

Memo to the Files

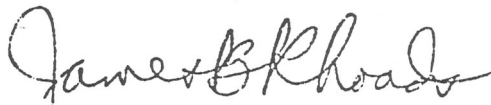
A meeting was held on August 17, 1966, in the Office of Mr. Wazencroft, Assistant Attorney General for the Office of General Counsel, attended by about a dozen officials of the Department of Justice (including Messrs. Wazencroft, Reis, Simms, Slawson, Mondello, and Malley) and Bahmer, Rhoads, and Marion Johnson of NARS.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss all important outstanding problems with regard to the records of the Warren Commission, particularly those relating to:

1. NARS' assumption of responsibility for access determinations
2. Transfer of items of evidence from the FBI to NARS
3. Review of the NARS list of recommended vesting actions and problems anticipated after vesting occurs.

The following decisions were made:

1. NARS will review the Warren Commission records and attempt to apply, on a tentative basis, the guidelines set forth by the White House for agency review of records furnished by them to the Commission; Mr. Slawson will then review these tentative determinations and will provide informal guidance and counsel with regard thereto
2. The Office of General Counsel will send a letter to the FBI authorizing the transfer of items of evidence to NARS. Mr. Malley will then get in touch with Mr. Rhoads to make arrangements for the transfer.
3. An official of NARS (probably Rhoads) will participate in the Justice Department review of the list of items of evidence under consideration for vesting.
4. The Justice Department will attempt to work out an arrangement with the Kennedy family to permit vesting of the clothing worn by President Kennedy at the time of his assassination in return for an agreement not to permit the public exhibit of these items for a specified period of time.
5. Mr. Reis expressed an interest in trying to determine the location (and the transfer to official custody) of the autopsy photographs and X-rays.



James B. Rhoads