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11/3/72 Last night there was a special edition of Evening Edition on Public TV. Martin Agronsky had Ben Bradlee and CBS Wash Bureau Manager Small. They discussed the press and the administration and the press with re-election. It was to me amazingly naive. They actually seem to think (less so Agronsky) that after election everyting will return to status quo ante. There seems to be an amazing belief that this is but part of a political campaign device, a passing thing the press will survive without serious cost. My own view is that the press will have to be one of the first casualties, the first enemy, for the scandals are not simple like Watergate bugging, there is deep trouble in the country this kind of an administration can t solve, and it can t survive the kind of reporting the Post has done once the hidden facts become available. I'll keep the tape at least until I hear if you want it. I may want to keep it myself, sort of a famous-last-words deal. I had the feeling throughout the half hour. Small was much more realistic than Bradlee. By the end I had the feeling that Agronsky was incredulous at the attitude of what amounts to complacency. HW

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X What John Mitchell really said about Katie Graham includes that she'd get her teats mangled. Even the Post would not use his exact words. I expect to get them. Ian McDonald has them. His paper also would not use them. I don't give this as a titillating triviality not as an example of Mutchellisti male chauvenism as much as an indication of the extent to which he blew and that as an indication of his apprehension and THAT as an indication of the magnitude of the scandal and his knowledge of it. HW 11/5/72