

August 4, 1967

Mr. Julius Fransden
Vice President, UPI
National Press Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Fransden:

Prior to the appearance of the fiction in the form of a polemic in the guise of a news story to commemorate the assassination of President Kennedy by Merfiman Smith, I wrote you to point out its gross inaccuracies. This story was intended for Sunday use. Some papers used it the following Sunday. It was widely disseminated.

You did not reply. Mr. Smith's reply was to run away. When the magnitude of his error began to become apparent, UPI distributed a correction which did not in any way correct his permeating error or the personal and libelous nature of his writing, of which, by then, UPI had been apprised.

Instead of letting it go at that, UPI thereafter repeated these libels, inaccuracies and personal attacks by radio, by Mr. Smith personally. At the time of this radio use, UPI had been fully informed of the inaccuracy of Mr. Smith's literary lickspittle.

More than a half year has elapsed without correction or retraction by either UPI or Mr. Smith. His attack on me was personal and quite wrong, even in the plagiarism that I am a chicken farmer. Even that he could not get right, delivering it by UPI radio as "turkey farmer".

I am, therefore, writing to demand equal time under the "fairness doctrine" so that I may, to the degree possible, correct and answer this personal attack on me and the gross and deliberate inaccuracy on this issue, which certainly is controversial.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg