

[REDACTED]
Birmingham, Alabama 35226
April 29, 1994

Mr. Brian Lamb
C-SPAN
400 N Capital Street, Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Brian,

I wrote the enclosed essay for my file as I often do on subjects of interest to me.

I watched the funeral arrangements for President Nixon on C-SPAN. As you always do you covered it well and objectively. However there have been some complaints about some on the program who perhaps took the wrong time to be critical in the way they did. I find no fault with your coverage but your guest or those calling in could have waited for a more appropriate time.

It is not only interesting but surprizing how many faxes you receive no less phone calls. You are I am sure proud of your station and staff. You have a right to be.

Perhaps in another program you can try to learn more about why President Nixon did what he did in the Watergate matter

Thanks,

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ESSAY

POWER

It was good and proper that Richard M. Nixon our 37th President received a proper and respectful funeral. He was recognized for the many good things he did in his lifetime and as president by most everyone who knew him well and worked with or for him in the government.

There was criticism by some and though what was said in many instances was true when and how it was said was disrespectful. We can wait for history to tell us the truth.

What has always puzzled me was why did President Nixon as intelligent as he was do what he did in Watergate?

I feel certain that the attempted burglary of the Democratic Headquarters at Watergate was arranged and executed by those in charge of his presidential campaign. It was a foolish and useless thing to do and certainly had no or would it have any effect on the outcome of the election.

If President Nixon on learning of the foolishness by his campaign people had just admitted what was done and let the courts handle those responsible he would never have had to resign from the Presidency. A most obvious and serious error. It was a grievous thing to do in that he actually broke the law in the cover up attempt and broke his oath to uphold the Constitution. Serious and almost unforgivable and certainly unforgettable.

Why? It is said that he may have wanted to protect those involved. This is difficult to understand. He certainly knew what would happen if the attempt to cover up was found out. We will never know for only President Nixon knows why. He has written many books but the reason why he did what he did has not been covered. He never has publicly apologized it appears to anyone.

I have a theory and that is all anyone can now have. President Nixon wanted and cherished power. I believe that he felt that the power of the Presidency was so great that he could successfully cover up what his people had done. He did not want any blemish on his Presidency. His dependence on tapes of everything that occurred during his Presidency supports this. The tapes were to record a great the great

history of his Presidency. They in fact provided for his having to resign. Yes a tragedy but one that the President brought upon himself. To be so intelligent and make such a foolish error is what many of us who admired him believed was the result of his dual personality. We did not know him fully nor do we now. No one and this includes the media. He resented how the media treated him and his Administration and often for good reason. He was badgered when such was not deserved. He was criticized and often this was justified.

A complex man. Those who will be living 50 years from now may understand him better than we do. I do believe that history will give him more credit for what he did well than for the errors he made. GOD bless former President Nixon and may he rest in Peace. To be so well thought of by Reverend Billy Graham is in itself a momentous accomplishment.

Some may find and did find reason to criticize President Nixon. None did do so to his family. This was also a great accomplishment for him.

The passing of former President Nixon leaves the country and the world in most instances sadder and feeling a loss. That is as it should be. He did much not only for his beloved country but for people all over the world. Because of President Nixon the world is a better place. There are few of us or those in the media who can claim as much.

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