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then his lawyers told him they had enough trouble with the FCC already . . .

And remarking on the long process involved getting FCC approval for his plan to eventually exchange WJLA for KOCO-TV in Oklahoma City, Allbritton said he was reminded of the prisoner who was about to be hung back in Huntsville in his native Texas.

When the warden came into his cell to ask if he had a last request . . . the prisoner said he'd like a "great big watermelon . . ."

"But you know," the warden told him, "there aren't any watermelons in Huntsville in December" . . . to which the prisoner replied: "I can wait . . ."

One of the clowns present for the

occasion out at WJLA gave a toy mouse to Robert Allbritton, the young son of the station owner . . . to go with that big smooth Denbo cheese everybody pitched in to eat, marking the end of WMAL after 29 years . . . also present for the gala was Allbritton's wife Barbara . . .

NBC News, like ABC, is talking to the CIA these days about doing a feature on the agency . . . but has run into tough restrictions against filming at Langley . . . according to one NBC executive . . . "Someone told us that as many as 30 per cent of the people out there are undercover and that presents a lot of problems . . ."

Which makes CBS News' accomplishments during its recent filming at the agency the more remarkable . . . one source tells us they had five full days inside "walking the halls" and got access to "six different areas of operation . . ."

Incidentally, the CBS crew under producer David Buksbaum and correspondent Dan Rather got enough on film for a full one-hour special . . . but the network has decided that the look at the super-secret agency "will have more impact" if shorter segments appear on either "Who's Who" or "60 Minutes" . . . There's even talk of putting some CIA footage on both programs . . .

Rather and Buksbaum are now editing the final film in New York and the segment (or segments) is definitely due to air this month . . .

By the way, Nielsen overnights had some so-so news for "Whos Who . . ." which moved to 10 p.m. Sunday this week for a month's tryout to see if it could be saved . . . the CBS magazine show edged out ABC's "Tony Awards" in Los Angeles, but both trailed NBC's "Nowhere to Hide," starring Lee Van Cleef and Tony Musante, by a wide margin . . . in New York and Chicago "Who's Who" finished third . . . with Van Cleef and Musante runaway winners in both cities over the "Tonys . . ."

It's nailbiting time at the local sta-