

At Home with the Movies

As I See It

CBS Show Still Boiling

By Pat Costa



It is difficult to recall to mind any documentary in recent years that has created a storm equal to that stirred by the CBS production "Selling of the Pentagon."

Originally broadcast Feb. 23 and then rebroadcast March 23 after critics, including Vice President Spiro Agnew, began taking issue with the documentary, "Selling of the Pentagon" is now the subject of a congressional inquiry.

In the program, CBS said that the Pentagon was using its public-relations funds not only to inform but to persuade the public on vital national policies. The network said that the military establishment was spending at least \$30 million and possibly as much as \$190 million on public relations.

Following the rebroadcast, CBS allowed such critics as Agnew, Rep. F. Edward Hebert, D-La., chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, and Defense Secretary Melvin Laird to offer rebuttals.

But no sooner had the rebuttals been aired than Agnew was charging that his remarks had been edited.

Then a few days later the Washington Post editorialized that "it is on the subject of editing that we believe CBS may be most vulnerable."

CBS president Frank Stanton has simply replied that the network "stands behind" the program.

Meanwhile, the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee subpoenaed the network to turn over "all film

workprints, outtakes, sound tape recordings, written scripts and or transcripts," including those which were not televised.

Stanton says the network will provide only that material which was broadcast.

The outcome? It's anybody's guess. But obviously the administration is feeling threatened to go to these lengths.

By the time this is in print, the Oscar awards will have been made. With the Grammys and Tonys already under our belt, we can now settle down to anticipate the Emmys. Are we really such award-hungry audiences? Heaven forbid that we may be. Next thing could happen is that some enterprising young producer will take to showing the awarding of those little statues local bowling leagues hand out to lady members in every hamlet across the nation come May.

Then we might get some acceptance speeches worth hearing.

Antiques Sale Set For Scholarships

An antique show and sale to raise money for Catholic high school scholarships will be held this weekend at Mother of Sorrows parish hall, Mt. Read at Latta Road. The show will be open from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. Saturday, April 24, and from 10 until 6 on Sunday.



Madama Butterfly Cast

Cast members for the April 23rd performance of "Madama Butterfly" practice the intricate tea ceremony for the Opera Theatre of Rochester production. Players, (l. to r.), Daina Kojelis and Jim Perry, chorus members; Sherry Zannoth, who plays the title role; Steve Skura (Holy Redeemer), who sings the featured role of Yakuside; and (kneeling) Elizabeth Agnese (St. Ann's Parish, Mt. Hope Ave.), a chorus member. Also working in the production is Mrs. Samuel Ricotta (St. Thomas the Apostle) as Italian language coach.

TERMS OF TRIAL (1963)

Thursday, April 22 (CBS)

Laurence Olivier portrays a meek, patient high school teacher, who must put up with the slings and arrows fired by a carping wife (Simone Signoret), a student who has a crush on him (Sarah Miles, who became Ryan's Daughter), a young punk (Terence Stamp), and barren British surroundings.

The critics were generally cool toward it, despite the stellar cast and the direction of Peter Glenville, who also directed Becket. But an International Catholic Film Office jury singled this out as a fine film, filled with strong human values.

The national Catholic film office rated it A-3, unobjectionable for adults.

SONS AND LOVERS (1960)

Friday, April 23 (CBS)

A well-acted drama, based on D.H. Lawrence's story about a strong mother-son attachment (Wendy Hiller and Dean Stockwell). Trevor Howard gives a superb performance as a coal miner who sees his relationship with his wife threatened by their son.

At the time of its release, the film was rated B, objectionable in part for all, by the Catholic film office, because "the confused moral values which pervade the development of the

This is a summary and evaluation of prime-time films offered by the network to its affiliate stations. Check your local listings to ascertain if your channel is scheduling the network offering.

theme of this film tend to rationalize and condone illicit behavior. Furthermore, several sequences together with dialogue are highly suggestive."

ROOM! (1968)

Saturday, April 24 (NBC)

Generally regarded by critics as one of the worst films of the 1960s, this is an adaptation of a Tennessee Williams play (The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Any More) in which Elizabeth Taylor plays a dying millionaire's wife who bores everyone with incessant patter during her last 36 hours at her villa on a Mediterranean island.

Richard Burton mysteriously shows up, representing the Angel of Death in the form of an unsuccessful poet. NCOMP rated it B, objectionable in part for all, because of its "despairing view of life" and "debasing employment of Christian symbolism."

SHADOW ON THE LAND

Sunday, April 25 (ABC)

This is a made-for-TV movie.

There are no NCOMP ratings for such films.

A MAN CALLED GANNON

(1968)

Tuesday, April 27 (NBC)

Another Western "range war" melodrama, this one stars Anthony Franciosa and Michael Sarrazin as two cowboys who find their friendship torn apart when they take opposite sides in a dispute between the cattlemen and the sheepherders.

It's merely another variation of the "war is Hell" theme, and "Why can't all men be brothers?" Mild reception from the critics.

NCOMP rated it A-3, unobjectionable for adults. (Catholic Press Features)

Bloodmobile Volunteers Sought

The Red Cross is recruiting volunteers to train for the non-medical work involved in its blood program.

"Men and women of all ages, housewives, retired people and people with jobs can find hours to suit them" in the bloodmobile program, according to Miss Grace Towsley, training chairman. Interviews will be held at Red Cross headquarters, 50 Prince, through Friday, April 23, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Interview appointments may be made through 275-9800.

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