

February 21, 1991 10:35 p.m.

Mr. Brian Lamb
C-Span Network
400 N. Capital St. NW; Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

001600 FEB 28 91

RE: Mr. Ed Turner's Appearance This Date

Dear Mr. Lamb:

Having just seen the re-run on C-Span with Mr. Turner; he was just as evasive in questions asked him, as CNN has evaded their responsibility for responsible reporting. Mr. Turner never did address the comment that, even on this program he still referred to the unfortunate civilian deaths as "bombing of the shelter" in Baghdad. Nor did he address the facts when questioned about CNN's vastly increased profit margin. CNN has increased their advertisers fees by four (4) fold. Neither did he offer the fact that CNN had a contract with Saddam to cover the war from Baghdad, and that CNN had secured, quite early on, nearly all the satellite time for their exclusive rights.

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His defense of the propaganda coming out of Iraq, by way of "Benedict" Arnett was that they announce, show a caveat, stating "Censored by Iraqi Officials", and that "he was sure Americans could identify this as propaganda". He also made reference to our 'free press' and 'free speech' constitutional rights, at the same time recognizing many of the countries CNN goes into ~~as~~ not familiar with democratic principles. As my husband and I have contended for some time, CNN is responsible for Jordan's King's outrageous speech of several weeks ago, for the growing unrest in Jordan and other Arab countries, for the incited and increased terrorist activities, and for CNN's seeming ignorance in not realizing, or caring, that by their type of broadcasting of Saddam's propaganda has managed to rally other radical Arab countries, even his former enemies, to his rescue. Ted Turner, Ed Turned, and CNN are no more that opportunist lining their pockets at the possible expense of all Americans.

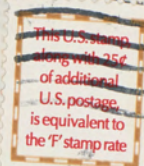
News is the reporting of events or conditions not previously known; however, for it to be responsible reporting, it must also be based on fact. Mr. Turner, when questioned by a caller to his still use of "shelter", although he never addressed this current, and CNN continuing use of shelter, acknowledged their immediate airing of Arnett's transmission of the "deliberate bombing of a civilian shelter"; but, had within 1½ hours carried the military report that it had been, and was being, used as a "command and control center". Unfortunately, for many this "civilian shelter" being refuted by the military never registered, and the damage was already done; especially in those radical Arab countries. Also, his acknowledgment of propaganda coming out of Baghdad, and indirect admission to not verifying events or conditions for fact, does indeed, make CNN guilty of irresponsible reporting - certainly against all codes. Why didn't you have a critic of CNN present during Mr. Turner's appearance to challenge him face to face with some very indicting proof of their irresponsibility. By way of Attorney General Thornburg and the F.C.C., I have personally charged Ted Turner and his CNN with conspiracy and treason.

cc: S. Trahern ✓

Sincerely,

cc: Ed Turner

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