

Ms. Lisa Frost
McGraw-Hill Book Co., General Books Div.
1221 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N.Y. 40020

1/14/89

Dear Ms. Frost,

August 22, 1987 John H. Davis wrote seeking assistance ^{with} ~~in~~ his book that you have since published as "Mafia Kingfish." He enclosed a copy of your letter of July 16, 1986. Thereafter, pursuant to your request and his, I spent a considerable amount of time trying to be of help. Even though, as I made clear to him at the outset, I entirely disagree with his theory that the mafia killed President Kennedy.

Not only did I spend a considerable amount of my time when I'm 75 and with serious health problems (including with vision, so I apologize for my typing), I got a college senior to do a considerable amount of searching in my files, for which he paid her, of course.

However, for her to be able to use those files, quite extensive and in some ways unavoidably complicated, I had to spend much additional time with her.

I asked nothing of Mr. Davis or of you for this time and effort. I expected nothing and, because I consider that the Freedom of Information act makes me surrogate for all the people, I never ask to be paid.

I did think, however, that he or you would send me a copy of the book. After it was out and people began asking me questions about it, which coincided with my not being able to drive for three months, I wrote him needing him a bit, suggesting that he did not want me to be able to comment on it. (Of course I did not mean that seriously.) He did not reply and did not send me a copy of the book.

Whether or not correctly, I have just been informed that in the book he says I wrote something I do not recall writing or for that matter even believing. I am aware that what Mr. Davis wrote may not be the same as it was represented to me.

I would like to be able to read this for myself. Frankly, when he and you were willing to get all this unpaid help and take all that unpaid time and neither was willing to even offer me a copy of the book, I feel imposed upon.

And, under the circumstances, now that I am again able to drive, I am unwilling to pay for a copy of the book.

I therefore write to ask if you will be kind enough to send me a copy.

I have an additional interest. All of my records will be part of a permanent public archive at local Hood College. I would like to be able to include with this book copies of anything else that might be of interest to scholars in the future. Perhaps promotional material, perhaps copies of reviews. I am not censoring anything, most of those I help believe and write what I do not agree with. However, I want as faithful as possible an archive for the future and I would welcome all the rave reviews you can provide. I have no personal interest in this. I just want scholars of the future to have everything possible available and to be able to make up their own minds.

Sincerely,



Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Md. 21701