



BAY AREA EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION ASSOCIATION, 525 FOURTH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 7, SUTTER 1-8861

August 18, 1966

Mrs. Gregor Piatagorsky
Piatagorsky Foundation
400 South Bundy Drive
Los Angeles, California 90049

Dear Mrs. Piatagorsky:

Now that the rush and bother of the tournament has passed and I have returned to the calm of the San Francisco Bay Area, I wanted to write you a brief letter to say how disappointed I am that we were unable to either film or videotape interviews with the chess masters who participated in your Piatagorsky Cup Tournament.

The Tournament Director, Mr. Kashdan, was most cooperative; and I appreciate his many efforts on our behalf. I regret that KQED, as an educational station with quite a limited budget, could not justify flying a film crew down to record the interviews he was able to set up with Mr. Larsen, Mr. Donner, and Mr. Unzicker. The last minute change of heart by Mrs. Petrosian was lamentable. I recognize the pressure of the adjourned games as the reason for the cancellation by Mr. Petrosian and Mr. Spaasky; and while their decision was a disappointment to all of us at KQED, it is understandable.

What is less understandable was the unreliability of David Parry and the failure of the administration of the Piatagorsky Foundation to realize the value of these interviews to chess enthusiasts around the country.

I was shocked to learn, upon meeting Mr. Kashdan for the first time, August 3, that Mr. Parry, your public relations representative, had failed to make or confirm arrangements for the interviews. When we talked long distance during the week of July 25, he assured me that all relevant persons had been contacted and that the six players I named had agreed to being interviewed at KCET's studio on Friday, August 5. He did caution me that adjourned games might interfere, but assured me that otherwise all would be all right. On Monday, I talked again with his secretary (He was in New York.), because I feared arrangements were not as definite as I had thought. She, too, said that everything was set with the players and Mr. Kashdan and told me not to worry.

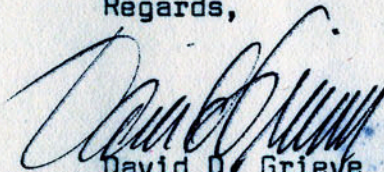
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The failure of the project caused KQED and KCET a great deal of trouble and expense which, as public-supported institutions, we can ill afford. Mr. Parry's neglect to obtain the consent of the players and his leading us to believe it had been granted caused no end of needless problems.

Even more disturbing than Mr. Parry's failure to fulfill the commitment was your own apparent disinterest. Since you are an important figure in the Piatagorsky Foundation, I would have expected every effort to enable educational television stations all over the country to present these world famous chess players to an audience of millions.

This would have been a unique opportunity both to serve chess enthusiasts in this country and to publicize the Piatagorsky Foundation. Our previous chess series has met with enormous and widespread approval, and we had hoped to further serve this devoted and loyal audience of chess players.

Regards,



David D. Grieve
Producer-Director,
KOLTANOWSKI ON CHESS

DDG:jb

cc: Gerald Marans-KQED
Sheridan Reid-KCET
George Koltanowski
Isaac Kashdan
David Parry