

Mr. Burke

Office of Legal Counsel



10/25/66

Dear Burke:

Here is a re-draft, hurriedly prepared on the basis of our conversations last night & this morning, so as to get it to you by Brod Patterson.

Frank & Harold have read this, but we have not yet shown it to Ramsey or the Archives people. Copies will be given to them later today.

Please let us have your comments as soon as possible.

Regards,
Martin Pillsbury

Please check with your legal people & the Administrator & let us have your comments w/p

DRAFT: 10/25/66

October 25, 1966

Honorable Lawson E. Knott, Jr.
Administrator of General Services
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Knott:

In accordance with the provisions of 44 U.S.C. 397(e)(1), the executors of the estate of the late President John F. Kennedy hereby transfer to the Administrator of General Services, acting for and on behalf of the United States of America, for deposit in the National Archives of the United States, all of their right, title, and interest in all of the personal clothing of the late President now in the possession of the United States Government and identified in Appendix A, and in certain x-rays and photographs connected with the autopsy of the late President referred to in Appendix B, and the Administrator accepts the same, for and in the name of the United States, for deposit in the National

Archives of the United States, subject to the following restrictions, which shall continue in effect during the lives of the late President's widow, daughter, son, parents, brothers and sisters, or any of them:

I

(1) None of the materials identified in Appendix A ('the Appendix A materials') shall be placed on public display.

(2) Access to the Appendix A materials shall be permitted only to:

(a) Any person authorized to act for a committee of the Congress, for a Presidential committee or commission, or for any other official agency of the United States Government, having appropriate authority to investigate matters relating to the death of the late President, for purposes within the investigative jurisdiction of such committee, commission or agency.

(b) Any serious scholar or investigator of matters relating to the death of the late President,

for purposes relevant to his study thereof.

The Administrator shall not authorize access to the Appendix A materials for any purpose involving undignified or sensational reproduction or publication thereof, and he shall have full authority to deny requests for access, or to impose conditions he deems appropriate on access, in order to prevent undignified or sensational use of the Appendix A materials.

II

(1) None of the materials referred to in Appendix B ("the Appendix B materials") shall be placed on public display.

(2) Access to the Appendix F materials shall be permitted only to:

(a) Any person authorized to act for a committee of the Congress, for a Presidential committee or commission, or for any other official agency of the United States Government, having appropriate authority to investigate matters relating to the

death of the late President, for purposes within the investigative jurisdiction of such committee, commission or agency.

(b) Any recognized expert in the field of pathology or related areas of science or technology, for serious purposes relevant to the investigation of matters relating to the death of the late President. For the purposes of this agreement the term "recognized expert" shall mean exclusively an individual having suitable qualifications recognized by decision of the committee established pursuant to paragraph IV(3). No access to the Appendix B materials pursuant to this paragraph II(2) shall be authorized until seven years after the date of this agreement. Thereafter, no such access shall be authorized for any purpose involving reproduction or publication of ~~such~~ the Appendix B materials, and the committee shall have full authority to deny requests for access, or to impose conditions it deems appropriate on access, in order to prevent such use of the Appendix B materials.

III

(1) In order to preserve the Appendix A materials and the Appendix B materials against possible damage, the Administrator is authorized to photograph or otherwise reproduce any of such materials for purposes of examination in lieu of the originals by persons authorized to have access pursuant to paragraph I(2) or paragraph II(2).

(2) The Administrator may condition access under paragraph I(2)(b) or paragraph II(2)(b) to any of the materials transferred hereunder, or any reproduction thereof, upon agreement to comply with applicable restrictions specified in this agreement.

IV

(1) The Administrator shall be entitled to consult with the Kennedy family representative designated pursuant to paragraph IV(2), and to rely upon such representative's statements in writing as representing the views of the Kennedy family, in connection with the construction or

application of this agreement in a particular case.

(2) The Kennedy family representative for the purposes of this agreement shall be

A successor representative of the Kennedy family may be designated in writing to the Administrator from time to time by Mrs. John F. Kennedy. In the event of the death or disability of Mrs. John F. Kennedy, any successor shall be designated by Robert F. Kennedy. In the event of the death or disability of both Mrs. John F. Kennedy and Robert F. Kennedy, any such designation shall be made by Edward H. Kennedy. In the event of the death or disability of all three of them, any such designation shall be made by the eldest living adult child of the late President John F. Kennedy or of any of his brothers and sisters, with the advice of other members of the family. Any representative designated hereunder will serve until a successor is designated.

(3) The committee referred to in paragraph II shall be composed of the Kennedy family representative designated pursuant to paragraph IV(2), an individual designated from time to time by the Administrator and an

individual designated from time to time by the Attorney General of the United States.

V

This agreement may be amended, modified, or terminated only by written consent of the Administrator and the Kennedy family representative designated pursuant to paragraph IV(2).

VI

The Administrator shall impose such other restrictions on access to and inspection of the materials transferred hereunder, and take such further actions as he deems necessary and appropriate (including referral to the Department of Justice for appropriate legal action), to fulfill the objectives of this agreement and his statutory responsibility under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, to provide for the preservation, arrangement and use of materials transferred to his custody for archival administration.

VII

All duties, obligations and discretions herein conferred upon the Administrator shall inure to each holder

of the office of Administrator of General Services from time to time, and to any official of the United States Government who may become successor to the functions of archival administration vested in the Administrator under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended. All such duties, obligations and discretions may be delegated to the Archivist of the United States, or to any successor to his functions of archival administration.

Please indicate your acceptance on behalf of the United States of America by executing the acceptance clause below.

Sincerely,

Executors of the Estate of
John F. Kennedy

Accepted:

United States of America
by Lawson E. Knott, Jr.
Administrator of General Services

APPENDIX A

Clothing worn by the late President at the time of his
assassination, identified by the following exhibit numbers:

Commission Exhibit Nos. 393, 394, 395.

FBI Nos. C 26, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 35, 36.

APPENDIX B

_____ autopsy photographs and _____ X-rays.