

July 31, 1966

Mr. James J. Rowley, Director
United States Secret Service
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Rowley,

Admiral Burdick obtained from Robert I. Bouck those documents supplied your agency by the Naval Hospital and executed a receipt in the Warren Commission records.

Of these I have asked the National Archives for the November 26 letter from the Commanding Officer "concerning law and confidential nature of the events"; the November 22 receipts for the drapes, sheet and shroud; the receipt for the film, including X-rays; a copy of the death certificate; and the post-mortem authorization.

In response I was given a copy of the authorization that is illegible to the point of incompleteness and an apology saying it is the best copy they have and the statement none of the remainder are in the Warren Commission records.

On the face of it, this is not consistent with assurances you have given me in writing. I ask for whatever explanation you would care to make, if any, and for copies of these documents. I include the post-mortem authorization, for I want one that is completely legible.

I believe, under existing law and regulations, I am properly entitled to have this material and to get it from your agency. If there is a charge, let me know and I will remit promptly. I will, in fact, appear in person to pay for and receive the documents.

Should you refuse, I again ask for the information and forms required for invocation of the so-called "Freedom of Information Act".

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

July 31, 1969

Mr. Herbert E. Angel
Acting Archivist of the United States
The National Archives
Washington, D.C. 20408

Dear Mr. Angel,

Thank you for your July 29 letter in answer to mine of July 21.

You enclosed a copy of the autopsy authorization, for which I thank you. You say of it, "An electrostatic copy of this paper is in the autopsy file for President Kennedy". The copy you sent me bears no file identification. Would you please inform me which of the numerous "autopsy" files this is in and, if it is an addition, when it was added? I did, on many occasions, ask for everything on the autopsy and have been assured, several times, that I was shown everything. However, I have no recollection of this being in any autopsy file shown me, particularly not the one so identified in the "JFK" series nor in CD 371, described as "identical with" Exhibit 397.

You say of my other requests of July 23, "The records of the Warren Commission do not include copies of any of the documents listed." This is not an unequivocal answer, for this material is both required to be in your custody and I have the written assurance of the agency of origin that it has given you copies of everything.

I therefore renew my request for each of these items. If you do not supply them, I again request the knowledge and forms required to invoke the so-called "Freedom of Information Act".

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service
Washington, D.C. 20408



July 29, 1969

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Coq d'Or Press
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Frederick, Maryland 21701

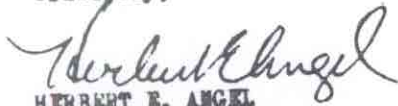
Dear Mr. Weisberg:

This is in reply to your letter of July 21, 1969.

The records of the Warren Commission do not include copies of any of the documents listed in your letter except the "authorization for post-mortem examination signed by the Attorney General." An electrostatic copy of this paper is in the autopsy file for President Kennedy, and we assume that a copy of it was furnished to you with the copies of other papers in the files. Enclosed is a copy of this paper. Unfortunately, we do not have a better copy of it.

No additional material relating to the autopsy of President Kennedy has become available.

Sincerely,


HERBERT E. ANGEL
Acting Archivist
of the United States

Enclosure

7/31/69

Dear John,

Before retiring last night I read the first three-dozen pages of Frazier's testimony and taped notes. I find it is probably quite significant in ways not yet, to my knowledge, indicated. Again I thank you for it and look anxiously forward to the other transcripts.

Enclosed are copies of an exchange with the Archives. Bud had agreed to help with a restricted approach on some aspects not competitive with yours. As you can see, in response to a request for the autopsy authorization, the can come up with a copy. I believe they wrote you they did not have it. If my recollection is correct, I'd appreciate copies.

They are tripping themselves up more and more. I have the feeling they are coming to realize how short the hair is. I now have written confirmation of other lies.

I expect to be writing other letters about this. If and when I do, hopefully before I mail this, I will enclose copies.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg