

NEWS FROM:

# C-SPAN AMERICA'S NETWORK

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

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(November 21, 1985)

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## CANADIAN PARLIAMENT DEBUTS ON C-SPAN

### Cable Network Sets Live Telecasts for Week of November 25th

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- While the U.S. Congress departs for a Thanksgiving recess, C-SPAN viewers can indulge their political appetites by watching live telecasts from the Canadian House of Commons.

On November 25, C-SPAN begins five days of live telecasts of the Canadian parliamentary procedure known as the "question period." During this time, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and his cabinet respond to spontaneous questions and comments from the opposition.

C-SPAN's week-long coverage of the Parliament begins at 1:45 pm EST Monday through Thursday and at 10:45 am EST on Friday. Every day but Thursday, the Canadian telecasts will be followed by live viewer call-in programs.

To help initiate U.S. audiences, CBC parliamentary reporter John Warren will extend his daily introductions to the House of Commons to explain the proceedings to first-time viewers.

C-SPAN programming director Carrie Collins says this is just the first step in C-SPAN's plans for cooperative ventures with the Canadian Parliament. "We hope that in the future, we can televise live call-in programs that join members of Congress and the Parliament by satellite," she adds.

The stage for this across-the-border programming venture was set earlier this month when C-SPAN CEO Brian Lamb and Canadian House Speaker John Bosley met in Ottawa to launch the C-SPAN network on the Parliament's internal television system.

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CABLE SATELLITE PUBLIC AFFAIRS NETWORK



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BY HAND

Mr. Michael Michaelson  
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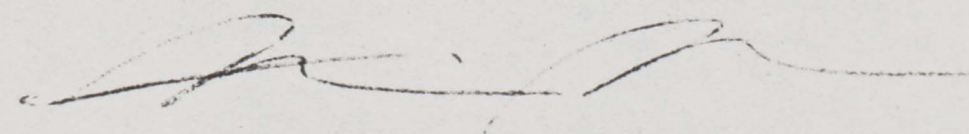
Dear Mike:

Enclosed is a copy of the letter we received today from the FCC authorizing C-SPAN to receive coverage of Canadian Parliamentary proceedings from November 25, 1985, through November 29, 1985.

As I mentioned on the phone tonight, we are in the process of preparing an application for regular authority for C-SPAN to receive and transmit signals between the C-SPAN Bren Mar earth station and Canada via the entire ANIK satellite system. Until we have acquired such regular, broad authority, please notify us of any particular programming you would like to receive or transmit on any particular dates, and we will try to acquire the necessary temporary authority, as in this case, on whatever notice you can give us.

Once again, it was good to meet you by phone, and I hope to do so sometime soon in person.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Sommer

Enclosure



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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GOLDBERG & SPECTOR  
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

IN REPLY REFER TO:

65300

Stephanie Sommer, Esquire  
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1920 N Street, N.W.  
Suite 650  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Re: Your letter of November 21, 1985, requesting  
authority for provision of transborder service  
from Canada.

Dear Ms. Sommer:

We are in receipt of your letter requesting temporary authority for National Cable Satellite Corporation (C-SPAN) to receive program material transmitted from Canada via an ANIK satellite.

Our review of your request indicates that the proposed service is consistent with: 1) the August 24, 1982 exchange of letters between the United States and Canada concerning the provision of transborder service between the two countries via domestic satellites; 2) action by INTELSAT approving transborder video services between the United States and Canada; and 3) the Commission's guidelines concerning transborder service. For these reasons, we find that a grant of temporary authority will serve the public convenience and necessity.

Accordingly, temporary authority (TAO-1248) is hereby granted, for the period November 25, through 29, 1985, for C-SPAN to use its Fairfax County, Virginia earth station to receive program material from the Canadian House of Commons in Ottawa via the ANIK-D satellite.

Sincerely,

*James L. Ball*

James L. Ball  
Chief, International Facilities Division  
Common Carrier Bureau