

FILM EXPEDITION: MOSCOW- COSMOS-CALIFORNIA

PROPOSAL FOR A CHILDREN'S

SATELLITE-BASED FESTIVAL

At the just-completed telecommunications session linking Moscow and California via satellite there were 10 year-old participants who had been members of the cast of a children's musical comedy. We were amazed to see how enthusiastically and effortlessly they communicated with their age-mates 10,000 miles away. The 13th Moscow International Film Festival provides an occasion with endless possibilities for doing a similar communicative event that would be an unforgettable experience for the participants and millions of television viewers.

Two telecommunications bridges have been created at the initiative and with the financial support of the Unison Corporation. The International Film Festival gives us the real possibility of taking a response initiative (all the more so because the American press gave favorable coverage to the event, pointing out that while several thousand Americans participated in the event, our auditorium was restricted to the few hundred we could fit into the TV studio).

On the American side, well known actors and directors have expressed a desire to participate, as well as scholars at U.C. San Diego's Department of Communication, which has a studio which can create telecommunication links.

A creative group formed by the All Union Commission on Children's Film of the Union of cinematography, could work out a similar scenario and include it in the program of the children's film festival. If this can be arranged, then such telecommunications links can become a permanent feature of the International Festival.

Joseph Goldin, June 18, 1983



# Bonneville Satellite Corporation

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## BONNEVILLE NETWORKS FIRST EDUCATIONAL VIDEOCONFERENCE BETWEEN USA AND USSR

Wednesday, July 20th, Bonneville Satellite Corporation networked the first ever, direct two-way interactive educational videoconference between the United States and the Soviet Union.

The one-hour program, which utilized five separate domestic and international satellites to complete the two-way interconnect, originated from the production studios of Gostel Radio in Moscow and the campus of the University of California at San Diego.

"We are viewing this as an experiment to determine if a public university can develop this new form of communication," explained Helene Keyssar, chairperson of UCSD's department of communications. "It would be nice to be able to discuss the universal principles of understanding that enable films to communicate across national boundaries and to demonstrate that serious discussions are possible if we keep to topics that involve science, popular culture and basic human values."

The program was educational in scope with films for children being the focus of the event. Among the Americans participating in the discussion with the Soviets were actress Shelley Duvall and producer-director Robert Radnitz ("Sounder"). The Soviet group moderator was journalist Vladimir Pozner.

(...more)

John Hathaway, director of operations, San Diego, California for Bonneville Satellite Corporation, noted that Bonneville utilized two domestic satellites, Westar V, transponder 8-D and Westar IV, transponder 3-D and three international satellites to complete the two-way transmission.

The feed from California to the Soviet Union was downlinked at Dubna, near Moscow, while the return feed, which required an additional "bounce" in West Germany because of previously booked Intelsat traffic from Europe, originated from Lvov in the Soviet Union.

BSC's Hathaway said, "Any transmission to or from the Soviet Union is always complex. In this case, because it was a live, two-way interactive program, and arrangements didn't come together until just prior to the event, the assignment was especially challenging."

Bruce R. Hough, General Manager of Bonneville Satellite in Salt Lake City, noted, "We've been involved in a number of "first-time-ever" international satellite events, however, with a young American girl having just completed a tour of the USSR at the invitation of Soviet President, Yuri Andropov, this videoconference between the children of our two nations seemed particularly appropriate."

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