Honorable Earold R. Collier, U. S. House of Representatives, Vashington, D. C. 20515

-r.A.G. Stephenson Copeland

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cc:Files

FMM:DCS:em

Collier:

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The Acting Attorney General, Mr. Clark has asked me to reply to your letter of Jamary 30, 1967, requesting his advice in connection with a letter from one of your constituents,

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HAROLD R. COLLIER 10TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEE: WAYS AND MEANS

Congress of the United States House of Representatives Mashington, J.C.

January 30, 1957

ARIE HERSHEY



Mr. Ramsey Clark Acting Attorney General of the United States Department of Justice Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Clark:

The enclosed communication from one of my constituents, concerning the Warren Commission is self-explanatory, I believe.

I would appreciate your good offices and advice in connection with my reply to this gentleman.

With kind regards, I remain

Sincerely, ECECCIE Harold R. Collier

ENT OF JUSTICE 3 an in JAN 31 1967 RAG \mathcal{I}

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

HRC:jml Enclosure

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Sincerely yours

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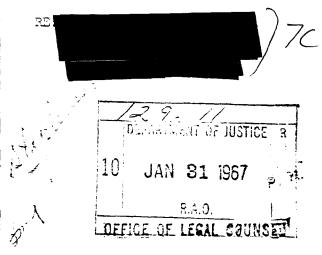
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ---- S. WASHINGTON, D.C.

January 30 , 1967.

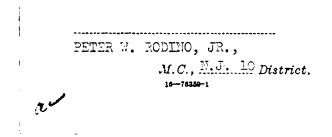
Respectfully referred to

Congressional Liaison Department of Justice Washington, D. C.

The attached is selfexplanatory. I would greatly appreciate the Department's comments on this issue, together with return of the attached.



Very respectfully,



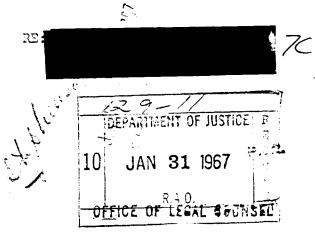
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Respectfully referred to

Congressional Liaison Department of Justice Neshington, D. C. 20530

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The attached is selfexplanatory. I would greatly appreciate the Departments comments on this issue, together with return of the attached.



Very respectfully, PETER M. RODINO, JR., M.C., N.J. 10 District. 10-76350-1 Form DJ-150 (Ed. 4-26-65)

UNITED STATES GOVER....IENT

Memorandum

TO :File

FROM

SUBJECT:Kennedy Film Showing in California

RTMENT OF JUSTICE

DATE: January 26, 1967

On January 25, 1967, I was advised by Mr. Kossack that he had been furnished information by United States Attorney Van de Kamp, Los Angeles, California, that the 16 mm. film once in the possession of Mr. Lemucchi had been given by Mr. Lemucchi to persons in the Democratic headquarters in California and that personnel of that headquarters had given the 16 mm. film to Mr. Gregory Peck, the actor who narrated the film.

On January 25, 1967, I communicated the above information to Mr. Ralph Becker, attorney for the John F. Kennedy Genter F. F. for the Performing Arts. Mr. Becker stated that the JFK Center had no interest in this matter as the Center had never had refited to 35 mm. films and that its responsibility was limited to 35 mm. films. He suggested I relay the information to Mr. Richard M. Schmidt, Jr., General Counsel, U.S.I.A. On January 26, 1967, I was able to reach Mr. Schmidt and communicated the above information to him and asked if U.S.I.A. had the ability to contact Mr. Gregory Peck to determine whether, in fact, the 16 mm. film had been turned over to him. Mr. Schmidt stated that he would undertake this task.

