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[REDACTED]
Monroe, WA 98272
6-7-93

C-SPAN
Washington D.C. Office

Dear C-SPAN:

The cable company (VIACOM) in our area has responded in part to the 1992 Cable Act by cutting C-SPAN broadcast-time locally and substituting entertainment programming. I've written and called my objections to VIACOM as well as expressed my disappointment to local media.*

Are you aware of the same or similar type change with other cable companies and what if anything can be done about such a change?

Sincerely yours,
[REDACTED]

* cc
copy of letter to the Everett Herald newspaper

cc: Peter Kiley

[REDACTED]
Monroe, WA 98272
6-4-93
[REDACTED]

Letters Section
The Herald
Box 930
Everett, WA 98206

Dear Editor:

RE: VIACOM'S POLICY WITH C-SPAN

VIACOM needs to better explain its recently adopted C-SPAN policy than to simply attribute it to its avowed "customer preference surveys." In response to the 1992 Cable Act favored by the public and the U.S. Congress that was intended to control downwards rising cable rates, VIACOM has vastly curtailed its C-SPAN coverage not only in quantity of time but in quality (no prime time viewing).

Contrary to assertions otherwise, I think there are many who appreciate very much C-SPAN's up-to-recently "too-good-to-be-true" existence. Indeed, the latter now seems to be the case considering June 2nd program changes.

C-SPAN's in-depth coverage of government proceedings here and abroad, of terrific panel discussions, of speeches by nationally and internationally known, and direct public contact with expertise all dealing with the big issues of the day is a service to be treasured. C-SPAN is unarguably by far the best thing the public has going for it as a service by TV in an otherwise predominately "vast wasteland" of programming.

It is most frustrating and hard to understand why VIACOM has encroached so drastically on CSPAN's time allotment by substituting yet another relatively mindless entertainment program (as if we didn't already have a superfluous dosage of such with some 30 plus or minus channels featuring entertainment of largely slapstick and/or sexual and/or violence type orientation).

To add "insult to injury," C-SPAN's few remaining hours have been largely relegated to non-prime time hours. How "nice" that we can now view C-SPAN from 1 AM to 6 AM or mainly during daytime working hours only. C-SPAN viewers will need to be either pre-schoolers, the inactive retirees, or the working insomniacs.

What really is VIACOM's agenda behind such a seemingly irrational move? Are they trying to get even or spite somebody--like maybe the US Congress or its people??

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]