Dear Tony,

4/30/89

Your letter of the 14th., postmarked the 17th, got here yesterday. Perhaps the delay is from your use of the wrong zip number, 23701 rather than 21701. In any event, it disturbs me in two ways. You said you'd be in this country the week that ended yesterday, unless you consider that the weeks end on Sundays, and during the week would have my transcribing machine returned by hand or would return it yourself. I've not heard a word from you and do not have the machine. Then you misrepresent our agreement still another time and say you've not heard from me about it when I did write you about it, with a copy to Jim, and my letter was not returned although I never fail to have a return address. If you'd like I can dig it out and send it to you. You misrepresent our agreement, which you abrogated by not keeping it.

It has been a considerable problem not having that machine. With the appearance of a series of books seeking to commercialize the 25th anniversary of the JFK assassination, Dave Wrone asked me to provide him with commentaries on them for the histofical record. I did. Only not having the machine I had to annotate the books themselves, This was awkward because as you know I am not able to sit at a desk as others do. I had to hold the books with my left hand, in the air, and write on them. and I begin with terrible handwriting. I did this with four books. But that meant there was only the one copy of this commentary, the annotated book itself. So, with the fifth, I took much extra time to sit with my typewriter to the left of my elevated legs while I learned to the right to use the book. With my vision that meant a contortion. But at least today I'll be able to make copies.

Lil would not have been able to transcribe anything from the middle of January until the middle of this month, but before 1/15 she could have completed what I did on at least two books, maybe the third, and during the past two weeks she could have done what she'd not been able to do and there would be the historical record available to others that now is not available and won t be unless Dave prepares it from my annotations.

Sure, I could have gone out and bought another transcribing unit. It would have cost about habf of my monthly Social becurity check. But I have no other income and have other needs for that check. and 1 might have had machines on which the counters do not coincide and a machine for which I'd have had no other use.

You borrowed it when you first came here to work on your "oover book not to keep and use it all the time you'd be here but to determine whether or not it would save time for you and Cathy. When I knew you'dbe going back to "reland I asked about its return several times and was assured it would be returned. Cathy had planned to visit us before she left but you kept her busy until the last minute so she couldn' formething else was always more important than keeping your word. You did make it impossible for Cathy to come and bring the machine with her and you could have left it with Jim if you'd been at all concerned with its return.

I am well aware of the demands of self-imposed intensity and dedication to the job at hand but from extensive personal experience I also know that the most single-minded dedication does not prevent keeping onds word and I think you'll find nobody who can tell you I did not. When you are my age perhaps you will come to appreciate how much this can mean to you. And that the work need not suffer from it. (Especially if you have an ulcer, as I do and Jim said you also do. They don't like being agitated and can tell us so.) Since you were here I've had eye surgery (when I could have used that machine!) and learned I now also have a leaking heart valve. But my sleep comes with remarkable promptness and is undisturbed. It is good, please understand what may appear to be avuncular, not to be troubled by what need not trouble us and we can see to it does not. And each free and extra day is so much better for it!

I address the other matter beginning with your words,"I have not received a letter from you changing our agreement about the king material, and hope you will **santisms** permit me to continue working with it. Unless I hear from you **scattering santisms** (see the **par** problem I had with the last book when I have to read what is to my right when I type - two istakes here), I will -as we originally planned - let you see the revelant

paragraphs as soon as they are written."

I did write you, got no response or, as I say above, the return of that letter, I have not charged our agreement and as you know, you did not perform on it, and when I wrote you I told you so. I gave it some thought and decided that there were a few areas in which I would relieve you of your obligation to make no use at all of any of what I told you unless you got me a book deal and an assistant who could make my work possible and I specified them.

As I think I told you. I never heard from Sterling Lord. I did get a phone call from a man who said he worked for Lord and that when Lord returned is about a week I'd hear from him. I didn't. and haven't. So, all that remains of our agreement is your obligation to preserve the confidentiality of what I told you.

We did <u>not</u> agree after Lord's disenterest for you to use this material. Your words are "as we originally planned." You did not even discuss this with me. Instead you wrote me that it was your intention and the letter you say you did not get is specific in telling you I did not (and do not) agree to your using this material.

Given the history I now do not want you to use those things I said in the letter.

and I don't want any of it used. That was and is our agreement, the only agreement that I expect you to abide by it. We both have tape recordings of it and if my recollection is accurate, this is at the beginning.

Sincerely Harold Weis

cc: Jim Lesar

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ANTHONY SUMMERS

STILL POINT, DROMORE, AGLISH, CAPPOQUIN, CO. WATERFORD, IRELAND.

14.4.89

Mr.H.Weisberg, 7627 Old Receiver Road, FREDERICK, Maryland 23701. U.S.A.

Dear Harold,

I have just received your letter of April 2. I am appalled and very surprised to discover that your machine has still not been returned. During all of last year Kathy and I had a secretary who at the time showed herself to be one of the most able and conscientious colleagues I have had the pleasure of working with. When I left for Ireland on 22 December, she had taken on the responsibility of doing a number of "clearing-up" tasks. These included major responsibilities like paying outstanding bills, settling up with the landlord and selling my car. The first job to be done was the return of your machine, which I had insisted should be brought back to you by hand rather than risking damage in the mail.

To the consternation of Kathy and myself, we have heard nothing at all from the secretary since Christmas. I therefore have a major problem over materials un-received, and money - at best - unaccounted for. During this problem though, I felt sure that your machine had been returned. It was the only thing on which I had had any news since Jim had passed on a message about it to the secretary early in the year, and her response was that the matter was in hand. I therefore felt sure that the package had been returned to you. The secretary had been made very much aware that it was her first priority. I have only this week understood fully that the secretary has done none of the jobs she was paid to do. I have, however, established today that the machine is safe and sound, and still at her house. I shall be in the U.S. for a very few days during week beginning April 24, and will that week have the machine picked up and either drive it to you myself, or send someone with it.

Once again, I am extremely sorry, but hope you see that events - quite apart from your machine - went out of Kathy's or my control. We both very much value your help and friendship, and I hope my explanation will restore your faith in our integrity. I have not received a letter from you changing our agreement about the King material, and hope you will permit me to continue working with it. Unless I hear from you, I will - as we originally planned - let you see the relevant paragraphs as soon as they are written.

Meanwhile, the work is proving so monstrous that I am still only just about to wrap up research and start to write the first chapter!

Very hert to you halt,