

Mr. Paul A. Wrede (of John G.) Wrede
11 W. 19 St., 3rd floor
New York, N.Y. 10011

4/22/89

Dear Mr. Wrede,

Re; John H. Davis/ Mafia Kingfish

Please excuse ^{my} this manner of addressing you but you did not reply to my letter of several months ago and John Davis uses both names in his letter to me of the 19th, copies to John G., Ms. Frost and Mr. Farley. Please also excuse my typing but health problems keep it from being any better.

I enclose a copy of Mr. Davis' handwritten letter to me of the 12th. I presume the only reason I heard anything more from him is that you and/or Mr. Farley required it. Mr. Davis assured me on the 12th that "we are making the changes you wish in future editions," including foreign and NAL. His letter of the 19th does not reflect this and as I tell you though a copy of my response, is not acceptable and does not eliminate further defamation and harm.

If Mr. Davis intends no harm or defamation and if he is not deliberately dishonest I see no reason for him not to agree to eliminate the several passages that are simply not true. This means all reference to me at page 414 and perhaps the next page, which now do not have in front of me, and in the acknowledgments where the nonexistent "formal" interview appears.

May I suggest that you and Mr. Farley get copies of ^{the} quite limited correspondence with the late Jack Wasserman, read that and then ask Mr. Davis what support he has for the language I've asked you to remove. It will become apparent that it is just fabricated. Not a part of it is true. The only "foraging" was done by Mr. Davis' employee here, over about the amount of time he falsely attributed to Mr. Wasserman.

I am sorry if this coincides in time with NAL's reprint but after Mr. Davis did not respond I first wrote Ms. Frost three and a half months ago and none of you did anything. I am sure you understand that I am not responsible for it continuing as a problem now. I hope you will make NAL aware of my complaints if you do not, as I've asked, remove what I find objectionable and defamatory. (It is particularly defamatory because of the position I've held in the field, as Mr. Davis should know.)

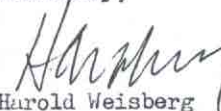
I look forward to receiving from you, not Mr. Davis, the assurance I've asked, that this language will be removed. There is no way of tinkering with falsehood to make truth of it anyway, as is apparent from Mr. Davis's proposed change that I reject.

If you have any questions, feel free to ask them.

I also call to your and Mr. Farley's attention the fact that as of this moment I have not received copies of the short Wasserman correspondence now missing from that file that I've asked Mr. Davis to return. I do not, of course, know what he has not done this but I do call to your attention that it does not support the "solid evidence" interpretation on which he bases what is not truthful on page 414.

For your convenience and to expedite I enclose copies for Ms. Frost and Mr. Farley.

Sincerely,


Harold Weisberg