

# Judging Lincoln

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❧ Frank J. Williams ❧

With a Foreword by Harold Holzer

and an Epilogue by John Y. Simon

*Mr Brian Lamb*

*with respect*

*and appreciation  
for all you do  
for our culture.*

*Frank Williams*

*September 23, 2002*

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BOOKNOTES  
BRIAN P. LAMB  
C-SPAN AIR DATE

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feminine  
combative  
compassionate  
nurturing practices  
resistance to quenching  
freedom from malice

692. Frank Williams  
Judging Lincoln  
Taped: 9/23/02  
Aired: 11/10/02  
Tape #: 172900

My fellow Vietnam veterans John Stetter

America's secrets - what don't you know about A.L.?

Eulogy to Zachary Taylor 1850

we wear people down in office  
turn them into saints in death

Sen. Yat-Sen  
Ghandi

Suratt society

Gutzon Borglum's  
Statue in Newark

1950 Rep. Francis Bolton - mentioned in Cong record

John Y. Simon - mentioned you becoming involved in the  
"Lincoln Industry"

Tank Commander and remarkable work

Moral vision sets him apart from politician of his age.

13th amendment - early version March 61' only Illinois

64' - spring - new amend. passed Senate - failed House

"let Jeff Dwintry me" on slavery letter was never sent

offer in 62' to compensate border states for loss of prop. (slavery)  
was rejected - big mistake

Hampton Roads peace conf. Feb 3, 1865 - A.L. disingenuous  
during passage - wrote letter saying no peace commission  
were on the way p135

Nevada tried to amend. / also traded votes for passage  
vote 119 to 56 - 8 stayed away - 16 Dems voted for it  
was there a secret fund to buy out Dems.

1862 - Bribery Statute - did A.L. violate it.

Meade - Lincoln no longer trusted his generals  
A.L. blamed Meade for Lee getting away at Gettysburg  
sent Hamlin to Meade's headquarters -  
had gotten bad info from Halleck, Sickles, Haupt

## Judging Lincoln

Geo. WASH a role model

ran for office before becoming a lawyer

24 legal years before TI handling more than 5000 cases

333 before Ill. Supreme Ct.

He was an auto didact

Machiavellian -

on slavery - "the most dumb and stupid slave  
p42 does constantly know he's been wronged"

letter to Hooker - named head of Army of P. -  
criticizes him.

Lincoln always operated within the constraints of  
the law

Billy Herndon

BOOKNOTES  
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*Frontispiece:* Robert M. Cole, photographer. Peoria, Illinois, ca. 1858. Signed photograph (10<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> × 9 inches), probably made during the Lincoln and Douglas senatorial campaigns, that portrays Lincoln at the apex of his political and legal careers in Illinois. From The Frank and Virginia Williams Collection of Lincolniana; photograph by Virginia Williams.

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Nov 1, 1862 - A.L. received McClellan of command  
never again would he receive an assignment  
He was slow - in and out of Antietam - didn't  
catch Lee -  
A.L. liked him - called Lincoln "original gorilla"

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Soldiers for McC. - fear of Stanton  
78% of Union soldiers cast vote for McC.  
53% of civilians

Field vote 121,152 (AU) to 34,922 (McC)

Soldiers voted 10 or 12 times in Indiana

Lincoln won 22 of 25 states 55% to 45%

2,219,924 to 1,814,220

lost to McC. only in Ky.

Absentee ballot first in War 1862

7 states didn't allow it  
Confed. states didn't participate

Emancipation impact -

McC kept promoting Colonization of Blacks in Africa

Chap - AL and Civil Liberties  
proclaimed a blockade  
increased size of regular army  
authorized expenditure of gov. money } all without  
Congressional approval

Maryland - suspension of the writ of habeas corpus  
arrest of John Merryman - AL ignored Taney  
Only Congress is empowered to suspend

Vallandigham - leading Copperhead - from Ohio

A.L. biggest critic -

Dayton - arrested - tried before military commission -

imprisoned - Fort Warren (Boston Harbor)

A.L. commuted sentence - banishment from Union  
settled in Windsor til June 15, 1864

accepted Democrats nomination for Gov.

Electron 64'

McClellan - widely loved

Most dangerous military leader in history

Black Hawk war - 30 days as a military captain

precedency has be altered - even diminished since 1945

AL influenced by book Parson Weems's Life of Wash.

in 62' McC. replaced never to have field command again

He was building the greatest army world had ever seen

He was often insulting to AL.

McClellan penultimate plan - generals voted 8 to 6 AL  
accepted it

March 11, 1862 - relieved him as general in chief

Is there anything left for collectors that they can afford?

1. First Lincoln collector - a man named Schlater  
A.L. never collected books

Minor affair of 1928 - Am. hist. letters - forgone  
James Randall - put collecting in a not very  
high group p 167

1984 - Forbes pays 231,000 for last speech  
Oct 84 - Perot / Forbes -

Daniel Fish - one of the big fine Lincoln collectors  
The McClellan Lincoln collection at Brown (looks 10%)  
William collection looks 30%

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chap 8. —

A.L. expanded democratic values unlike Churchill  
who was wed to the Empire  
Lincoln / FDR / Churchill remain effective role models  
Mayan ideal - ① Warrior ② community man ③ echo man  
elections of 64 - 1944 - remarkable that they happened -  
thanks to AL and FDR

Echo - Churchill might have been a racist - was it  
for women in politics like A.L. who advocated it at 29  
Gettysburg address exemplifies an echo leader

The Warrior - most decisive use of presidential power  
came when Congress was not in session p 149  
Lincoln's stepmother | He rarely submitted legislation  
to Congress.  
Churchill's narrow  
unlike Lincoln - Churchill was worst kind  
of amateurs General