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Great Frederick Fare

By ETHEL LOEB

In 1856 Henry Clay said, "I'd rather be right than President."

In 1975 Harold Weisberg writer, who lives on a mini-farm near Shookstown, would rather be proved right about President John Kennedy's assassination than amass a fortune.

And fame has eluded him thus far, even though he has written virtually since the killing occurred the theories and facts that are only now surfacing on the front pages of our newspapers. To this end he has sacrificed time, money and health to prove his findings.

After the assassination of Martin Luther King he added that to his investigations. A prophet without official recognition whose theories are just now gaining credence, still without a nod to his intensive research, he can also be termed a prophet with a loss. Out of his own pocket he has traveled widely tracking down possible clues. He has had eye-witnesses or theorists staying in his house for weeks on end.

No publisher dared to use his explosive material so he himself paid to publish his "Whitewash" books, four in all, which were lovingly typed at home by his wife, Lillian, a Frederick girl whom he married in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1942. They met when working for the Senate Investigating Committee. She walked into his office on a secretarial assignment and it was love at first sight.

For many years they lived in Hyattstown in the basement of an unfinished house, and on the side Harold became a chicken farmer. He sold his special strain of what he called "Pheasant Chickens" to acquaintances in Washington, to greats and near-greats and invented a chicken pate, sold in jars, which was served at every cocktail party there, at that time.

Lillian won the Delmarva Cooking contest too, in the early fifties, with a concoction of chicken with jelly baked right into it. Although a writer, he was widely known as the "Chicken Man."

This was a living to fall back on when he was falsely accused of being a Communist, and was one of the original eleven to be purged, with fanfare, from the government during the McCarthy era. He beat the rap, so to speak, and was proved innocent. But by then his work was terminated as a free lance investigative writer and editor for Senate Committees in which he exposed practice ssuch as European involvement

in our defense industries (he was the one who proved the Rohm and Haas scandal). He was also a British secret agent during this time . . . and that was also terminated.

Born in Philadelphia, the son of immigrant parents, he grew up in Wilmington where he was a boy genius at school carrying eight solid subjects, all the while editing the school paper which won the All-American top award, and at 15 was a feature writer with a by-line for the Philadelphia Ledger, for both general news and, being a baseball nut, for sports' events, at the same time helping in the family grocery store.

Next came the School of Journalism at Columbia, when World War II in which he served with OSS.

Then came Washington, first as a free lance investigator for the Senate Committee, then as Washington correspondent for Click magazine, a magazine that told all and hit hard. Always an investigator, he involved himself in ferreting out the mysterious facts surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy, then that of Martin Luther King, and his past skills helped him uncover the actualities which he says were being suppressed. He says, "we were being fed official mythology."

No shrinking violet, Weisberg is abrasive and definitive. He glories in having had five law suits (his lawyer is Jim Lesar) all at the same time against the government and all adjudicated in his favor on Freedom of Information rights. He has sued the FBI the National Archives and the CIA, to name a few. Thus, he says he has used the Freedom of Information law more than anyone else in the U.S. and, hence, claims he knows more than anyone else about the Kennedy assassination.

He even got material from Richard Kleindienst after winning a judgment against him in court, which, he says, destroys the entire basis of the Warren Commission report. He was the first to declare there was a Cuban conspiracy of which Oswald could have been a part, and he instigated the entire investigation of Jim Garrison and the New Orleans involvement.

He declares that James Earl Ray was "framed" in the Martin Luther King assassination, and recent revelations do seem to corroborate his assertions that the American public has been virtually kept in the dark about much of recent events, now history.

His latest book "Post Mortem, JFK Cover-Up Smashed," reviewed nationally, is obtainable here directly from him. It's explosive, contains charts, diagrams and reproductions of "authentic previously withheld material."

His other books, all relating to his monomania are, "Whitewash, the

Report on the Warren Report," and
"Whitewash II, The FBI Secret Service
Cover-Up" — both copyrighted as early
as 1969 and 1971, — also "Photographic
Whitewash," complete with pictures,
and the now-out-of-print "Oswald in New
Orleans, Case for Conspiracy with the
CIA" and "Frame-Up," the Martin
Luther King-James Earl Ray case," and
"Whitewash IV," top secret
assassination transcript, and now
"Postmortem."