CC: Mr. Kossack Mr. Harold Reis Mr. David Stephenson, OLC

6 FEB 3 1967 R.A.O.

January 27, 1987; T/1/26/67 MY:CIB:per Ce Federal Bureau of Investigation 129-11 - - -Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant C. Attorney General, Criminal Division BYPresidential Assassination, М in [ŁΒ 3 67

1. Tak

Attached is a copy of a letter to the President dated only "Jan. 1967" which was referred to the Criminal Division by Harry McFnerson, Special Counsel to the President, in a referral dated January 24, 1967. Beither the original of the letter nor a copy of the envelope was included in the referral. It is indicated that no response to this letter was made by the White House and none has been made by the Criminal Division.

It is requested this matter be given such attention as med by the Bureau to be appropriate.

Director

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	Date: Jan. 24, 1967 Date: Jan. 24, 1967
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bours	pt handling is essential. Correspondence should be answered or other necessary action taken within 48 after arrival at the department or agency. If any delay is encountered, please telephone office of the rsigned.
Please	e handle the attached correspondence as indicated below:
1	A. Reply on behalf of the President
1	B. Draft for presidential signature
(C. Draft for undersigned's signature
I	D. Other:
	(1) For background briefing on which to base reply from this office
	for direct reply and such
	(3) For your information
,	(4) For comment
Fumi	ish this office with a copy of your reply. Yes X No
Retur	rn the original correspondence to this office. Yes NoX
REM	IARKS:
	To the President; from 7C
	Subject: Claims has proof Lee Oswald did not assasinate the President

By direction of the President:

γN K Harry McPherson Special Counsel to the President

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WErte, Le let me house, your me shyre and also weaks that look the gray houses it would be discriticues, which & mum some with something, and should it get in the word mo moug. Some expert a bet but it samed be lithen the task you wing but with it not not I won't to know of Sam get a sweed for "assurance the previous of the generalised States. the me one about what sam going to told you said and I den't wind my nume manual which cam writing about is believen me and to have she they 13 your and the yours are 16 years another daughter merricos and in I orthand 3 children olleat boy in Lermany with army these 5 children octent dampter murued and the myred - Sam blogene old some my rode and Evist Jurent to intrudukse morange in forman the are o June John B. Julineur with Top - 'nof 1961 President Ne Planson

FMW:DCS:em cc:Files File: 129-11 Wozencraft Stephenson 2.24 3 2 257 Copeland 0 Respectfully referred to Mr. Thomas Winston, Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, Department of the Treasury, Washington, D. C. --Letter of January 17, 1967, from: Reverend C. J. P. Wetklo, Ph.D., IC. Re: Purchase of U. S. Savings bonds by U. S. citizen in Germany and exchange of German currency for U. S. dollars. Frank M. Wozencraft Assistant Attorney Genera Office of Legal Counsel

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ATR MAIL	
Revotant 0.	J. P. Wetklo, Ph.D.,
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File: 129-11

Your latter of January 17, 1967, addressed to the Counsel to the President, has been referred to me for reply. You enclose for the President's information a newspaper clipping relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. You also comment on difficulties you have encountered in purchasing U. S. Savings Bonds and changing German currency into U. S. dollars.

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The President appreciates your taking the time to bring these matters to his attention. In connection with your bond and currency problems, we are sending a copy of your letter to Thomas Winston, Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Fabt, Department of the Treasury, for appropriate handling.

Sincerely yours,

Frank M. Wozencraft Assistant Attorney General Office of Legal Counsel

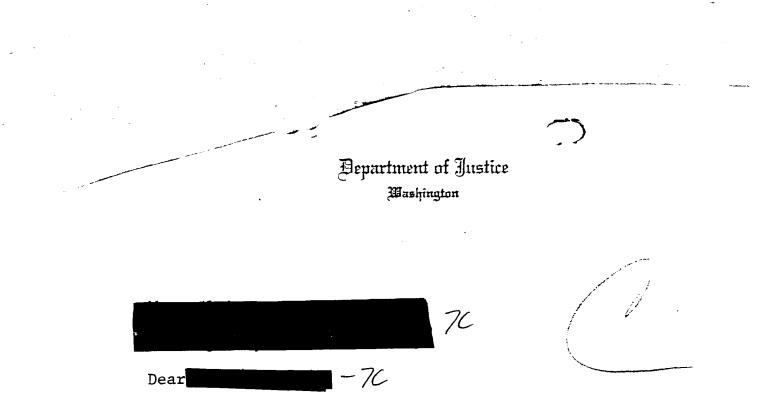
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The President has asked me to reply to your letter of December 20, 1966, recommending a new investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy.

The authors who have criticized the conclusions of the Warren Commission do not claim to have any significant new evidence, so far as we are aware. Rather, their criticisms and demands for a new inquiry are based upon different conclusions they have drawn from parts of the same body of evidence that was examined by the Commission. The Commission made a thorough inquiry and detailed analysis of the facts concerning the assassination. The evidence amply supports the basic conclusions of the Commission. In these circumstances, we see no basis for a new inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

hM. Warraft

/ Frank M. Wozencraft Assistant Attorney General Office of Legal Counsel

JAN 21 1967

cc:Ffies Stephenson Copeland

Dear 76

8 1 1957

FMW:MFR:DCS:em

File:

129-11

President Johnson has askedume to thank you for and to reply to your thoughtful letter of January 4, 1967, concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. You urge a new investigation of the assassination. The President appreciates your taking the time to write to him of your views.

The authors who have criticized the conclusions of the Warren Commission do not claim to have any significant new evidence, so far as we are aware. Rather, their criticisms and demands for a new inquiry are based upon different conclusions they have drawn from parts of the same body of evidence that was examined by the Commission. The Commission made a thorough inquiry and detailed analysis of the facts concerning the assassination. The evidence amply supports the basic conclusions of the Commission. In these circumstances, we see no basis for a new inquiry.

The President has asked me particularly to thank you for your good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Frank M. Wozencraft Assistant Attorney General Office of Legal Counsel

JAN SI

TOPTO AND MALLET

1957

By Martin F. Richman First Assistant

	REFER	RAL
fo: The A	Acting Attorney General	Date: January 6, 1967.
	ACTION RI	EQUESTED
Ma Di Su Fo	aft reply for: President's signature. Undersigned's signature. emorandum for use as enclosure to reply. rect reply. Furnish information copy. uitable acknowledgment or other appropriate handling. Furnish copy of reply, if any. or your information.	NOTE Prompt action is essential. If more than 48 hours' delay is encountered please telephone the undersigned immediately Code 1450. Basic correspondence should be returned when draft reply, memorandum, or comment is re quested.

REMARKS:

<u>,</u>

Description:

X Letter: Telegram: Other: To: The President From: Date: 1/4/67 Subject: Urges ''War on Crime''

By direction of the President:

1 July 10 Paul M. Popple Assistant to the President

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(Copy to remain with correspondence)

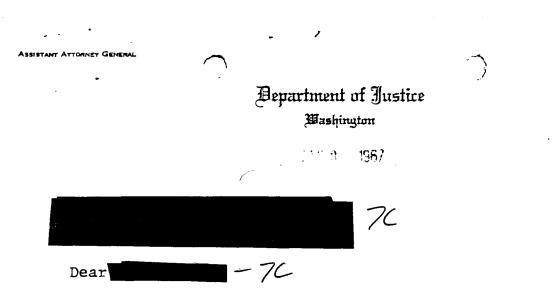
en par ja genoane A

Je mary 4. 1967 Dear Mr. President - TC of live at my name is am 26 yrs old and married with no children (yet). Let me begin by saying I was a great adminer of our late president J. F. K. and I have equal admiration for you because of the way you accepted the responsibility as leader of this great mation on that fateful day in nov. 1963. you have seened that time been a great leader to a greatful mation and a troubled world. Decause & am a Democrat and believe fully in Democratic philosophy, a most urgent matter has given me cause to write you. At is the loss of popularity of sur party and discention amoung its members. You must be saying to yourself by now its easy for this young man to talk about it, but what can we do sbout it ? I believe Mr. President that you could gain countless polle by starting a "Clean House Program" to clearify that to recinite American everywhere by consentrating all efforts on clianing up our great Nation . How have all ready storted two very important place of this program by your War on Poverty and the Great Society Program.

what we n'd now is something to round off these wounderful programs with a llar on Crime program. and the spearhead of this program could be the one movement to bring you and the Democratic Party to its greatest heights in populartily. That is, to re-open the investigation into the assimption of J.T.K. Un a special news conference you could say that I (meaning you) like millions of other Americans am possessed with a shaclow of dougt. and therefore will order a "Citizens hand with all "rights" to any and all documents pertaining to the assassination. I believe fully in this because this subject is now and will be for the next so yrs. be the topics of discussion both here and abroad. Please, Mr. President send out feelers on this idea in your own circles and set the reactions you get. Attempt it might be a little intrust to you I too am aspired to become a "Public Servent" I was a candiclate for the office of representative in my district

I was univercessful in my endevors with 1251 votes as compared to 3,500 votes to one of the winners (we elect a representatives) but this did not discourage me, I will not give up someday I'll be governor of massachusetts and maybe even - - well Mr. Good President my combilion is showing so d'll close for noter, & sincerely hope you will consider my ideas. One closing thought, I believe most americans have a feeling about writing to the President of the United States; like he was a "long lost Buddy" & feeling the letters may never reach you that the staff who screen your correspondence "just answer them" I hope this one reaches your desk and finds you in good health. "You'll be great in 68" Kespectfully Jam, P.S. Enclosed please find one of my campagin hand out cards, you might want as a remembrance . Ent.

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The President has asked me to thank you for your letter of December 12, 1966, requesting that he do something "to clarify the uncertainty which exists about the late President's death."

As you know, the Warren Commission investigated the assassination of President Kennedy and reported its conclusions to the President in 1964. At a recent press conference President Johnson indicated that he accepted the conclusions reached by the Commission and knew of no reason to question them.

Although the criticisms of the Warren Commission may have led some persons to doubt the correctness of its conclusions, it is important to bear in mind that the Commission made a thorough inquiry and detailed analysis of the facts concerning the assassination. The evidence amply supports the basic conclusions of the Commission. In these circumstances, we see no basis for a new inquiry.

Sincerely,

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Frank M. Wozencraft Assistant Attorney General Office of Legal Counsel

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Magazine Publishes It With 'Second-Assassin Theory'

By PETER KIHSS

By PETER KIHSS A controversy over whether a photograph showed a man aiming a rifile in front of Pres-ident Kennedy the day he was killed in Dallas was stirred up yesterday by Esquire maga-zine. The magazine's report in brought suich

yesterday by Esquire maga-zine. The magazine's report brought quick dissent from United Press International, from Whose files the picture came. The news service quoted Jack V. Fox, a staff correspondent, as having said that ("if the pic-ture is studied long enough one can believe that he sees" a ri-fleman with sunglasses leaning on top of a station wagon-"but one can also imagine a white - faced steer staring down." The news agency added that Mr. Fox, after an investigation of various challenges of the Warren Commission report and talking with eyewitnesses, re-ported on June 27 that "he per-sonally was satisfied" with the commission's findings. The commission, headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren, held that Lee Harvey Oswald was the lone assassin of the President on Nov. 22, 1963, firing from the sixth floor of a building be-hind the Kennedy car. In a press release, concerning its December issue, out today, report perso

hind the Kennedy car. In a press release concerning its December issue, out today, Esquire said the picture "ap-pears to confirm the existence of an assassin now at large But late yesterday, John Ber-endt, an associate editor, said the press release was "perhaps a bit too positive." The maga-zine, he said, was standing in-stead on the text of an "im-partial" article that offered the photograph in the eighth of 35

74 "assassination detailed the ories

U. S. Aide Took Picture The controversy arose over one frame of an eight-milli-meter color film by Orville O. meter color film by Orville O. Nix, a Dallas employe of the Federal General Services Ad-ministration. This showed a fence along a grassy knoll and, when enlarged, behind it what the article said was "in fact a vehicle" with a man leaning of its roof.

The Esquire article said S. Holland, a railroad signal sungr-risor, had told Mr. Fox he had

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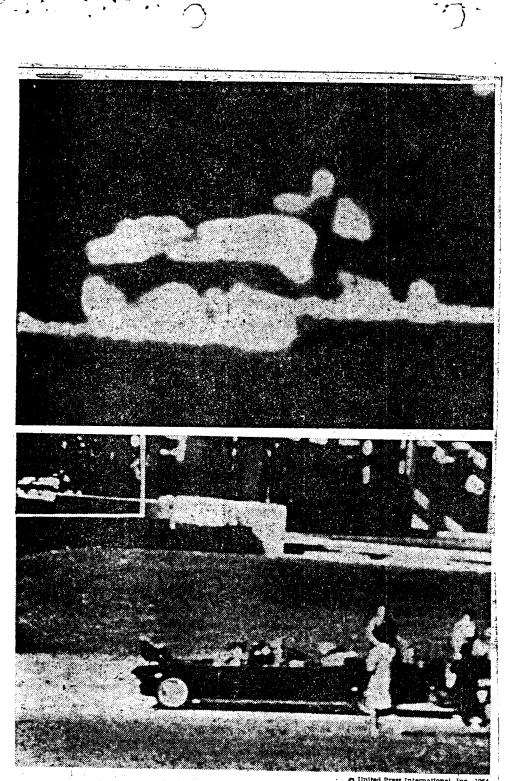
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as three shots "right now they may feel dir-ferently." Meanwhile, WNBC-TV made available a text of a 55-minute valable a text of a 55-minute available a text of a 55-minute ton wagon behind with two mudy scheduled for broadeast at noon bounger as if some-boun it ess International, in t, said the Esquire tes erroneously that editors are propo-

PI. editors are propo-A theory that the pic-sels for the Warren commis-licated a second slayer." sion reported they stood by its endt said the word "pro-findings after having examined was meant to refer to challenges in books by two other with worked on "track" panelists, Mark Lane and Ed-

ward Jay Epstein, authors re spectively of "Rush to" ment" and "Invely of "Rush to Judg-and "Inquest."

ment" and "Inquest." One of the Commission aides was Burt W. Griffin, now direc-tor of the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, who said the two authors had pointed out "loose ends, which I don't think are contral or germane." The other was Wesley J. Liebeler, now professor of law at the Univer-sity of California in Los Angeles who said the Warren inquiry had been "thorough" and some-times the report "didn't re-flect" all the evidence in the record. record.



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> CONTROVERSIAL ASSASSINATION PICTURE: Top picture, from files of United Press International, is said by 'Esquire article to show (upper left corner) a vehicle with a man on its roof at moment President Kennedy, in car in foreground, is being shot. Bottom picture is blowup of section in question. U.P.I. disagrees that picture—a frame from a tim—shows a "rifleman." Esquire used picture with 35 "assassination theorees."

RECORDS

December 21, 1966

HEH: EED: 1gi 129-11 C

Honorable Charles S. Joelson House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Joelson:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 12, 1966, enclosing a letter from the who inquired as to events connected with the assassination of President Kennedy.

The President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, popularly known as the Warren Commission, because the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Karl Warren, served as its chairman, was directed to evaluate all the facts and circumstances surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy, the shooting of Governor Connally, and the subsequent killing of the alleged assassin Lee Harvey Oswald.

