

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Raleigh NC 27612 [REDACTED]

August 31, 1992

General Manager
CSPAN
400 North Capital St., #650
Washington
DC 20001

Dear colleague:

First, let me say how much I admired the superbly engaging in-depth presentation about POLITICS IN NORTHERN IRELAND, recently videotaped in situ by Greg Barber and Linda Wright.

Second, let me indicate that last year I retired after working forty some years in commercial and public broadcasting, mostly in higher echelon management and ending up as the Director of the Office of New Technology Initiatives (ONTI) headquartered at PBS in [REDACTED] (I mention this to qualify the compliment, which was meant professionally as well as personally.)

I cannot remember anything I have ever seen on television which I found more absorbing, informative and moving. It was remarkable in all respects. But particularly in regard to its presentational simplicity and editorial straightforwardness. A finer and higher use of the telemedia could not be found.

It did serve to make me blush to realize how bloated, pompous and aloof PTV, commercial TV, and most CATV information sources have become in their over fascination with highly expensive and slickly appealing programming modes. The ethical use of simple, relatively inexpensive field/editing equipment by sensible, talented video journalists to explore tangled social issues is clearly destined to become one of the more valuable discoveries of our telemedia age. Your team in Belfast and (London)Derry proved that principle once and for all - and in a compelling way which urges creative emulation, especially by local PTV institutions and the complex PBS structure.

Your brilliantly simple but multifaceted program opened up an experience which was, at once, insightful and deceptive, bleak but hopeful, warm and chilling, but, above all, intricately dimensional. I cannot praise it enough. Would I had a prestigious award to bestow on CSPAN and its producers! Thank you all! And heartiest congratulations!

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]