



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

SEP 1 1976

Mr. Emory Brown, Jr.
82 Squankum Road
Howell, New Jersey 07731

Dear Mr. Brown:

This is in response to your letter of July 12, 1976, concerning your earlier correspondence to the Attorney General which was interpreted by the Freedom of Information and Privacy Appeals Unit to be an appeal under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

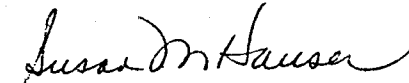
The Freedom of Information Act is the regular channel through which the public may obtain access to government records. As your initial request to Director Kelley was for information concerning the bullet fragments and sample bullets in the Kennedy assassination investigation, your letter was processed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a request for records under the F.O.I.A. In accordance with the provisions of that Act, which require the release to a requester of records which do not fall within the scope of its exemption provisions, the F.B.I. released to you the neutron activation analysis and the spectographic documents which were earlier furnished to Dr. Nichols. As Director Kelley indicated, the Act does not require government officials to interpret records which are released or answer questions about those documents.

Your letter of April 23, 1976, was initially considered as an appeal of Director Kelley's refusal to interpret the letter and numerical code in the documents which were released to you because an appeal under the Freedom of Information Act is the administrative means by which the Deputy Attorney General can review Director Kelley's decision to withhold records. After reviewing the correspondence between you, Director Kelley and the Attorney General, I have concluded



that you did not, in fact, intend to have your request for information construed as a request under the Freedom of Information Act nor your letter of April 23, 1976, interpreted as an administrative appeal. Accordingly, your F.O.I.A. appeal file has been closed and your letter of April 23 has been directed by this Office to the F.B.I. for consideration and response separate from the earlier processing of your request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Very truly yours,


Susan M. Hauser
Staff Assistant to the
Deputy Attorney General