

Mr. John L. Vitron
600 SE 61 St Ave.,
Portland, OR 97215-1912

7/24/95

Dear Mr. Vitron,

What you offer^d in your letter of the 20th is wonderful and we do appreciate it, very much. If you move to Frederick I think you will ~~like~~ like the area very much. To the taste of most of us the area has become too popular and the growth ever too much too rapid. But I suggest the first consideration for your thinking is what that might mean to your family.

The situation on retying for me has improved somewhat between our letters.

All of my records and all my work will go to local Hood College, a fine small college, where it will be a free public archive. A little is there now. The school has an employment office for students ~~add~~ through it. I have three young women who have begun retying for me. I've seen the work to two who live together and work as a pair and it is accept^{ab}le. I think it will improve when they learn more about my bad typing and handwriting. I must keep my legs elevated when I type, cannot use a desk with my legs under it so I read and correct on a clipboard in the air. I've not yet seen the work of the other girl. All three are pleasant young women. I've met ~~them~~ them all.

I am flattered by your interest in my life but as I think I indicated, I do not have that kind of ego, refused years ago to write an autobiography and what I do go into in the first part of Inside the JFK Assassination Industry is limited to the learning experiences that to the degree anyone is prepared for this kind of work I was.

That part is in ~~that~~ fact the part that has been retyped and that is the student I had to replace. In time all three will be working on this truly massive work that as of now is close to 60 chapters long, too long for publication which would otherwise have little prospect in any event.

After a successful heart operation the end of 1989, with my ~~access~~ ^{access} to most of my records in the basement ~~virtually~~ denied, I decided that what I should do with the time that remains for me is try to perfect the record for history to the degree possible for me. That has been my top priority and the volume is rather considerable.

Never Again! was completed in 1992 and the publisher sat on it until this years Case Open, which appeared earlier, was then written and about 75-80% of it was ^{not} published. The rest exists as a record for history and that was retyped. Diskettes are at four educational institutions in this country and one abroad. That is also true of the ⁴ ~~sequel~~ ^{sequel} ~~document~~ to NEVER AGAIN!, Waketh the Watchman. Completed. I've done no work on Inside in quite some time because it is not my priority project. I've more than 100,000 words written on Mailer's Tales, of the JFK assassination, and that was my priority until I ~~was~~ ^{saw} and was so disappointed by John Newman's Oswald and the CIA. I've completed a book-length manuscript on it and it is being retyped. I'll be adding an epilogue. And the girl who

is working by herself has picked up where the one who got a fulltime job left off.

One of the pair working together is somewhat of a computer whiz. She says that with some done on one format and the girl working alone using still a different format she can reprogram them all to be alike so that can all three work on parts of Mailer's Tales separately and then add them together on a single diskette.

Their estimate is that they'll be finished with the Newman manuscript in two weeks and then all three will be working on the Mailer one, which is not complete.

When at 82 and in impaired health my time may be quite limited I do try to pick what I think is most important for the record for history to be worked on first. I see no prospect for publication of the Newman ms and I am keeping my criticisms of it quiet because I do not want to waste any time in pointless controversies. But it is in many ways a very bad and dishonest book that does not establish any Oswald connection with the CIA. Newman does not know the subject matter and that also makes it a very bad book as he goes off into cold-war theories he presents as fact, a great disappointment after his fine Viet Nam book.

It is not impossible that the Mailer book can be published. The odds are much against it but completing it is my first priority because there may be a possibility of publication. One of the girls, the computer whiz, is currently trying to reprogram the chapters gutted out of Case Open for me to use them in the Mailer book. Which also when completed will be very large as a record if not in the remote event of publication. It is not until all of this is done that I can think of returning to the massive Inside ms which now is a bit tight in a file box 14 inches long!

And that ~~assumes~~ assumes no other bad book will appear before then. At least two are overdue of those I know about and there can be those of which I know nothing.

It is in making a record of most of them that Inside grew as it did. In the end I think it will be a file topic rather than a book as a record for history. Computers, which I cannot think of using, I've tried, provide an inexpensive means of distribution for deposits and I've done that with what I indicate above and a very long article if not a short book, Senator Russell Dissents. I had a relationship with him, he and Cooper refused to agree with the single-bullet theory, and I tell that story in that writing. Which I've already added to the Mailer ms. Diskettes of that article distributed.

I hope you can see why Inside is not priority with me.

What I think you should also consider is that at my age ^{and} with all my health problems there is ~~no~~ telling when it will all end. If ~~it~~ and when it does I think that you and your wife should consider what your situation then would be, whether you would want to remain in Frederick, etc. ^{What} your costs would be compared with what they now are, this being a rapidly-growing area near two large cities, Washington and Baltimore, with rents rather high, etc.

3

Physical therapy is the only therapy with which I have any local experience or knowledge. Two therapists became friends before they started their own operation and they let me use three machines free after my insurance expired. I'll be there later this morning (it is now not quite 5 a.m.) after the blood tests I have those three days. There are now quite a few independent physical therapists here. I have no knowledge of other forms but the local hospital is expanding very rapidly and going into areas like p.t. It bought a shopping center and it is rapidly being converted to a medical installation. They have their own p.t. in it now.

There is but a single hospital in this county. There are several in the county between this one and Washington, Montgomery County. There is one west of here, in Hagerstown. I know of no others closer than the two large cities.

If more or less summary, what you offer can be quite valuable to me but my need is now not urgent. None of these three girls will be a senior in the coming academic year and they all need work. It happens they are ^{all} ~~all~~ from other countries and that each has an excellent command of English, if not idiomatic English. Two are from Asia, one from the Caribbean.

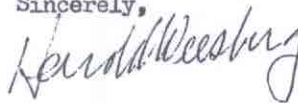
I appreciate what you have in mind very much but I do think you and your wife should also think selfishly on this and judge you to.

As you can also see, using the computer has become important in what I am doing. It is my means of adding to the deposits for history. It happens I have dear friends at four fine schools here and one abroad.

And, given the publisher and the media attitudes and my ^{priority} ~~priority~~, ^{making} ~~keeping~~ as much of a record for history as I can, this is fortunate.

You are a very kind and thoughtful man ^{and} whatever does or does not happen, I do appreciate your generosity very much.

Sincerely,



Harold Weisberg