

20734

May9, 1968

Mr. Daniel Wolf, Editor
The Village Voice
Sheridan Square
New York, N.Y. 10014

Dear Mr. Wolf,

After the history recounted in the Preface, I felt there remained nothing except a private printing for this book, and I could not go in debt for more than the form you see. Please do not be distracted by it and do read the book. I believe, as the excerpts from the editors, publishers and correspondents show, that you will find it important and worthwhile.

We have not as yet arranged any distribution. So, I am asking the editors of various publications if they would care to advertise it on either a per order basis or to sell it themselves. In the first case, like with radio per inquiry ads, you'd get a commission for each order, take your commission from the accompanying money, and forward the name and the balance to me. We'd mail the book out, hopefully, the same day. In the second case, upon receipt of postage, I'll mail you the books on consignment and you make the bookstore profit and mail or hand over the book. I do hope you can see your way clear to do one of these things, and I'd not be a proud and optimistic author if I didn't believe you'd find it profitable and a public service.

Please note, also, that the book focuses on the Report and the staff, which includes the FBI, from which the Commission got its initial direction and most of its technical and investigative services, rather than the Commission and its members. I believe this is both right and essential to an understanding of what really happened. Also, all of the information is, as you will see, from the official information of the Commission, from its testimony and exhibits to which the book is extensively referenced.

This may be one of the highest-priced paperbacks in history. I regret that a sale of the entire printing cannot make it profitable. From it I hope to achieve the obvious purpose, of opening the question in what I believe to be the proper way, and possibly to attract that normal publication that has thus far escaped me.

Thank you for anything you do.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg