

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION



#2

National Archives and Records Service

Washington, D.C. 20408

March 24, 1967

IN REPLY REFER TO:

TO: Mr. David C. Stephenson
Office of Legal Counsel
Department of Justice

FROM: Archivist of the United States

SUBJECT: Letter to the Attorney General
from Mr. Harold Weisberg

This is in reply to your memorandum on this subject addressed to Mr. Marion M. Johnson.

The spectrographic analysis report in which Mr. Weisberg is interested is the laboratory report of FBI Special Agent Gallegher, mentioned in the Hearings of the Warren Commission, Volume V, pages 67 and 69. Early in November 1966 we received a request for the spectrographic analysis report from a writer for The Reporter Magazine. Not finding it in the relevant files of the Commission, Mr. Johnson made a telephone inquiry to the FBI Laboratory for any information that might be useful in answering the inquiry. He was told that information concerning the spectrographic analysis was in Commission Document 5, pages 162-194. Copies of these pages are attached. The specific reference to the spectrographic analysis is checked in the margin on page 164.

It happened that Mr. Weisberg also made an inquiry about the spectrographic analysis report at that time. He was told about the FBI Laboratory reference to Commission Document 5, but he contends that the laboratory report of Special Agent Gallegher mentioned in V Hearings 67 had been "considered" by the Commission and should have been transferred to the National Archives as part of the evidence described in the order of the Acting Attorney General of November 1, 1966 (31 Federal Register 13967). There is no indication in the relevant files of the Commission that the spectrographic analysis laboratory report was received by the Commission. We have also had inquiries about laboratory reports on (1) the spectrographic analysis of the metal mark on the curb of Main Street in Dallas (Report of the Commission, page 116), (2) ballistics examination by FBI Special Agent Cunningham of pistol bullets and cartridge cases (Report, page 171-172), and (3) the Zapruder camera (Report, p. 49). These also are not in relevant files of the Commission.

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Other items of evidence that Mr. Weisberg contends should be in the National Archives are copies of the following: (1) a picture taken by Mary Moorman at the time of the assassination that includes the Texas School Book Depository Building; (2) three pictures taken by Hugh W. Betzner at that time; (3) the correspondence of Special Agent Lyndal L. Shaneyfelt of the FBI with Philip Willis regarding Willis Exhibit 1; (4) motion pictures taken at the scene of the assassination by Robert Hughes, George Phenix, and Thomas Alyea; and (5) still pictures or slides for frames 207-212 of the Abraham Zapruder film of the assassination. The records of the Commission indicate that the items numbered 1-4 were received by the FBI in connection with the Commission's investigation and that some of them were examined by Commission personnel. They are not in the relevant files among the Commission's records. We have received numerous inquiries about the Moorman and Betzner pictures, the Hughes film, and the Zapruder film frames, besides the inquiries from Mr. Weisberg.



Robert H. Bahmer

Attachment