

Unbridled Power- Hired by the IRS as its first -- and last -- official historian
Shelly Davis

Read this book a decade ago; remembered it in this time of need

I read this before I started writing reviews on Amazon; this certainly would have deserved one. I'm writing from memory at least ten years later. What I retain is a sense of the flavor of the book more than the details. It describes a very self-protective, self-serving bureaucracy that is unresponsive to the taxpayer and rolls over for politicians.

At the time I read it I thought "there but for the grace of God go I." Most of my problems have been simple and resolved without conflict. Now, however, they simply refuse to accept that my foreign wife exists, even though they have spoken to her three times and have copies of every official document she possesses. They have gone against the Internal Revenue Manual at least three ways and seem oblivious and unrepentant. I went right to my bookshelf for this volume.