

Sir: Two letters published in
your December issue ("The Mail")
concern the

CIA and Robert Kennedy. The one from
Frank Mankiewicz and Adam Walinsky
distorts the picture considerably, and
since it in effect calls me a liar, I would
like to set the record straight.

It should be noted that the CIA
attempts against Castro were in two
phases. The first project was handled
by the Office of Security under its
director, Col. Sheffield Edwards. I was
briefed on this phase by Col. Edwards
after it was terminated and it was on
this that he and I briefed Mr. Kennedy.
We therefore did not lie to him when we
told him the project had ceased. The
second phase was started later (without
my knowledge) by the Office of Opera-
tions—but at whose instigation or with
what approvals I do not know.

Mr. Kennedy did not criticize the
project—at least not in my presence.
He was furious that our concern for
security impeded his program for pros-
ecuting organized crime figures. He di-
rected that we not utilize such types
again without his prior approval.

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
Washington, D.C.

~~Sir: The researcher who discovered
Lane Kirkland's likings for unposh sea-~~

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