

NEWS FROM:

C-SPAN AMERICA'S NETWORK

Suite 155 • 400 N. Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

Release: IMMEDIATE
January 23, 1985

Contact: Susan Swain
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C-SPAN IN 1984: OVER 4,000 HOURS OF FIRST-RUN EVENTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- Nearly one-half of all public affairs events offered to cable viewers on C-SPAN in 1984 were first-run programs -- 4036 hours in all. In addition, Program Director Carrie Collins announced that the annual tally of C-SPAN's programming hours showed as much as one-fourth of 1984 programming -- some 2062 hours -- was carried live.

In 1984, first-run coverage of public affairs events included:

- 853 hours of LIVE U.S. House of Representatives gavel-to-gavel proceedings -- one-tenth of C-SPAN's entire 1984 program schedule.
- 865 hours of LIVE Viewer Call-In Programs provided C-SPAN viewers the chance to express their views on current issues and question prominent policymakers and political journalists.
- 589 hours of House and Senate hearings on a variety of issues, from Capitol Hill.
- 1315 hours of Non-congressional public events including : National Press Club speeches, major press conferences, conventions, and seminars, and special events such as Washington galas.
- 73 hours of Close Up -- programs in which young people and their teachers question government policymakers and analysts on timely issues that face the nation.
- 580 hours of Election-related events -- two caucuses, four primaries, Democratic and Republican party platform hearings, the first-ever uninterrupted coverage of the presidential nominating conventions, and a 14 city tour of the nation.

C-SPAN's 1984 election coverage was some of the most extensive political television programming in history. "For the elections," explained Ms. Collins "C-SPAN dramatically changed its programming priorities away from Washington, focusing on individuals across the country: local officials, the media, and private citizens."

Ms. Collins continued, "Throughout most of the year, C-SPAN made a major commitment to producing programming from out on the road, dramatically expanding its coverage beyond the Capitol Hill hearing room ."

C-SPAN is currently seen in 20 million households via some 2,000 affiliated cable systems.

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