

Account of the inspection of materials
relating to the autopsy of President John F. Kennedy
The National Archives
October 31, 1966

At approximately 5:05 p.m., October
31, 1966, ^{in Room 6W3 of the National Archives} ~~at the residence of Burke Marshall~~,
the representative of the executor
of the estate of President John
F. Kennedy, ~~was~~ ^{Government of the} delivered to the
custody of the United States certain
materials ~~relating to the autopsy~~
~~of the late President.~~ ^{materials} ~~which~~
materials were in a footlocker
that had previously been delivered
to the National Archives by rep-
resentatives of Senator Robert F.
Kennedy for ~~the~~ purpose of
secure storage.

At the time ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~materials~~ ^{footlocker}
contents were not divulged to
officials of the National Archives
and Records Service, ~~the~~ ^{the footlocker} was
locked, and ~~the~~ ^{the} key was retained
by representatives of Senator Robert F.
Kennedy, and its

The footlocker was opened in
the presence of Burke Marshall, ^{then}
Archivist, Secretary to the

Mr. Marshall to ~~the~~ Hon. Dawson B. Keith,
Jr., Administrator of General Services,
Dated October 29, 1966, which constituted
a deed of gift of these and other
materials from the estate of John F.
Kennedy to the Government of the
United States.

Robert F. Kennedy; Frank M.
Woyencraft, Assistant Attorney
General; Harold F. Reis, Executive
Assistant to the Attorney General;
Robert H. Baker, Archivist of the
United States; James B. Rhoads,
Deputy Archivist of the United
States; Thomas Kahn, Assistant
Archivist for Presidential Libraries;
and William E. H. Brewster, Assist-
ant to the General Counsel,
General Service Administration.
Immediately after the opening
of the ~~front~~ foot locker which
had been all these months
and Woyencraft departed and
those remaining inspected its
contents.

DRAFT

October 31, 1966

On this date at approximately 2:05 p.m. in the National Archives Building in Room 6W-3 a footlocker previously delivered to the National Archives by representatives of Senator Robert F. Kennedy for the purposes of safekeeping was opened with the consent of the representative of the executors of the estate of John F. Kennedy, Mr. Burke Marshall, in the presence of the following: Burke Marshall; Miss Angela Navello; Assistant Attorney General: Frank M. Wozencraft; Harold F. Reis, Executive Assistant to the Attorney General; Dr. Robert H. Bahmer, Archivist of the United States; Dr. James B. Rhoads, Deputy Archivist of the United States; Herman Kahn, Assistant Archivist for Presidential Libraries; William H. Brewster, Assistant to the General Counsel, GSA.

Immediately after opening of the footlocker Miss Angela Navello, Messrs. Marshall and Wozencraft departed and those remaining inspected the contents of the footlocker.

Included in the material in the footlocker were a carbon copy of a letter from Senator Robert F. Kennedy to Vice Admiral George G. Burkley dated April 22, 1965, wherein Senator Kennedy authorized ^{ing the} release to the Senator's custody all the material ^{relating to the autopsy of} of President Kennedy of which the ^{Adm. Burkley} Doctor had personal knowledge and deliver ^{of} the same ~~for safekeeping~~ to Mrs. Evelyn Lincoln in the National Archives ^{custody} a copy of this letter is attached hereto ~~with~~ as Exhibit A.) ^{also} In addition, the footlocker contained the original of a letter ^{Adm.} (dated April 26, 1965,) from Dr. Burkley to Mrs. Evelyn Lincoln, ^{relating to the autopsy of President Kennedy, as itemized in an attached list concerning the autopsy} transmitting materials ^{these materials were} itemized in an attached list ^{relating to the} concerning the autopsy ^{the letter.}

(This letter and its attachment are appended hereto
as Exhibit B).
~~of the late President Kennedy. A copy of Dr. Burkley's letter of April 26,
1965, to Mrs. Evelyn Lincoln and the attached list is attached herewith
as Exhibit B.~~

Inspection of the footlocker disclosed that it contained items 1 through 8,
inclusive, referred to in the attachment to ~~Vice Admiral~~ Burkley's letter
of April 26, 1965. It did not contain any of the material referred to in
item 9 of that attachment (see Exhibit B). ~~However, there was also in~~ ^{however,}
~~the footlocker three large manila envelopes containing~~ ^{of} material which appeared
to be copies of military service records of the late President John F.
Kennedy and which ~~appeared to be unrelated~~ ^{had no apparent relationship} to the autopsy.

Messrs. Bahmer, Reis, Rhoads, ~~and Kahn~~ ^{and Brewster} examined the ~~various envelopes and~~
material ^{enumerated in items 2 through 8, inclusive, of} ~~Dr. Burkley's~~ ^{the attachment to (above)}
letter and concluded as a result of ~~such~~ ^{this} examination that the material
referred to under those items was present ~~in the footlocker~~. That mate-
rial was removed from the footlocker and placed in a security cabinet pre-
viously approved by ~~the executor of the late President Kennedy~~ ^{Mr. [unclear]}.

(Bahmer)

(Reis)

(Rhoads)

(Kahn)

(Brewster)

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION											
ROUTING SLIP											
TO	CO	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
NAME AND/OR SYMBOL						BUILDING, ROOM, ETC.					
1. Dr. James B. Rhoads -ND						111 Archives Bldg.					
2.											
3.											
4.											
5.											
<input type="checkbox"/> ALLOTMENT SYMBOL <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> AS REQUESTED <input type="checkbox"/> CONCURRENCE <input type="checkbox"/> CORRECTION <input type="checkbox"/> FILING <input type="checkbox"/> FULL REPORT <input type="checkbox"/> ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____			<input type="checkbox"/> HANDLE DIRECT <input type="checkbox"/> IMMEDIATE ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> INITIALS <input type="checkbox"/> NECESSARY ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND RETURN <input type="checkbox"/> PER OUR CONVERSATION <input type="checkbox"/> PER TELEPHONE CONVERSATION			<input type="checkbox"/> READ AND DESTROY <input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION <input type="checkbox"/> SEE ME <input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION					
REMARKS											
<p>In accordance with your request, there is forwarded herewith a carbon copy of the letter of October 29, 1966; from Mr. Burke Marshall to the Administrator of General Services, covering the transfer, for deposit in the National Archives, of the items described in Appendix A and Appendix B to the letter. This is the only copy we could find which is signed by Mr. Marshall and the Administrator.</p>											
FROM	CO	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
NAME AND/OR SYMBOL						BUILDING, ROOM, ETC.					
Byron E. Harding - LL						4140 GS Bldg.					
						TELEPHONE			DATE		
						183-2155			1/4/68		