

8/10/92

Dear Sol,

The ABA disgraced itself by acting as an adjunct to the Commission when it was supposed to be representing Oswald's interest (one now Justice Stevens) and now this disgusting charade.

If you hear of a transcript I'd like it just for archival purposes.

The Jenner of th Chicago firm of Jenner and Block was one of the Commission's counsels.

How can they educate when they know nothing bout it?

I don't suppose that getting rid of DeGersdorf and Wood helped Barr's firm much.

If you can give him a call and ask what part he wrote that would be interesting because he is not listed as on the staff as listed in the Report.

He could have been a clerk who'd been asked to write something by one of the counsels.

Thanks and our best to you all,

INK DISTRIB DEAL

INTERNATIONAL

ear. In addition, it represents or push by New Line to con- marketing and distribution ns north of the border.

structure of the deal allows Line to control the print and tising expense of its Cana- leases, while Alliance will ac- outright the Canadian rights e next seven Fine Line films, ding "The Player," director armusch's "Night on Earth," nster in a Box" and "Light er."

e No. 1 indie distribution any in Canada, Alliance has uted New Line movies on a ire-by-picture or package since its inception in 1988.

Canadian hits for Alliance have included the \$15 million grosser "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," \$7 million from the second installment of the Turtles franchise and \$2.5 million each from "Pump Up the Volume" and "Nightmare on Elm Street VI."

Announced by New Line Distribution president Mitchell Goldman and Alliance Releasing president Victor Loewy, the pact furthers a relationship between principals of the two companies that charts back 20 years. In 1972, Loewy and partner Robert Lantos acquired Canadian distribution rights to director John Waters' "Pink Flamingos" from New Line chairman Bob Shaye.

FILE SUIT VS. BERLUSCONI

sing cap for Fininvest that will up costing it some \$300 mil- in lost revenues. The decision the first serious legislative blow rlusconi's empire.

ne Broadcasting & Publishing ority ruled May 8 that the Fin- st group had a "dominant pon" in the ad market but was damaging to competition. In r to protect that market, how- the BPA ruled that Fininvest not collect revenues beyond e it took in during the 12 ths preceding May 9, 1991.

hile it is highly unlikely that the an government will force Ber- oni to give up one of his three mercial webs, the FIEG com- nt will stir a flurry of anti- usconi sentiment at a time n it will be politically useful to competitors.

he new Telcom minister, Mau- b Pagani, currently is making a minute re-evaluation of candi- s for TV licenses prior to the . 23 deadline—particularly ling whether or not to autho- the three TelePiu pay-TV nels.

erlusconi owns only 10% of e Piu but is widely believed to e managed TelePiu himself as if

it belonged to Fininvest. Several political parties already have gone on record stating that the number of licenses awarded to TelePiu should be reduced, and observers think that FIEG's complaint is another way of creating more political pressure on the ministry to fix one or more of the TelePiu channels.

GRUPO TELEVISIVA TO BUY APG OPS

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Grupo Televisa S.A. de C.V. said it has agreed to pay \$130 million for the U.S. and Latin American businesses of American Publishing Group Inc., a Miami-based publisher of Spanish-language magazines.

Grupo Televisa said the deal would make it the largest Spanish-language magazine publisher.

American Publishing's magazine in the U.S. include Vanidades, TV y Novelas and Teleguia. It also publishes the Mexican editions of Cosmopolitan, Marie Claire and PC Magazine.

Grupo Televisa is the largest media company in Mexico.

Court TV to cover mock Oswald trial at Bar meet

BY JENNIFER PENDLETON

Oliver Stone won't direct. Nor will Gary Oldman appear as Lee Harvey Oswald.

But the American Bar Assn. will attempt to create what it is calling "the trial of the century" — the trial of Lee Harvey Oswald — in a two-day show-stopper at its six-day annual convention in San Francisco starting Aug. 10.

Court TV will offer gavel-to-gavel coverage of "The United States vs. Lee Harvey Oswald," an exercise designed to provide insight into the trial process.

The primary purpose is educational, said Peter B. Freeman, partner in Jenner & Block of Chicago, who will act as moderator. It will involve analysis of the crime never before assembled, plus state-of-the-art techniques in computer animation and evidence technology.

But Freeman concedes the subject was selected for its entertainment value, given the seemingly endless fascination with the events associated with the assassination

of President John F. Kennedy.

Backers insist the Oswald trial will stick to the facts. The proceedings will not wander into the conspiracy angles that have dominated recent productions examining the tragic events of 1963, they say.

The ABA is still discussing who, if anyone, will portray the accused presidential assassin. But the lawyers and the jurors in the proceedings will be the real thing.

Tom Barr, a partner at Cravath, Swaine & Moore, who wrote a minor portion of the Warren Commission report 28 years ago while a young associate, has been tapped as Oswald's defender. The prosecutor will be James J. Brosnahan of Morrison & Foerster, SanFran.

Eighteen jurors — selected to represent what an actual SanFran jury would be like — will decide Oswald's guilt or innocence.

The ABA isn't the first organization to tackle the subject matter.

Earlier in the year, the Arts & Entertainment network staged a mock Oswald trial in which real lawyers Vincent Bugliosi and Jerry Spence appeared.

CNN prez Johnson reprimands Dobbs for outside work on vids

BY RICHARD HUFF

NEW YORK—CNN president Tom Johnson has strongly reprimanded company senior VP and on-air anchor Lou Dobbs for being paid to appear in promotional videos for financial institutions.

In an internal memo that was put out for all to read and then quickly removed from the computer system, Johnson told staffers that he had "strongly reprimanded" Dobbs for doing work on behalf of Wall Street firms and for getting paid to do so without prior approval.

Johnson continued by saying that Dobbs' record with CNN, his editorial integrity and his "resolve" to avoid any future violations of company policy had weighed heavily in the decision.

Dobbs' extracurricular work

aging editor of financial news and anchor of CNN's long-running nightly business show "Moneyline."

Dobbs has been with CNN since it launched 11 years ago and has become a highly visible journalist in the financial community.

Neither Dobbs nor Johnson could be reached yesterday. A CNN spokeswoman said the network would not comment. Dobbs was in Atlanta when the controversy erupted.

As part of Johnson's agreement with Dobbs, the anchor will return all fees, estimated to run in the tens of thousands of dollars, and the videos will be pulled from the marketplace.

Moreover, Johnson said, in the future staffers must get permission from either a network executive VP or Johnson himself before accepting any fees for outside speeches, side consulting work.

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