

HW:

We knew the Buckley-Hunt-Lazo "Firing Line" program was coming up (from the attached story from the Chronicle) on KQED-TV and arranged to see it with some friends who were going to stay up to see it themselves.

It seemed to us that Lazo, in his concluding statement, implied he considered that Mrs. Hunt had died for the cause; I took the trouble to transcribe this concluding bit from a tape we made of it, thinking perhaps it might not be shown there or that you might miss it. A copy of this bit also is attached.

We were very glad to have seen this, as it gave us an impression of Hunt we could not otherwise have obtained -- visual confirmation of the hard, cruel mouth, the calculating eyes, his poorly concealed contempt for Lazo, who himself confirmed everything you've said about the far-out fantasies of the right-wing Cubans.

We waited a couple of days and then listened to the tape all over, and I'd suggest you might like to try the same thing if you have time. Visually, Lazo looks like a hack lawyer. From sound alone, he sounds completely unbalanced. And Hunt is not far behind, to listen to the tape. He's smoother and more arrogant, but without the visual image he comes through as fundamentally just as extreme in his views as Lazo.

This show was taped before an audience of girls from Mills College, a sort of West Coast Vassar or Smith where wealthy Republicans have been sending their daughters for that past 100 years. Recently they've admitted some blacks because the girls demanded it, and all along have had Asian girls, usually from extremely wealthy families in the Orient.

You probably noticed that Buckley very early apologized to the girls, saying that the lawyers in Washington had forbidden any discussion of the Watergate case, or questions from the audience.

And I'm wondering whether a bit of the sound track that was eliminated here also got cut out in the version you saw. Hunt was saying he had made four recommendations prior to the Bay of Pigs about how to conduct the operation, and the first point and part of the second were cut out here, no explanation.

We felt the net impact of the program was intended to be a general cleaning up and humanizing of Hunt's image, somewhat along the lines of the article in Time for Jan. 29, which we got a copy of today.

jdw24jan73