

Mrs. Marsha Payne
Maryland School for the Deaf
Frederick, Md. 21701

12/9/83

Dear Marsha,

I've been meaning to phone you since 11/15 but when I get home from my morning's therapy I'm still catching up on what is long overdue. I am reminded by the fact that last night was the annual seminar I have at Hood for the Politics of Assassinations class, so before supper, this hasty note.

When I spoke at Hood 11/14 some of your faculty who cannot hear and perhaps a few others were in the audience. When I learned this I rearranged what I would say so that all the slides would come at one time, in the hope that it would make more sense to them and reduce the on-and-off business with the lights.

Until I got to the slides I thought it was great that by means of a special light it was possible to translate for your people. Then, however, the light made it impossible to make out the slides. When I realized that this was the cause I asked the translator not to use the light for the time I was into the slides but I got nowhere until I had to ask more pointedly. Of course I'm sorry, but if there had been a little advance planning this would not have come up to be a problem for most of the audience and your people, who also could not make the slides out.

My purpose in writing is to ask you to let them know I'm sorry and to make a few suggestions.

If the translator's light were to the side, there would not have been any problem. And where this does not suit, there can always be a tape and later translation.

For your people who missed part of what I said and are interested, I addressed the subject somewhat differently in a taped program for WBJC. It was aired just before 11/22. They are to send me a tape but they haven't yet. They edited down to an hour, so they have an unedited and an edited version. If your people are interested, it is quite OK with me if you get the tape(s) first. As I remember it, the man who did the interview is Neal Ellis and his engineer is named Wick. I've forgotten the last name. If you want to do this, please phone them and say that is fine with me if they send the tapes to you so your faculty can have them translated and then you can let me have them.

If I'd known when Z10/4 and WFMD were going to air their tapes I could have let you know.

May I suggest that when there are programs of interest at Hood or Community they be asked in advance if there are to be visuals so this unfortunate thing won't be repeated again?

I'm sorry if any of your people were embarrassed, but I really had to ask that the extra light be turned out during the slides.

Best to you all,

Harold Weisberg