

January 22, 1993

A set of books concerning the assassination of President Kennedy has been donated to the UK Library.

Bill Neichter, a Louisville attorney, has donated six books by Harold Weisberg, who is the patriarch of the serious assassination researchers.

Whitewash I-IV, Oswald in New Orleans, and Post Mortem, are an in-depth study of the problems with the evidence that would have been used against Oswald if he had lived to stand trial. Weisberg believes Oswald was innocent, and the investigation was a whitewash.

Whitewash, published in 1965, was the first academic quality criticism of the Warren Report. It received wide publicity by the Washington Post and the New York Times in 1966.

Whitewash II has a high quality copy of the Altgens photo, taken by an AP photographer at the moment the President was first shot. Many researchers believe this photo shows Oswald standing in the background, watching the motorcade.

Neichter, a 1975 UK History grad, says Weisberg's books are the best he has read.

"Many books on JFK's murder are speculation and fiction. Harold Weisberg is the most well documented and factual researcher I have seen. Whitewash I and II have many citations to the 26 volume Warren Report Exhibits. UK's fine library has the 26 volumes and Weisberg's books can lead you into them in minutes, like a law library reference."

Weisberg has been seen on a number of documentaries on Arts and Entertainment network, and Fox. "Reasonable Doubt" is a documentary video in which Weisberg is interviewed.

Weisberg has also written on the Martin Luther King murder.

Weisberg, 79, recently donated his papers to Hood College in Maryland. He has amassed over 250,000 pages, many through his Freedom of Information Act requests, and federal lawsuits.

Neichter advises students to read the Warren Report summary and compare it to Weisberg's books. "Harold Weisberg researched JFK's murder when it was neither popular nor profitable. He makes good arguments that JFK was killed as the result of a conspiracy, and proves his case. If I had to defend Lee Harvey Oswald in court, I would rather argue Weisberg's brief

Page 2

than the Warren Report. His books are the strongest argument that the murder of Kennedy was a conspiracy that was not properly investigated. Oswald was a convenient patsy since he was dead. The FBI, members of the Warren Commission and its staff ignored or overlooked all the evidence of Oswald's innocence."

History will judge who is correct. For now, UK students will have the chance to read Weisberg's books, none of which are commercially available. John Kennedy's death may never be solved, but there is no statute of limitation for murder -- or for history.

See attachment

Hood to get Kennedy documents

Assassination expert

to donate collection

By KEITH SNIDER
Staff Writer, Frederick

FREDERICK, Md. — Harold Welsberg, a noted expert on the assassination of John F. Kennedy, has agreed to donate his papers to Hood College. Welsberg, 79, has amassed about 250,000 pages of documents on the subject, according to Gerald McKnight, a history professor at Hood.



Welsberg

McKnight, who teaches a course on the assassination, said Monday Welsberg's collection is the biggest held privately in the world.

"This is an archive, really," he said. "It's in very good shape." Hood spokeswoman Margaret Hindman said the college will make computer reproductions of the documents so scholars can use them without handling them.

Welsberg, who had open heart surgery in 1989 and is in poor health, said Hood was his first choice because he likes the school and McKnight.

Please turn to HOOD, A5

Hood

Continued from A1

"My concern was that they be made available without restrictions to everybody," he said, a condition Hood accepted.

Welsberg, who has battled the federal bureaucracy for three decades, said he never considered donating the papers to a government library or museum.

Welsberg, a former newspaper reporter and U.S. Senate investigator, was raising chickens on his Hyattstown farm when Kennedy was killed Nov. 22, 1963.

It touched off a nearly 30-year odyssey through bureaucratic red tape and untold Freedom of Information Act requests for documents.

"He knows more about the assassination of John F. Kennedy than any living American," McKnight said. "This is an incredible testament to one man's perseverance."

The collection is housed in about 70 file cabinets at Welsberg's Frederick home — most of them in his basement.

Welsberg has a smaller collection on the assassination of Martin

Luther King Jr., which Hood also will get.

Welsberg doesn't believe Lee Harvey Oswald killed Kennedy and says the government investigation was a whitewash.

He has trouble managing the basement stairs, but is writing another book on Kennedy's autopsy and still gets requests for interviews from television shows, newspapers and scholars.

Welsberg said he was the first person to criticize Oliver Stone's recent movie "JFK," which suggests the assassination was an elaborate government conspiracy.

McKnight said he read one of Welsberg's books while he was doing graduate work at Pennsylvania State University.