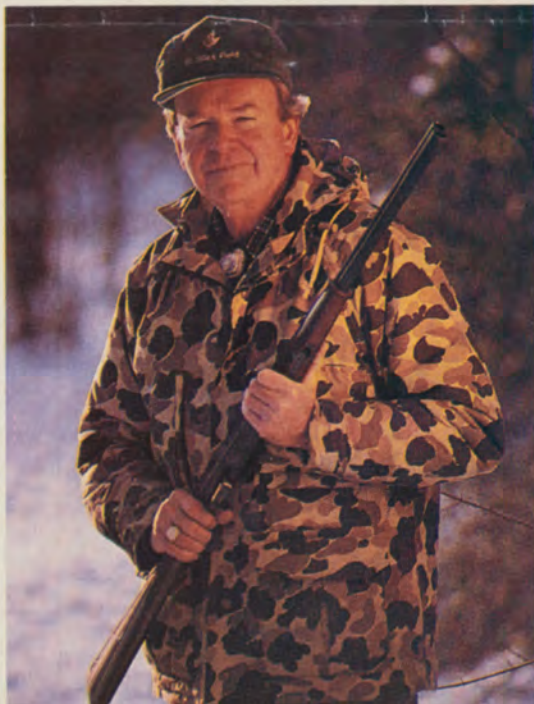
Violent crime continues to rise in cities like New York and Washington even after severe firearm-control statutes were rushed into place. Criminals, understandably, have illegal ways of obtaining guns. Antigun laws—the waiting periods, background checks, handgun bans, et al.—only harass those who obey them. Why should an honest citizen be deprived of a firearm for sport or self-defense when, for a gangster, obtaining a gun is just a matter of showing up on the right street corner with enough money?

Antigun opinion steadfastly ignores these realities known to rank-and-file police officers—men and women who face crime firsthand, not police administrators who face mayors and editors. These law-enforcement professionals tell us that expecting firearm restrictions to act as crime-prevention measures is wishful thinking. They point out that proposed gun laws would not have stopped heinous crimes committed by the likes of John Hinckley Jr., Patrick Purdy, Laurie Dann or mentally disturbed, usually addicted killers. How can such crimes be used as examples of what gun control could prevent?

There are better ways to advance our society than to excuse criminal behavior. The N.R.A. initiated the first hunter-safety program, which has trained millions of young hunters. We are the shooting sports' leading safety organization, with more than 26,000 certified instructors training 750,000 students and trainees last year alone. Through 1989 there were 9,818 N.R.A.-certified law-enforcement instructors teaching marksmanship to thousands of peace officers.

Frankly, we would rather keep investing N.R.A. resources in such worthwhile efforts instead of spending our time and members' money debunking the failed and flawed promises of gun prohibitionists.

If you agree, I invite you to join the N.R.A. ■



DAVID BURNETT—CONTACT

## NEW PRODUCTS REPORT



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## A PLACE TO SHOOT

To include your range here, submit details to: Editor—"A Place To Shoot," NRA Publications, 470 Spring Park Pl., Suite 1000, Herndon, Va. 22070.

### BOGUE CHITTO, MISS.

Southwest Gun Club Inc. has opened a highpower rifle range with 10 target carriers and pits with a concrete wall and floor. It offers firing distances of 100, 200, 300, 400, 500 and 600 yds., and the club plans to expand to 900 yds. The club also has a 100-yd. range in McComb with 18 firing points, 10 covered. The club conducts highpower rifle matches and DCM-sponsored clinics, rimfire pistol competition and smallbore four-position matches. The organization also has an action pistol range on which it conducts tournaments. Associate memberships are available for \$40 per year plus a \$50 initiation fee. Juniors may join for \$10 per year. For more information, contact the club at P.O. Box 1061, McComb, Miss. 39648, or call (601) 249-2065.

### NEW YORK, N.Y.

Downtown Rifle and Pistol Club has a nine-point, 75-ft. range that features electronically controlled automatic targets, and efficient sound proofing and ventilation. The range also has a retail area for accessories, ammo and gunsmithing, and experienced range personnel are available. The club is currently looking for new members. For more information, contact the Downtown Rifle and Pistol Club at 24 Murray St., New York, N.Y. 10007, or call (212) 233-5420.

### PROCTOR, VT.

The Proctor Fish & Game Club is located on State Route 3 between Proctor and Pittsford. The outdoor facilities include 14 points for 25 and 50 yds., and five points for 100 and 200 yds.—all are for pistol, rifle and muzzleloader use. For trapshooters the club has a five-station field. The range is open six days a week, 9 a.m. to dusk. Annual membership fees are \$15. For more information, contact Bernard P. McMahon, Jr., 412-B Plains Rd., Pittsford, Vt. 05763, or call (802) 483-6831 evenings.