

1994

May 8th, 1994

To Mr. Brian Lamb

"C-SPAN"

Washington, D.C. 20001

Respectfully - Mr. Brian Lamb!

It is on my mind for quite
some time to write - to compliment you
on your good Programs on C-SPAN-Network!
First I want you to know, I am a German
Immigrant of 1958, arrived here in America
on an Invitation from a Lady, whom I met
in 1950 in Wiesbaden, Germany. I was born
in Weimar, Thüringen, the former D.D.R. and
left after [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] to get out of the
Russian Occupation! I had accepted an In-
vitation from Friends, who lived out of
Frankfurt-MAIN.

I lived + worked here in Marion all my years
and with the Lady, who became my Ameri-
can Mom, till the end of her days, 22 years.
I am a Retired Citizen + have nothing to
complain, enjoying good Health!

Since one must always scan for good
TV-Programs, which I find, and so many
times I land with "C-span" + found it

2/
most interesting - and of Value with an honest
Character!

As I hear - when you OR others take the Calls,
your C-span is much complimented!

Yesterday evening for several Hours I was
watching "D-Day Remembered - June 1944"!

Many Memories of Weimar during that time
came alive - I have not even talked of yet!

I rejoiced with the Gentlemen on the Program &
I could feel their Memories of 50 years ago!

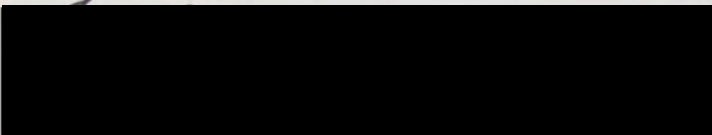
To all this I was surprised to read in
our Marion Star, that on Saturday, April 9th,
your C-SPAN-School Bus was in Marion and
toured the former President Harding's Home!
All is so very interesting, especially for me -
learning of this U.S. Government & all the
People - than I ever knew of my German
Homeland - except the terrible Hitler-years
we had to live with all its aftermath!

Through this Lady I received God's Blessings
and I am forever grateful!

Thought - this might add to your many
compliment you receive!

Keep well - for your good deed for this
Country - the United States of America!

Respectfully -



C-SPAN travels across the nation

By The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Margie Grills charges toward the canary yellow bus with C-SPAN emblazoned across its side. "Is Brian in there?" she squeals before she reaches the first step up.

Brian Lamb — C-SPAN founder and self-styled anti-celebrity — is back in Washington.

Disappointed, Mrs. Grills, 64, scrambles aboard anyway, and oohs and ahhs over the TV cameras and video monitors inside.

The bus crisscrossing the country is the first flashy promotion since cable TV's low-budget public service network debuted March 19, 1979. C-SPAN is the network that dares to be dull, the network that brought you two hours of Congress members arguing about mo-hair subsidies.

Mrs. Grills is the kind of fan they love to meet.

A resident of Bella Vista, Ark., wintering in Florida, she calls herself a "C-SPAN junkie." She isn't interested in ABC or CNN — the way they snip the news into sound bites, then trot out commentators to tell her what it means.

She watches Congress live on C-SPAN for hours at a time.

"I like it," she says, "because it's not all gussied up."

Exactly. C-SPAN has made a science of being less than lively, more solid than slick.

Its unblinking cameras stare straight through congressional hearings, speeches, political rallies and press conferences.

There are no commercials or ratings; no catchy theme songs or celebrity hosts or wizened commentators.

Lamb — who doubles as on-air moderator and chief executive officer — has attracted a few fans like Mrs. Grills despite his efforts to avoid celebrity. But he refuses to promote himself or the other on-air hosts: their place is in the background.

And that has made it tough to promote C-SPAN. Without an image to market, how could the network reach out to potential viewers — especially teachers and students — who could benefit from its programming?

Enter the C-SPAN School Bus.

Other networks plug a Dan Rather or Diane Sawyer; C-SPAN has its bus.

"Because this is a network without personalities," Lamb explains, "the bus is our personality."

The idea came to him in February 1993 while interviewing author and history professor Douglas Brinkley, who traveled the country in a bus with 17 students.

Nine months later, the \$500,000 C-SPAN bus was on the road — part rolling billboard, part classroom, part television studio. It's still out there, in the midst of a 35-state tour from Washington to California to Florida to Massachusetts.

At a time of turmoil in the cable industry, there's a lot riding on those eight big wheels. "It's a good time to be on the road," C-SPAN Vice President Susan Swain acknowledges.

New federal cable regulations cost C-SPAN about 2.5 million households since September. The rules required cable systems to carry more broadcast stations in their lineups, and some dumped C-SPAN to make room.

