

WITNESS STATEMENT: NEIL ALDRIN

I reside at 516 Broadway Avenue, Mal, Oregon. I am a writer of fiction.

I am well acquainted with Samuel Griffith. We served in the Marines together and four years ago, I co-authored a book with him. It is a novel, *Settling Scores*, about a covert operation led by a mercenary to rescue his daughter from a drug cartel in Columbia, South America.

After leaving the Marine Corps, Sam Griffith and I settled in Mal, Oregon, where Sam went to work for the local newspaper. It was in Mal that Sam met his first wife Marian. I was the best man at their wedding. Eventually, Sam moved away after the tragic accidental drowning of his wife. Now, Sam and I see each other roughly three times a year. We always meet at the National Mystery Writers Convention and we will meet at least two other times each year, often times when on business near where the other lives.

I know both by reputation and first-hand experience that Sam and his second wife Sondra were deeply in love with each other. Sam is a faithful husband, and he is a truthful, honest, law-abiding, peace-loving and decent human being. Sam loved to surprise Sondra with gifts. He showered her with flowers, cards, and sometimes jewelry. I remember that he built and furnished the home office for her once they had moved to their new home in Ruston. Whenever they were together Sam was holding Sondra's hand or otherwise showing his affection for her in many small but significant ways.

This is a true statement given to Samuel Griffith's attorney.

Date: March 13, 20XX+1

*Neil Aldrin*

---