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November 26, 1999

C-Span
400 North Capitol St. N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Sirs:

I am a Lincoln afficianado that became fascinated of Mr. Lincoln when I was but a child in the late 1930's. On an outing with my father, I was taken to Lincoln park in Chicago, Illinois where my first encounter with Mr. Lincoln happened. I was standing at the foot of the St. Gaudens statue in the park and realized that this must have been a very important figure. Due to my many questions about the man who inspired the statue, my father proceeded to give me a brief history about President Lincoln. Since that day, I became a dedicated student along the Lincoln trail. I read all that I could on Mr. Lincoln, before, during and after his presidency and found that he not only was perhaps the greatest of our presidents, but that he was also an oratorical genius. It seems that President Lincoln could state in a few brief sentences, his passion, his purpose and feelings so eloquently, that even our most well educated Presidents require several speech writers, hours, pages and days to develop a well rehersed delivery.

This man, I found, was exceptional in all phases of life. I was astounded to learn (via your program/Dr. David Long) that he had but approximately the sum of one year of formal schooling in comparison to the Yale/Harvard/Oxford and Princeton graduates we have been endowed with over the years.

Also, I have long admired Mr. Lincoln's Cooper Union speech, given in New York while he was a candidate, among many, for the office of the Presidency of the U.S. Dr. Long brought out in his participation of

Dr. Anna P. [unclear]

the debate, that he too felt that this was probably as great a speech as the Gettysburg Address, often overlooked, but revealed so much of the man.

President Lincoln is the epitome of what this country stands for - that anyone, regardless of his background, can achieve greatness.

No President has stood the ravages/revisionists of time and the adversity he faced on his own soil, militarily, politically, socially, morally and emotionally than had this man and still stand a towering figure in our history forever-I remain in awe.

I wish to thank C-Span for capturing a void that has existed in our U.S. history. You have pioneered a road to presenting a living history to this country. It is a educational tool and stimulus for our youth and a refuge for those of us who seek factual history and daily tangible proceedings affecting our lives. i.e., Congressional sessions, the Lincoln-Douglas debates, the Tocqueville series; ad infinitum.

Please keep up the outstanding work.

Appreciatively,

