

13 Aug 97

Directors attn: Brian Lamb, CEO
C-SPAN - Suite 650-
400 N. Capitol St., NW
Washington, DC 20001

O-W
R

RE: An Alert
Dear Friends:

Each AM we relearn two lessons: (1) that we are in a broadcasting news-crisis, with some kind of obligation of a right to reply in the wings, hopefully; and, (2) that C-SPAN is serving a much-felt need with its access-enhancing ways.

The coverage of the NRA conventions this year and last is appreciated for a host of reasons. One, we are a group of about 3 million law-abiding citizens who believe that, if the Second Amendment is not worth the paper it is written on, what price the First (or any other) Amendment?; and, two, C-SPAN's handling of the various African-American enclaves like NAACP, Urban League and ### Amer-I-Can shows that fighters for the right to be heard ~~are~~ with an estimable task, no matter the orientation of the faction (if ostensibly decent). Now, a September 26, 27, & 28, 1997 policy conference is to be convened in ~~Den~~ver, CO at the Red Lion Hotel, 3203 Quebec St., Denver, CO. As you may know, it is hosted by the Second Amendment Foundation and its co-existing organization, Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms of 12500 NE Tenth Place, Bellevue, WA 98005 (206)454-4911 FAX (206) 451-3959.

2. C-SPAN

Even though there will be attendees in Denver upcoming who are also associated with NRA and other pro-gun-rights outfits, this gathering will be far more far-reaching in its scope than the NRA meetings. The guest list is comprised of many who are legalists, commentators on the national scene, academics, Congresspersons---and, in general, a far more diverse range of participants than any NRA meeting. G. Gordon Liddy is enough to make one think of the Don Imus appearance. Aaron Zelman is head of a tiny group which you should have sought out long ago, ie, Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership in Milwaukee, WI. Various women in the pro-gun-rights movement will be there. One is Paxton Quigley, who was a Robt. Kennedy supporter before she became a proponent of women's gun-rights in self-defense. Don B. Kates, Jr., may well be the most accomplished of all the guests, given his list of scholarly credits. Don was law clerk to the late Wm. Kunstler, thereby precluding his status as a card-carrying Bircher.

Roy Innis of the old CORE will be there, as you can see from the flyer I enclose. Pat ^{Buchanan} ~~####~~ always livens up the event.

A great little gun magazine#-newspaper will have its reps there. All in all, a genuine contribution to the controversy. Anti-gun folks will also be welcome but undoubtedly not on the podium (for they enjoy an inordinate amount of space and time elsewhere).

cc: SAF/Gun Week

Libertarian

PS: at age 72, I have seen both SAF and C-SPAN do serious service to the republic.

Addendum

SAF is the repository of much literature on the verity and heritage we enjoy. See the enclosure for a sample.

Joseph Tartaro, editor of The New Gun Week in Buffalo, NY may be the most knowledgeable journalist functioning in this milieu---from a pro-gun-rights stance, of course. Gun Week is allied with SAF and CCRTK&BA.

May I say that so-called gun control (those near the matter use the more accurate term domestic disarmament) began with the state endeavoring to "keep the n----r in his place" in the post-Civil War South. The 1968 Gun Control Act was fashioned largely to keep the Stokeley Carmichaels from boarding planes with arms in that busy time. Those who live in high rise security seldom know the terrors of living in dangerous neighborhoods. Who indeed wants a massive, centralized dossier-keeping on the unoffending--^{affecting} either the most vulnerable or the most well-off? Most serious anti-gun-rights individuals acknowledge that there will be no new Volstead Act, this time with small arms not booze as the cause of all human misery. The coming event is a most valuable tool for enlightening the young, too. I expect that de Tocqueville would have something to say on this.*

Thank you for your attention.

*yours is a most marvelous foray into a new genre, that of penetrating, long-term commitment to a most important assessor of our life. Thanks.

note: the young must be made to be tolerant early on.

PS: Fair & AIM SHOULD HAVE WEEKLY SLOTS!