

10 February 1973

Dear Fred,

Many thanks for your letter of the 6th and the enclosed copy of your letter to Rowley as well as the Humes-and-company report of 1 November 1966 with its inventory of photographic and X-ray materials from the autopsy.

Although I have virtually "retired" from the assassination, for health reasons, I did read this material with curiosity and interest. I must sincerely congratulate you and Paul Hoch for forcing the declassification of the document with its apparently incriminating paragraph (4) on page 11.

You say in your letter to Rowley that you "cannot imagine a circumstance...where it would become necessary to destroy films..." and, indeed, it is difficult to imagine an innocent reason for such destruction of evidence. One possibility does occur to me, for whatever it may be worth: that a medical corpsman was taking unauthorized photographs of the body with a view to later commercial exploitation and an SS agent seized and destroyed the roll of film on the assumption that it would be made available to, say, the National Enquirer, for a large sum. (Remember the gruesome photo of Oswald's sewed-up body after autopsy which was peddled to the Enquirer by some Dallasite out for a quick buck?)

I will be most interested to learn of Rowley's reply to your inquiry, if indeed he does reply at all. With affectionate regards and thanks,

Yours faithfully,