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Entry

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New York, N.Y. 10022

I watch C-Span because it gives me a dimension of the news that is not available in any other resource on a steady basis.

Actually, I'm a news "junkie." I read two and three daily papers a day, including the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal, and catch the key a.m. and p.m. television news shows. Years ago, I was a journalist and can get the most out of a written article, I think.

But there are limitations in the written form. I get bogged down in long speech texts. The give and take of a taped ~~of~~ live legislative or discussion program provides special insights as the inflections, body language and real meanings being expressed in the coverage of an important event emerge.

Frankly, this helps me in my profession. I'm a journalism teacher. It is important to go to the original sources when you have time. I can, with confidence, talk

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about events I have visually seen and heard, sharing the experience with my students.

The other day, I "joined the American University program covering "War, Peace and the News." The byplay between the panelists--journalists and government officials--provided some nice insights.

We rush too fast to homogenized, interpreted news. Going back to basics is terribly important in this chaotic, charged world. C-Span helps a little.