

*Mr. Knight shortened*

Harold and Lillian Weisberg met during the Great Depression 1930s when they worked for three of the U.S. Senate's investigating committees of that era. She was assistant editor first of Senator Gerald Nye's munitions investigating committee and then of Senator Bert Wheeler's railroad investigating committee. She also worked in several executive agencies. He was an investigator and then editor of what was known as "The Senate Civil Liberties Committee." He had been a reporter and an investigative reporter, <sup>later he was</sup> and a World War II Office of Strategic Services intelligence analyst.

They have prepared and published seven books on the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Their WHITEWASH, the first book on the Warren Commission, remains basic in the field.

Unlike the rest of the available assassination literature, their books are entirely factual. They advance no conspiracy theories. They were and they remain the basic dependable, factual books on both assassinations and their official investigations.

The Weisbergs filed 13 lawsuits under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to obtain withheld official records of both assassinations and their investigations. Some of these lawsuits were precedential and one was cited in the Senate debates as requiring the 1974 amending of the Act. This opened the files of the FBI, CIA and similar agencies to FOIA access. Having been responsible for the amending of the Act, the Weisbergs then used it to obtain about a third of a million once-secret official pages. All of this, all their work product, all the records of their litigation, and letters from about 20,000 people about their work, will be a Hood archive.

The Weisbergs are and have been consulted by members and committees of both houses of the Congress. They have also been consulted, quoted, filmed and aired by all the media of the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia

and New Zealand ~~as subject experts.~~

When they worked for the Senate, Weisberg was borrowed by the Department of Justice to assist in its prosecutions of "Bloody Harlan," an enclave of a murderous, anti-union Kentucky backwardness made famous by a movie of several years ago. (These and all the other hearings and reports he edited are included in the archive, all of which will go to Hood.) He was also the investigator for the accused King assassin, James Earl Ray, in his effort to get the trial he has never had. Weisberg conducted the investigations for the successful habeas corpus action and for the ensuing two weeks of evidentiary hearings. He located, prepared and produced the witnesses who made a convincing case that the crime was not solved. (Those who saw the January 22 Fox TV special on the King assassination saw, along with Weisberg, some of the witnesses he presented to the federal court.) That case ended with the decision that guilt or innocence were not before that judge at that time and Ray was denied a trial.

Weisberg has annual seminars at Hood. Its students have had access to his records. Some excellent papers have been produced.