

Brezhnev's TV Speech Stirred Strong Reaction From Viewers

By United Press International

A large number of people wanted him off the air because he was a Communist. One man thought it a sign of peace and said he was a lot better than "Stalin or the man who waved his boots."

The unprecedented televised speech of Leonid I. Brezhnev Sunday drew a variety of strong reactions from viewers. A spot-check of television stations across the country showed that people either responded to the Soviet Communist party leader with enthusiasm or disliked him violently.

In Seattle, television stations reported 16 calls from irate citizens who wanted Mr. Brezhnev's 47-minute speech taken off the air because he was a Communist. Viewers in Salt Lake City complained that it was "too long" or that they were "tired of being sold out to Russia, even on television."

Others were concerned about missing their favorite shows when the face of the Soviet

leader suddenly flashed onto the screen instead of "I Dream of Jeannie." One man in Sacramento, Calif., called up to complain "Where's the Lawrence Welk Show? You couldn't trust that guy Brezhnev as far as you could throw him."

The reception in Portland, Ore., was warmer. "He's a wonderful politician and I thought the way he delivered was the smoothest thing I've ever seen," said R. E. Garland. "After Stalin and the guy who waved his boots it sounds like he wants to do business."

"It seems a sign of peace when the greatest leaders get together," said a Chicago man. "It seemed to me it was a pretty good thing."

Another caller in Sacramento likened the Soviet leader to President John F. Kennedy. "He was the most beautiful, sincerest person I have ever seen," she said.

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