

United States Navy Public Affairs Alumni Association Hamilton, VA 20159

March 14, 2001

Mr. Brian Lamb President, C-SPAN 400 N. Capitol St., Suite 650 Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Brian:

"Best and most influential." Those are pretty strong words, particularly considering the number of contenders. There probably are more journalists in Washington than there are cops, and to be named among the top 50 by *anybody*, let alone a magazine that lays as strong a claim to inside omniscience as does the Washingtonian, is a real distinction. To be named number six, ahead of so many whose names are household words, is a coup.

Of course, you did do what couldn't be done, and you did it with style and energy and a sense of fairness that's not commonplace around here. You are by far the best interviewer I've ever seen, on or off the air. And you have made government a more familiar and more understandable beast to millions of people across the continent. That's quite an accomplishment. You deserve the recognition.

That's why the USNPAAA honored you first, and it's on its behalf, as well as speaking for myself, that I congratulate you on this latest honor.

Warm regards.

