



General
Services
Administration

John F. Kennedy Library
National Archives and
Records Service

Columbia Point
Boston, MA 02125

Ref: MS 81-43

December 30, 1980

MEMORANDUM

To: Robert Warner & Maygene Daniels
From: Henry Gwiazda
Re: Gift of Papers of Peter Maas

I am enclosing the original deed and two copies for a gift of papers of Peter Maas to the John F. Kennedy Library. See Appendix A for an itemized list of the documents. The donor signed the deed on December 24, 1980 prior to leaving on a trip, and his attorney dated the appendix December 30, 1980 upon delivery of the papers to the Library.

Maas is donating to the National Archives various papers he acquired while writing The Valachi Papers (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1968). Joseph Valachi wrote the holograph manuscript entitled The Real Thing: The Expose and Inside Doings of Cosa Nostra and entered into an agreement with Maas to edit and publish the manuscript. Valachi ultimately received \$75,000.00 as his share of the royalties from The Valachi Papers.

Valachi died in 1971. He had a will, and his estate went through the normal probate procedures. According to Maas' attorney, no question from Valachi's heirs about the rights to the manuscript or copyright arose during the settlement of the estate. Maas, therefore, has had the manuscript and accompanying transcript since 1965 without anyone questioning his right to the material.

I have reiterated our desire to have further documentation from Maas on the matters of title and copyright. His attorney will seek additional material from Maas to clarify these points when Maas returns to the country in January, 1981. At this time the attorney would like to conclude transfer of the materials to the National Archives by December 31, 1980.

Maas has many other papers of historical value that he is considering depositing in the Library as subsequent additions to this gift.

If any questions arise, I shall be in my office throughout Wednesday, December 31, 1980, and can be reached at 617-929-4539.