



The President's Box Bookshop

P.O. Box 1255
Washington, D.C. 20013

• AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL ASSASSINATION •
• FAMOUS TRIALS • TRUE CRIME •
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November 3, 1992

Dear Mrs. Weisberg:

Thank you for your recent letter in which you mentioned that you gave a new and complete set of the 26 volume Warren Commission in the original boxes, unopened, to Hood College; and also ask for "an estimate of their value today."

Please be advised that as a matter of policy, I do not give appraisals or estimates without actually seeing the books in question. However, it distresses me that such a set was given to a library.

From a purely collector's standpoint, unopened boxes of the Warren Commission set have been going for about 2 times the value of the set itself. The very minute these boxes are opened--and I assume that the library will want to open these boxes--it will instantly half the value of the set. However, if the boxes are slit carefully at the bottom, and accompany the set--some of the value will be retained. The boxes by themselves also have some value, and therefore, they should not be discarded.

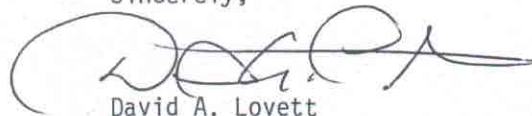
I am sorry to say that there were so many copies of this Warren Commission set that have made their way to libraries over the years--about 5,000 sets in libraries throughout the world--that is almost breaks my heart to think that any library would be putting its markings on this pristine set. Sadly, the set as you describe it, belongs in a collector's hands--or even a rare book room of a library with limited access--since common library markings (internal and external) will also reduce the value of the set--again by about half of its value.

Current prices of the Warren Commission sets are in the \$1,000 to \$2,000 range with ex-library copies (that is copies with library markings) bringing less.

Needless to say, any antiquarian bookdealer would have been happy to find a suitable set to donate to this library, in order to insure that such a fine pristine set in its original boxes would never be opened, defaced, damaged, and devalued by a library.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,



David A. Lovett