

to JDW 3/2/75

If you wonder at the kind of letter I wrote WTTG, I'll explain a little further. They know me well and have shunned me, despite any current news, since early 1967. They would not air O in NO on appearance or F-II. They did not come to me initially this time. They were deparate because Franklin refused to appear, they wanted to air the subject (the station is controlled by one of the signers of one of Colson's fake ads) and they did not want Harris alone in this effort to puff up the sainted J. Edgar. So, they went to Bud, who this time had the good sense to beg off and did the surprising, referred them to me. It is I who suggested Willens to them.

I have never taken time for personal publicity, have never sought any, and don't recall any not connected with a book. So, I said the only way I'd appear is if they'd meet the special needs of a book not in commercial distribution and do what could prevent the time from being a futility for me and the audience. They agreed and did not tell me they changed their minds until I was there.

While I feel I did much good on the show (the staff was tickled) but for the kind of show I gave them rather than the content), if they are not going to come to me when I ~~am~~ am at least the area's unquestioned expert on the subject and then screw me on a deal like this, their good will means nothing to me but the chance that they'll keep their word on another occasion can mean something. Or, I'd rather not do anything on their air under the conditions of the Thursday show. And there is always the off chance that consciences can be pricked.

The one letter I've gotten is apparently paranoid and from one who knew me from my books. The reaction from those who know me and got to see the show is uniformly good.

There is also the question of self-respect as distinguished from ego. Who would have kept me silent in return for the exposure.

We'll see if there is anything that can come of it.