

2 November 1966

Burke Marshall
Representative of the Kennedy Family
c/o IBM Corporation
425 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y.

Not Sent

SIR:

As author of the Subject Index to the Warren Report and Hearings & Exhibits published by Scarecrow Press of New York and London in March 1966 and writer of articles on the Warren Report published in The Minority of One issues of June, July, September, and October 1966 and in Esquire December 1966 I hereby petition the Kennedy Family and Executors of the Estate of the late President, through you, Sir, for authorization to examine the autopsy x-rays and photographs placed into the custody of the National Archives on 31 October 1966. I request permission to view this evidence as soon as possible and preferably permission also to be accompanied by forensic pathologist and Director of the Pittsburgh Institute of Legal Medicine Dr. Cyril H. Wecht Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. My book-length manuscript on the Warren Report is now under consideration at a major publishing house and will require the addition of a chapter reflecting the disposition of the official autopsy photographs and x-rays as announced in the press today. For that purpose I urgently request permission to examine and with the assistance of Dr. Wecht to describe and evaluate the autopsy photographs and x-rays in my manuscript. The Family of the late President surely is deeply conscious

of the rights of the American people to full access to the material evidence in this case and to the imperative need of strict historical accuracy in the record of the immense national and international tragedy of the assassination. I cannot believe that the Kennedy Family will fail to respect the right of responsible scholars and researchers to receive access to the hitherto unavailable material evidence nor wish to impose arbitrary restrictions on independent impartial scientific inquiry into unresolved conflicts in the known evidence. Therefore I look forward with confidence to a favorable decision on my petition to examine the autopsy photographs and x-rays at the earliest possible time.

SYLVIA MEAGHER

302 West 12 St NYC 10014

cc: Office of Senator Robert F. Kennedy
Representative Theodore F. Kupferman
Dr. Bahmer, Chief Archivist of the Warren Commission archives