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Director, Federal Bureau  
of Investigation

11/2/66

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Office of Legal Counsel

Transfer of rifle and pistol involved in the assassina-  
tion of President Kennedy to the National Archives

By a memorandum of August 19, 1966, the Attorney General authorized you to transfer to the National Archives and Records Service of the General Services Administration all evidence and exhibits involved in the investigation conducted by the Warren Commission, except for the rifle and pistol which were subject to litigation in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit (John J. King v. United States, decided July 29, 1966).

That memorandum also authorized you to transfer the rifle and pistol to the National Archives when the forfeiture litigation terminated or when title to those items was vested in the United States pursuant to Public Law 89-318.

Title to those items has been vested in the United States pursuant to Public Law 89-318 (See Part II of the Federal Register of November 1, 1966, page 13966, et seq.). Furthermore, the Solicitor General, in conformity with recommendations from the Criminal Division and this Office, decided not to appeal the adverse decision of the Fifth Circuit and time for any such appeal has expired. This, in effect, terminated the litigation.

Accordingly, in conformity with the Attorney General's memorandum of August 19, 1966, it is requested that you arrange for prompt transfer of the rifle and pistol to the National Archives

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