

1/13/76

There was another unexpected new development today, a call from Newsweek's John Lindsay. But I forgot the hitches that caused the tensions. The NY Metromedia arranged with the DC metromedia to send a driver for me. Only nobody thought to find out where I am or how to get here. It was exasperating trying to get through and in fact I did to this nice woman just as she was about to start filming Jim- at the end of the normal working day. She said not to worry, I'd hear momentarily, and then the switch-boards of both stations closed down for the night! Without me hearing anything.

I finally roused guards at both stations and got both to looking and asking.

The one who returned the call and then called later is some NYC executive. The secretary to the DC general manager happened to be working an hour and a half late because she was just back from vacation and I got through to her. Finally the driver called me, I gave him the instructions and we are all set for the a.m. I can sleep or at least stay in bed until 7.

Lindsay was embarrassed over the Newsweek mixing of the WG proposal so, he took it out on me by deciding not to like me and then inventing reasons. Some of it came back and I was silent. I think I got through to him at the Post Morte, press conference. At the end he got up and after expressing some of his own lingering hopes that all is not corrupt gave me an amazing endorsement, roughly that I had done for 11 years what the press should have and didn't and right or wrong the press and the country owes me much. Was I surprised! Then he was at the 12/11 one aimed at CBS' knees and again saw that when I say I have something, it is what I say it is and I do not exaggerate (in fact, anyway). So he called to find out how to get all the books and we had a long and rather friendly and open talk. He says he is going to read them. I asked him to be patient! And ask any questions he wants. Now this is a rather large chore to take on as a side deal with a full-time job and a family. So, I think maybe he's been told to take a look. If he hasn't been there will be one staffer with some knowledge other than fed by officials.

It isn't bad and it seems to be good. In all respects it represent change.

Except for my limitations IM quite encouraged. I'm not more discouraged by them but I am determined to get rest, etc., and this cuts the working day much. If most of the time I'm not aware that it bugs me, it must.

It was quite an exasperation to waste all the time today and have to worry about an opportunity before a New York audience, which is how- and on the same station- I was able to break through the silence on JFK, then rather dramatically. Once I got to thinking I was satisfied they did not want to use old footage. Especially with JL on the same show. He is so straight, boyish, unassuming and informed it has to be good. The woman was quote excited over the filming. She phoned me. Giving me a tomorrow's schedule she'll never keep. I've put work in the attache case certain I'll have to do some!

And with all this going on I managed to take two walks today and outline my Thursday speech, numbering and cuing in new slides from PM. I have it on 6 3x5 cards, pretty brief. I hope I can speak it as briefly. But the lecture bureau has not returned last week's call and then letter and I don't know how who will recognize me at the airport if they come 30 miles for me or whether I have an afternoon seminar (rather takex a sleeping pill not and rest) and how I'll get to the plane in the early a.m.

And sign another contract for a St. Pat's day speech at Hunter, another one the bureau did not book for me. It will get me to NYC at a good time and pay the costs plus a fee. I haven't been able to get these klutzes to tell me what kind of tray to get for the slides. Boy do they work hard! So, I'm giving the college numbered slides and letting them worry about a tray. I've got them numbered for me so the order in which returned is no sweat.

To make the day perfect, the Roosevelt in NYC sent me a bill for what Argosy didn't pay for when they out me up there to discuss the ancillary rights to PM. And what did they bot pay for? The dinner the editor arranged for himself, his managing editor and his writer! For this he let me have 2 hours sleep and then ruined my phone checking for bugs!!!! so I had to get dressed and asked to be awakened by a ~~knock~~ personal ~~knock~~ knock.

C'est l'editores! Best,