Subject

January 2, 1980

Quinlan J. Shea, Jr.

Director, Office of

Privacy and Information Appeals

Sol Lindenbaum Office of Legal Counsel

This is in response to your request for my comments on the memorandum entitled "Warren Commission Reports," that was written on April 30, 1975, by James R. Robinson, of the General Crimes Section, Criminal Division, to Carl W. Belcher, Chief of that Section.

I was aware of the task force headed by Carl Eardley that was established by Attorney General Ramsey Clark. For your information I am enclosing a copy of page 837 of the New York Times Index for 1969, which summarizes information printed in the Times about the work of the task force.

To the best of my recollection, the task force was charged with constituting the panel of medical experts and defraying its expenses; with arranging for access by the panel to the autopsy photos, reports, etc., other medical records, the clothing worn by President Kennedy when he was shot and any other physical evidence that the Government had; and with providing to the panel whatever additional evidence or information the Government had concerning the assassination that would be relevant to the panel's mission or it might request.

More particularly, I have no knowledge that the task force was charged with reviewing "all the evidence"—if that phrase in Mr. Robinson's memorandum is read to encompass evidence not pertinent to the assignment of the medical experts—or that it prepared or helped prepare a report in addition to the report of those experts. As you will see from the summary in the Times Index, that report was made public by this Department in January 1969.

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