

"MISLE" and Autopsy Photos

5/16/70

Mr. Richard Kleindienst
Deputy Attorney General
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kleindienst,

I am separating this part of my today's letter to you for your convenience because it relates to two requests I have not earlier made of you. Although your regulations do not require the filing of a LJ-118 form with such requests or the inclusion of the \$5.00 fee with each, I presume you would prefer to require it and prefer to confiscate the fees, so I enclose both for each request.

In the hope it will help you, because you did not at the time concerned with these requests have your present responsibilities, I make these explanations.

The two FBI agents present at the President's autopsy were given "a missile" removed from the corpse. While for four years the existence of this receipt has been denied, I now have a copy and for your convenience I enclose herewith a copy of that copy.

The National Archives says it is unable to identify this missile, receipted "missile" in the records of the Warren Commission. There is an exhibit of multiple tiny fragments, which can hardly be described as "a missile", especially when the well-known FBI care with fact, detail and evidence is considered.

I request all records relating to this "missile" and as large as practicable a photograph of it, up to 8x10 inches, the size to be limited by considerations of clarity, including whatever measurements, weighings, tests, analyses, evaluations or any other scientific or medico-legal appraisals, opinions and/or facts there may be.

Secondly, there were certain autopsy photographs taken. These were delivered exposed but undeveloped to the Secret Service. If I can give you no claim of possession of them and I can assure you the National Archives was written as that to its knowledge there is no recorded claim of possession, I do presume the Department has it. The Secret Service has written me that it has no records of the processing, etc., of these photographs and no explanation for the fact that some are exposed but show no image. My request is for this information, the claim of possession, the records and other information about processing, the explanations and, if there were any, the investigations to determine why some showed no image upon processing, and anything relevant to the above.

In connection with these requests, I remind you of that of which you may not be aware, that there was a special relationship between the FBI and the Warren Commission under which the FBI was the Commission's investigative arm as well as the custodian of all its original records. This, because communications

from your office do not reflect an awareness of current regulations dating to prior to your holding the office, including but not restricted to the promptness of response, I hope someone in your office will familiarize himself with them. This need not in any way delay the promptness of the response unless a copy of these regulations is as unavailable to the Deputy Attorney General as it was to me this week.

There are certain intentions of which I informed you in my earlier letter today, enclosed herewith. They also apply to the requests in this letter. I believe the Department's failure to abide by its own regulations cannot be held against me and that its failure to abide by its regulations forfeits its rights, under the law, to insist that others comply with them, in those areas of Departmental non-compliance.

Together with the EF-118 forms, I enclose herewith two checks, one in the amount of \$8.00, the other in the amount of \$6.00.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg