

NYT 11/16/66
Custody of X-Rays

To the Editor:

At the risk of appearing ungracious, may I ask how the photographs, X-rays and other data pertaining to the autopsy of an assassinated President of the United States—performed in a Government hospital by Government doctors as an integral part of a criminal investigation—came to be in the exclusive possession of the Kennedy family?

Aren't these documents legally Government property? So how come the Kennedys can "give" them to the National Archives and set restrictive conditions on their exposure? And why weren't they made exhibits to the Warren Commission report?

Surely they are not that unimportant. There may be some explanation for this queer situation, but as of now it looks as if somebody has been taking liberties with the law.

ALFRED M. ROSSUM

New York, Nov. 2, 1966