Following ten months of exhaustive interrogation, investigation, and review of evidence the Warren Coumission made public its report on September 28, 1964. It was the conclusion of the Commission that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, killed the President. The shots which wounded President Kennedy and wounded Governor Connally, the Commission found, were fired from the sixth floor window at the southeast corner of the Texas School Book Depository. The Commission concluded that the weight of evidence indicates that there were three shots fired. It said that it was not necessary to any of its assential findings to determine just which shot hit Governor Connally, but that very persuasive evidence from experts indicates that the same bullet which pierced the President's throat also caused Governor Connally's wounds. The Commission states that although

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Marted 12-21-66 Governor Connally's testimony and certain other factors have given rise to some difference of opinion as to this probability, there is no question in the mind of any member of the Commission that all the shots which caused the President's and Governor Connally's wounds were fired from the sixth floor window of the Texas School Book Depository, and were fired by Lee Harvey Oswald. For further details, we suggest that the may wish to read Chapter I of the Report, "Summary and Conclusions".

The Warren Counission made a thorough investigation. The Department of Justice has taken note of the recent articles and radio and television discussions which have expressed highly controversial opinions as to the conclusions of the Counission. However, we know of no evidence that would warrant a re-opening of the investigation.

Under the terms of a law passed by Congress a year ago, all Warren Commission evidence concerning the assassination of President Kennedy in the Government's possession will be preserved intact and deposited permanently in the National Archives. It is our understanding that the bulk of the material is not classified, and may be seen by any person with a legitimate interest in inspecting it upon application to the Archives.

I am returning requested. letter as you 7C

Sincerely,

Herbert E. Hoffman Chief, Legislative & Legal Section

وطر RIATIONS CHARLES S. JOELSON COMMITTEE Congress of the United States House of Representatives Mashington, D.C. December 12, 1966 Mr. Herbert E. Hoffman Chief, Legislative and Legal Division Office of Deputy Attorney General Room 4117 10th and Pennsylvania Avenue Department of Justica Washington, D. C. Dear Mr. Hoffman: I enclose a letter I have received from 70 I would appreciate your considering it and letting me have your comments. Please return letter with your reply. 7C Sinceraly, Charles S. 1.3on 0 Member of Congress J:s Encl. 29-11 DEC 14 1966 · w.w. DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

December 9,1966

Dear Sir:

I am a sophmore at Passaic Valley High School, in Little Falls .I am fifteen years old and have become interested in the death of President John F. Kennedy.

The reason that I have become so interested in it now is because I recently saw a man on the Allan Burke show who does not believe that Mr. Oswald killed our President. This man has spent much time doing research to prove his theory. A few weeks later I saw you on the show also and that is why I know that you know that he wasn's there just to stir up doubt. I also believe that the man was very sincere in his beliefs.

I have always had faith in my country; and I have never questioned it before. The things that this man had to offer in the way of evidence made me begin to wonder, so I am abking you because I feel that you will be honest with me. What I hope you realize is, that I will always back our country no matter what, but I just would like to know the truth.

I would like to know why all the witnesses were not asked to testify?I would like to know why some men said that the shot was fired from another direction(in contrast to where Oswald supposedlyto have shot him)and why did the police run in the same direction that the railroad men said he saw the shots if Oswald shot him?I would like to know if it is true that the contents in the Archives about the incident will not be read until seventy-five years from now?If so,why? Why do they not want us to know the truth?He was our president and I feel that if anyone should know the truth it should be us the citizens of theze United States.I feel deep down inside that there is something terribly wrong, that the people of the Dallas government or which ever government it may be are trying to hide something.

So I ask you for the truth. I hope that I have made my questions clear to you, and, that you will be able to answer them for me. I realize that you are a busy person and I thank you for taking time to hear me. Thank you.

Yours Truly,

TC

MFR:jaf Richman cc: Copeland Files Martin F. Richman First Assistant Office of Legal Counsel

Agreement between Administrator of General Services and Executors of the Estate of President Kennedy re autopsy photographs and X-rays.

The subject agreement is set forth in a letter dated October 29, 1966 addressed to the Administrator of Ceneral Services and signed on behalf of the executors by Durka Marshall. Mr. Knott signed an acceptance at the foot of the letter. Executed copies were exchanged upon the delivery of the pictures on October 31 to the National Archives. The Department of Justice's executed counterpart of the agreement is in the safe file of the Office of Legal Counsel. GSA and Archives also have one executed counterpart each.