Ironically, Congress had struck a blow

against its direct pipeline into the nation's living rooms. "I don't think they have any idea how bad it's hurt the underpinnings of this network," Lamb said.

C-SPAN has joined others in challenging the regulations before the Supreme Court.

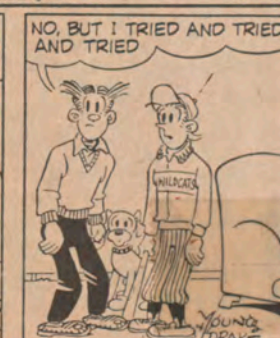
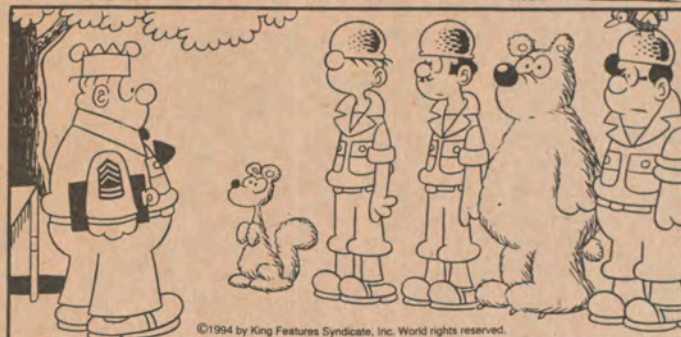
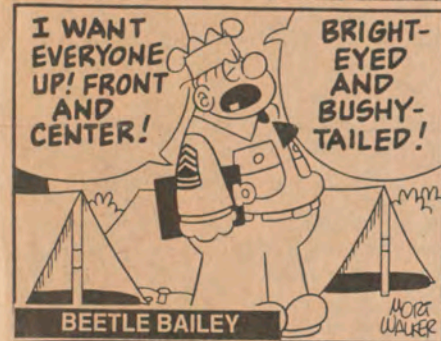
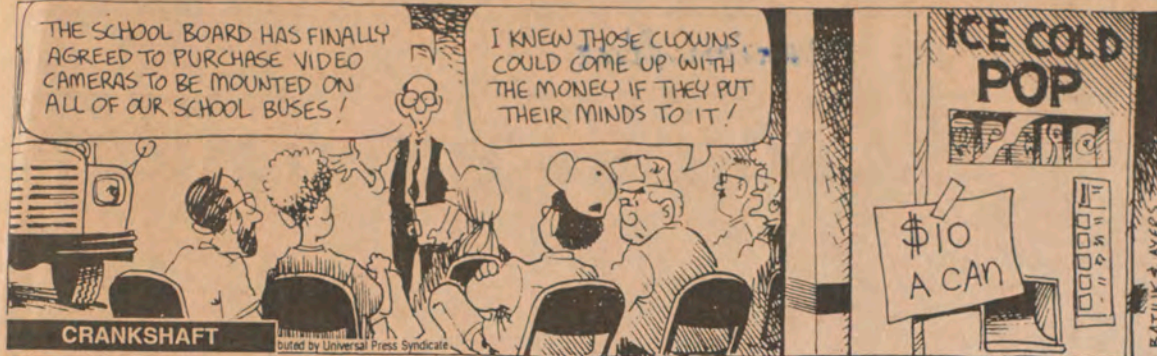
In the fast-changing world of cable TV, Lamb says, "my No. 1 goal is survival."

Just 15 years old, C-SPAN already has the feel of an institution. Its live coverage of the House of Representatives reaches some 50 million cable households — about 98 percent of the homes with cable — plus another 10 million by satellite.

C-SPAN 2, which covers the Senate, reaches more than 30 million homes. And a third network is to begin airing part time in April, carrying more speeches and hearings to a handful of markets.

Lamb says, however, that surveys find four in 10 cable viewers watch C-SPAN.

Marion Catholic High School



= Ann Landers =

Dear Ann Landers: I'm an emergency 911 dispatcher. Please help your readers to help themselves. They need to know the following:

Emergency 911 is a central dispatch system for police, fire, disaster and rescue vehicles. It is to be used to report in-progress crimes, fires, floods, life-threatening situations and major hazards. It is NOT to be used for reporting barking dogs, loud music, parking complaints, fireworks on July 4 or other minor annoyances. And please don't call 911 to ask for directions, phone numbers or the weather report.



LANDERS

Talk to us. If you are having a crisis, we want to get the proper help to you as soon as possible. To do that, we must know the problem. Sending a police car when you need a fire truck or a paramedic does not help you.

Know your address. When someone calls 911, the address of the caller appears automatically on a monitor. However, there is a chance that the

= Astrology =