

243 20064



**NPI**

# **NEWS.PERSPECTIVE INTERNATIONAL**

Suite 606 Davis Building / 1629 K Street, N.W. / Washington, D.C. 20006 / Area Code 202/296-4726

William J. Gill  
President

August 20, 1971

Mr. Lewis F. Powell, Esq.  
Hunton, Williams, Gay, Powell  
& Gibson  
The 700 Building  
Richmond, Virginia



Dear Mr Powell:

Dave Bell has told me of his telephone conversation with you and he asked me to send you some additional information about NPI.

Attached is an outline of our plan to crack the TV network and wire service monopoly on the dissemination of national and international news. We have been delayed by the difficulties involved in the initial financing of this project during a period of economic uncertainty. However, we have now raised one half of the first \$300,000 needed to produce the pilot programs and complete the most important phase of the remaining development, i. e. the merchandising of the programs to corporate sponsors.

This is an admittedly ambitious project. But nothing less than this can succeed in breaking through the iron curtain the TV networks and other media have imposed upon important stories such as the Supplemental Statement your Blue Ribbon Defense Panel submitted to the President and the Secretary of Defense.

This, incidentally, is a story I have been interested in very deeply for a number of years. Several years ago I initiated the study, "The Changing Strategic Military Balance -- U. S. A. vs USSR" which was issued jointly by the House Armed Services Committee and the American Security Council. At least with that study we did manage for a time to break into the national media, and even the New York Times carried the story on the front page. We achieved several of our immediate goals as a result, but did not solve the overall problem (as your study tragically attests) because the media failed to follow through on a sustained basis.

It was at this point that I came to the conclusion that unless we have a truly national vehicle for dissemination of the news on a day-in-day out basis, we could never hope to correct some of the grave problems afflicting our country. Hence, NPI.

Dave wanted me to ask you if you had read my latest book, THE ORDEAL OF OTTO OTEPKA. Attached are a few reviews of this book, which I think will better explain why your Defense Panel report has been largely suppressed.

I also want to congratulate you on the courageous and magnificent job you did on the Defense Panel study. We have sent you copies of the August 4th Congressional Record under separate cover, and if you will read the pertinent pages we excerpted you will find many references to your study. In fact, I believe it was your study that prompted the Congressmen to mount the colloquy in the House.

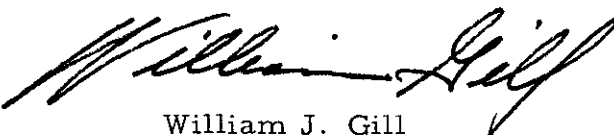
There is no point in kidding ourselves: As your report so dramatically emphasizes, the hour is very late. However, if we can get NPI into orbit and begin informing the American people of the hard realities of national and international life, we may yet have a chance to turn the tide.

I have been in touch with George Champion and Hobart Lewis, two other members of your Blue Ribbon Defense Panel. George has given us some valuable help in steering us to people who can help get NPI off the ground. Hobe Lewis seemed to feel that our plans to crack into television were outside his province as publisher of a magazine.

Confidentially, I tried very hard to get The Reader's Digest to let me do a story on the shifting strategic balance back in 1964. I was given another assignment at the time and told that the one I was most interested in was being done by another man. It finally came out in February 1968 -- nearly four years later. And it was based almost entirely on my Strategic Balance study and a subsequent study by the Georgetown Center of Strategic Studies, which had refused to do my study earlier but was forced to publish one of their own after we issued ours through Mendel Rivers' committee.

There is much more to talk about and I hope we can get together in the near future to discuss your ideas for helping us get launched.

Yours sincerely,



William J. Gill