

October 17, 1969

Dr. James Rhoads
Archivist of the United States
The National Archives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Rhoads,

In the past I have complained that the large number of my proper requests that have been either ignored or not properly responded to make impossible the keeping of any kind of meaningful check list of these requests. I have said this to you in writing and in person, during the recess in the trial last winter in Judge Helleck's court. At that time you rather surprised me by telling me you had just caused a check to be made and it showed all my requests had been answered. At that time I told you this was not the case. Since then, despite the most of a year that has elapsed, some of these requests are still without answer or response.

Here I renew one of these long-standing requests, for the receipts and some of the other documents enumerated in the November 26, 1964 receipt the Secret Service gave Admiral Barkley for some of the autopsy evidence. This is from CD 371. I enclose a copy for your convenience. And in order to insure there can be no misunderstanding, I am marking each document I want. In each case I desire a copy made from the original. If in any case you do not have the original, I would appreciate a statement of this fact plus the identification of the file from which the copy is made. If there was any attachment to any of these, I would also like a copy of each such attachment.

In the past I have requested copies of the receipts executed and signed the night of the assassination at the Navy Hospital. I have not been given any, have been told there are no copies in the archive. Since then I have been informed by both the Secret Service and the Navy Department that they have conveyed their files. These receipts also must exist and I believe I am also entitled to copies of each.

With regard to the item marked twice, "One receipt from FBI for a missile recovered during examination of the body" I would like to know the exhibit number or other identification of this missile and would, at your convenience, like to examine it.

If any of the other records of the autopsy I have requested and not been given are available, I renew my request for them. I have been assured repeatedly that I have been given all autopsy material when this I not and has not been the case. And I do hope you will now see to it that my other unanswered requests are filled. On my last visit to the Archives, I renewed one of them, in person.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

TREASURY

CO-2-1

Protective Research Section
November 26, 1963

Receipt is acknowledged this date, Nov. 26, 1963, of the following items from Dr. George G. Burkley:

pieces of bronze colored material inadvertently broken in transit from casket in which body was brought from Dallas.

X

letter - Certificate of Death of John F. Kennedy - State of Texas - dated Nov. 22, 1963.

X

carbon copy of letter dated November 26 from Commanding Officer, U. S. Medical School, concerning law and regulations regarding confidential nature of the events.

Y

receipt dated Nov. 22, 1963, for bed sheet, surgical cap, and shroud used to cover the body in transit.

X

letter dated Nov. 22, 1963, regarding a carton of Kodak film, undeveloped except for X-rays, delivered to for safekeeping.

X

original and six pink copies of Certificate of Death (copy).

X X

request from FBI for a missile recovered during the dissection of the body.

X

letter from University of Texas South West Medical Center indicating report from Dr. Clark and summary of their treatment and examination of the President in Parkland County Hospital. Said letter of transmittal states that two carbon copies have been retained in that area.

autopsy report and notes of the examining doctor as described in letter of transmittal Nov. 25, 1963 by Dr. Burkley.

letter and 7 copies of the above item (autopsy report).

request for post mortem examination signed by the Attorney General dated Nov. 22, 1963.

ROBERT T. BOSE

10/15/69

Dear Dick, Gary and Paul,

It is unfortunately only too true that the Archives has made it impossible for me to keep any meaningful check list of what I ask for and do not get, as the enclosed letter to Rhoads protests. Dick and Paul, each in a different way, have recently called some of the material for which I renew my request to my attention. I had asked both the Archives and the Secret Service for it. The Secret Service told me it did not have it, which I do not believe. I believe there was some special kind of fingers-crossed formulation.

I will not be mailing these letters until Bud reads and approves them. I anticipate this will be Friday, when, unless the day changes by phone, we planned last week. He was then here, for the purpose of going over my entire file of Archives requests to decide which he will file suit on. He got through 1968 only. He took 1969 with him to study. If he approves, I will ask for all of these things again, in his presence, at the Archives. I will also ask for a list of what the Secret Service turned over. And in his presence I will ask for and examine the entire box of originals one part (which may be the entire thing) of which I saw last week.

I believe it is important that we make no mention of this at all until we get into court. It will then be more effective. I am telling no one but the three of you of it. It doesn't make too much difference what response they make, once we get into court, for no judge will ever believe that such records as these do not exist. Nor are they subject to any withholding, under guidelines, regulations of toehr kind, law or anything else.

As there are developments, I will keep you posted. If any of you has any suggestions, I would appreciate them in duplicate, so I can give Bud a copy as my lawyer. I have copied for him what Dick and Paul have suggested, but that takes time and costs the little bit that I cannot now afford.

When we finally agree on what we will sue for (and whether we include the Navy, which I have caught in either deliberate lies or violation of its own regulations), I will let you know that, too.

There is one document withheld on Ferris that I have, unofficially. It cannot be properly withheld, not even as an investigatory file, the reason given me in writing. I anticipate Bud will agree to sue for this, too.

Bud will want to keep this as simple as possible and to restrict it to what he regards as legally unessailable. We will not duplicate what John is doing. I have told him generally what I am about but not specifically because he is expanding a dubious suit to include everything I have. And Washington is a much better forum.

Also enclosed is my letter to Rowley. You will not tell him what I did not tell Rhoads, of the suppression of the list in Exhibit 397. It should worry the man who was in charge of keeping the President alive.

Sincerely,