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October 3, 1968

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Coq d'Or Press
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

This is in reply to your letters of August 29 and September 5 concerning the records of the Warren Commission.

As indicated by notes on page 63 of the transcript of the executive session of the Commission of January 21, 1964, a portion of that transcript from the bottom of page 63 to the bottom of page 73 is withheld from research under Guideline 2. The microfilm copy of indexes to numbered Commission documents was mailed to you.

Our letter of May 20 to you indicates that it is the transcripts of executive sessions of the Commission among the Commission's records that are listed in the letter. The letter does not purport to list all executive sessions of the Commission that may have been held. We did not intend to imply, of course, that your reference to the executive session of January 22, 1964, was the only proof of its existence. We do not have a transcript for that session, however. The fact that the transcript for the session of January 21, 1964, is numbered Volume 4 and the transcript for the session of January 27 is numbered Volume 5 indicates that no transcript for the session of January 22 was prepared. We do not know of any executive sessions of the Commission for which we do not have transcripts, except the sessions of January 22 and September 18, 1964. As you know, we have minutes for the session of September 18, 1964.

Although you appear at times to assume that our staff knows and constantly keeps in mind all information that is contained in the records of the Commission, I am sure that you are aware that this is not possible. Your research is your own responsibility, and we will make records of the Commission available to you for research concerning the many questions in which you are interested.

The transcripts of the executive sessions of January 27 and June 23, 1964, are properly withheld from research under the guidelines that apply to the Commission's records and the terms of the "Freedom of Information Act" (5 U.S.C. 552). As you probably know, certain records are exempted from disclosure by the provisions of that Act. Neither of these transcripts has been made available to any researcher by the National Archives.

Sincerely,

JAMES B. FHOADS
Archivist of the United States

cc: Official File - NND
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IAJJohnson/mc NNDC
Ext. 23171 10/1/68

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NN QJH