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FMW:DCS:em File: 129-11 c:Files Wezmeraft Dep.A.G. Stephenson Copeland

Honorable George E. Brown, Jr., House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Brown:

This refers to your memorandum of December 7, 1966, addressed to the Department of Justice, enclosing a letter from one of your constituents and requesting our comments. The letter, dated December 6, 1966, from 70 criticizes the

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conclusions of the Warren Commission and urges a new investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy. also suggests that evidence or other information relating to the assassination is being improperly withheld from the public.

It is apparent that the doubts expressed by the about the Warren Commission's findings and his belief that a new investigation is needed are based on recently published books and articles critical of the Commission. In this connection it is worth noting that the authors who have criticized the conclusions of the Warren Commission do not claim to have any significant new evidence, so far as we are aware. Rather, their criticisms and demands for a new inquiry are based upon different conclusions they have drawn from parts of the same body of evidence that was examined by the Commission. The Commission made a thorough inquiry and detailed analysis of the facts concerning the assassination. The evidence amply supports the basic conclusions of the Commission. In these circumstances, we see no basis for a new inquiry.

As to the suggestion that certain evidence is being withheld from public knowledge it is partiment to point

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out that the Warren Commission gathered a vast amount of material, much of it having only remote connection with the assassination. The bulk of the material that was before the Commission either was published in its 26-volume Hearings or is available to researchers at the National Archives. The relatively small portion which is not now available to the public consists primarily of national security intelligence or investigative reports -- dealing largely with activities far removed from the assassination itself -- which if disclosed might compromise confidential sources or techniques, or in some cases jeopardize the lives of individuals abroad. Public availability of other information had been delayed pending completion of the prosecution of Jack Ruby, but this information will now be released. All of the Commission material which has not yet been released will be reviewed periodically until all of it has been made available to the public.

I hope that the foregoing information may be of assistance to you in replying to your constituents.

letter is returned herewith.

Sincerely,

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Frank M. Wozencraft Assistant Attorney General Office of Legal Counsel

Enclosure

K

FMW:DCS:em File: 129-11

cc:Files ' Wozencraft Dep.A.G. Stephenson Copeland

Honorable James J. Howard, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Howard:

0EC 30 100

This refers to your memorandum of December 3, 1966, to the Department of Justice, transmitting for comment a letter dated November 28, 1966, from the investigation of the Warren Commission and requesting that the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy be reopened.

Warren Commission are no doubt related to recently published books and articles critical of the findings of the Warren Commission. It is worth noting in this connection that the authors who have criticized the conclusions of the Warren Commission do not claim to have any significant new evidence, so far as we are aware. Rather, their criticisms and demands for a new inquiry are based upon different conclusions they have drawn from parts of the same body of evidence that was examined by the Commission. The Commission made a thorough inquiry and detailed analysis of the facts concerning the assassination. The evidence amply supports the basic conclusions of the Commission. In these circumstances, we see no basis for a new inquiry.

I hope that the foregoing information may be of assistto you in replying to 76

As requested the letter enclosed with your memorandum is returned herewith.

Sincerely, IMSPTD AND MAILED COMMUNICATIONS SEC. JAN 3 1967 <u>C</u> Frank M. Wozencraft <u>Assistant Attorney General</u> Office of Legal Counsel

Enclosure

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Bashington, D.C.

_ ¹⁹⁶ 6 December 3

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Department of Justice Congressional Liaison Office Washington 25, D.C.

Sir: The attached communication is sent for your consideration. Please investigate the statements contained therein and forward me the necessary information for reply, returning the enclosed correspondence with your answer.

Suc 19 Yours truly, JAMES J. HOWARD 29 М. C ENT OF JUSTICE R \mathbb{Z} Warren Commission đ 27 DEC 6 1966 11 R R.A.O. D COUNSEL OFFICE OF 20 4 min

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