

June 12, 1970

Mr. Harold Weisberg  
Coq d'Or Press  
Route 8  
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

This will reply to your letters of May 16, 1970 enclosing five separate requests for information under the Public Information Section of the Administrative Procedure Act. The information and materials you request relate to the assassination of former President Kennedy.

This letter will respond to each request in the order they were explained in your letters of May 16.

(1) Spectrographic Analyses: You have asked for access to the spectrographic analyses conducted on certain bullet evidence involved in the assassination.

I regret that I am unable to grant your request in that the work notes and raw analytical data on which the results of the spectrographic tests are based are part of the investigative files of the FBI and are specifically exempted from public disclosure as investigatory files compiled for law enforcement purposes. 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(7). The results of the spectrographic tests are adequately shown in the report of the Warren Commission where (Volume 5, pages 67, 69, 73 and 74) it is specifically set forth that the metal fragments were analyzed spectrographically and found to be similar in composition.

ENCLOSURE

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(2) Documentation Relating to David William Ferrie:  
You have described the documents you are seeking, relating to the late David William Ferrie of New Orleans, as those withheld from the Warren Commission and/or withheld from the National Archives, and those withheld by the National Archives by order of the Department of Justice.

This will advise you that no documents relating to David William Ferrie were withheld by the FBI from the Warren Commission. Also, so far as is known, all records of the Warren Commission pertaining to David William Ferrie were turned over to the National Archives by the Warren Commission, together with all other records of the Warren Commission.

With respect to those records now in the custody of the National Archives which have been withheld from public disclosure, I am unable to grant your request. These investigative reports are withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(7). The disclosure of these reports might be a source of embarrassment to innocent persons, who are the subject, source, or apparent source of the material in question which contains rumor and hearsay and details of a personal nature having no significant connection with the assassination of the President.

(3) Exhibit 60 (Pictures of President Kennedy's Shirt and Tie): In accordance with your request, enclosed herewith is a photographic copy of a portion of Exhibit 60 showing the tabs of the President's shirt.

(4) Concerning Receipt of Material Obtained at Autopsy:  
You have requested a photograph and all records relating to the material removed by Commander James Humes, M.C., U.S.N., at the time of the autopsy and receipted for by Special Agents Francis X. O'Neill and James W. Siberton November 22, 1963. This request appears to be based on your inability to specifically identify the Exhibit in the Commission report.

The material referred to in the receipt is identified as Commission Exhibit 843. A photograph of this Exhibit was furnished the Commission and was published in "Hearings



Before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy," Volume 17, page 841. Other information regarding this Exhibit appears elsewhere in the Commission's Hearings.

(5) Autopsy Photographs: The Department of Justice and the FBI have never had possession or custody of the autopsy photographs which you state were originally delivered to the Secret Service. It is our understanding they are now in the custody of the National Archives.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Kleindienst  
Deputy Attorney General