

[REDACTED]
Columbia, Maryland 21045

June 1, 1993

Brian Lamb, President/COO
C-Span
400 N. Capital Street NW, Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Lamb:

Today I am sending out approximately 200 letters with this same Press Release you are receiving - to newspapers, radio, TV and cable networks, and wire services in our fifty states.

There are many, many people sitting back discussing just how decadent our nation has become, how hopeless our national deficit seems, how criminal activity is so out of hand that we have no room in the prisons to hold all the offenders, and many other issues that stir fighting responses from both pro and con. Talk is good - but only if it stimulates "positive" action.

Where do we start in our efforts to make things better? My answer is with a national holiday that puts the focus on people, both past and present, and on our mutual equity of citizenship and the respect it should command. It would be helpful for our people to have a retrospective picture to be reminded how our nation was in the beginning, and where it is now in regard to the above social ills as well as patriotism, religion, and moral accountability.

You may ask, "What about the 4th of July, Memorial Day, Labor Day? Won't these holidays suffice for producing a patriotic spirit?" Memorial Day began as a day for the Union to remember their dead from the Civil War; the 4th of July is a celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence which signified our independence from England and protection of our freedoms even under our own government; Labor Day is a holiday to honor labor. We have no holiday to remember our ancestors and their struggles that made this nation great.

This new holiday could be called National Day, American Unity Day, or something else, but "Melting Pot Day" speaks of uniting and blending and making our country strong as steel. That's the way we want it again. A celebration of our people and our mutual possession of citizenship may be exactly what the U.S. needs to unite its people at a time when it seems our land is becoming more and more fractionated. I thank you for any help you can give on this worthy and patriotic project. If we are successful in this effort....and "Melting Pot Day" becomes a reality, this holiday will be a yearly reminder of how valuable our heritage and freedoms are!

My sincere thanks,
[REDACTED]

002594 JUN 7 93

PRESS RELEASE

5/29/93

FROM: [REDACTED]
TO: All who want a strong and peaceful nation

I am looking for people who will help me in my efforts to establish a national holiday the first Monday or Friday in August. You say, "Who needs another holiday. That's frivolous!" No, my friends, this holiday would not be frivolous. In fact, it could be the very best thing that has happened to our country in a long time. This holiday would be a cause to celebrate two things, our personal heritages and our mutual equity in relation to the possession of citizenship.

The United States is a special land where peoples from many nations came to settle and live so they could enjoy the freedoms they were not allowed in their home lands. Someone once called this land a "melting pot," a term which describes the United States beautifully. The blending of all these diverse peoples, who shared a common goal to seek a better life in a better place, and who had the determination to achieve this goal through whatever sweat and suffering it would take, imparted to our land a strength other countries didn't have. These brave people loved this new land they made home and were proud of what they achieved here. A country's greatest resource is its people and their patriotism. And that is definitely something to celebrate! The name, "Melting Pot Day" would seem not to connote a great deal of dignity, but in fact, you can see it does exactly that. That is why I think this new holiday should have that name.

The second purpose "Melting Pot Day" would serve, is for us to remember that we each have a "built-in" equity in regard to our possession of citizenship. Except for the American Indians - whose family didn't come from somewhere else? Let's respect that equity! And not because someone says it is "politically correct" to do so, but because we want and expect the same right. The white, black, brown, red, yellow, or racially-mixed person has a perfect right to walk in dignity, expecting that those around him or her accepts and respects that right.

A well-promoted, national "Melting Pot Day," with the media strongly focusing on the hardships of our ancestors and their hopes and dreams for those of us who were to follow, and on the respect we should show one another because citizenship really is an entitlement to equality in our land,

should go a long way toward achieving a stronger and more peaceful nation.

Help me, my friends, neighbors and fellow-citizens! And those of you in the media whose talents can really help make this a success! This is not an organization. I am not soliciting money. I am just a grandmother who wants to get her country back-on-track so her children and grandchildren (and yours) can enjoy living in a country devoted to our forebears' long-ago, but our still hoped-for, desire of peace and equality for all.

Those interested in making "Melting Pot Day" a reality may send your vote for this new holiday to me at [REDACTED] Columbia, Maryland 21045. When I have sufficient support I will deliver these votes to Washington, D.C. If you have any helpful ideas or if you physically want to help with this project, you may call me at [REDACTED] or fax [REDACTED]

Below is a sample vote which can be filled out and returned to me by your readers.

Yes, I agree that we need a special holiday that focuses on the achievements of our forefathers and their hard-won freedoms, and also on the recognition and acceptance of equality for all citizens in our land. I know it took a lot of determination and perseverance for our ancestors to make the USA a strong nation. We need to be reminded of their common goal to make this land great, lest we forget that "a divided nation will fall." A segmented society, such as we have today, loses sight of a common goal, and consequently, that nation becomes weak and a prey to those who are willing to fight for the imposition of their own philosophies.

Let's make "Melting Pot Day" a special day to cherish our heritage and to value our freedoms, and a reminder to be vigilant in the preservation of these freedoms. I am sending my vote for "Melting Pot Day."

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Send your vote to: [REDACTED] Columbia, Maryland 21045

* * *