

This letter included here because of the importance those who pretend to defend the Commission and its Report to a fiction: that the only evidence of a front shot is in a press conference an hour after the murder. As Charles Roberts, one of the two White House correspondents whose careers and sources of information were not impaired by their pretended defenses of the government, makes a big point of this. He read WHITEWASH, or at least in his book said he did, and he therefore knows this line of attack is a lie. WHITEWASH shows, for example, that until the very minute the final autopsy report was typed, two days after the assassination, the statement that the front neck injury was of entrance, hence from the front, was in the autopsy. In some magical way, without these words of that draft autopsy being changed, the words that appear in the typed version have been changed to eliminate the statement that the President had been shot from the front. This is not, therefore, from a hasty and unthought-out statement from a doctor when he was under great emotional stress but was from the autopsy, and not an hour after the assassination but the second day after it. These tapes do exist, but the government pretends they do not because it does not dare produce them, either (ref to inv. PW) Alod, make refs to other contents letter.

Hyattstown, Maryland 20734  
January 16, 1967

Dr. Robert H. Bahmer  
Archivist of the United States  
The National Archives  
Washington, D. C. 20408

Attention: Mr. M. F. Johnson

Dear Sir:

Would you please have copies made for me of the following items (one each, whether pictures or Xerox):

Document 102Z - photographs of Oswald's seized property, misdated;

Document 102aa - inventory of Oswald's seized property (Beckley Street);

Document 102bb - a communication from Lt. Day to Chief Curry saying 50 pictures were taken at the TSBD;

Document 81.1 - reference to 35 pictures taken at TSBD;

Document 81b - list of FBI, Secret Service agents at the Oswald interrogations;

A copy of each of the search warrants (Oswald);

Exhibit 2444, page 1 (not the cover);

2 copies of the order of the Acting Attorney General of 10/31/66, the Federal Register of 11/1/66, Vol. 31, No. 212 (Pt. 2), if your proper office still has copies of it;

If it is not classified, from the Gemberling report of 4/15/64, transmitted with a covering letter of 5/4/64, pages 43-9;

In CD486, in the covering memo of 3/10/64, the control numbers of two of the attached reports are encircled and marked "retained" in the original. If these are not now restricted, I should like two copies of each.

On the Moorman pictures: I have CD486, Control No. 1198, and two letters from Mr. Rankin to Mr. Hoover, dated 3/18/64 and 4/3/64. These refer to communications from Mr. Hoover that I do not have, one of which is dated 3/27/64. May I have these and any other documents related to the Mooreman pictures or copies of them or of the excerpting of them and of their return? Were copies of the entire picture(s) or parts retained? If so, may I have copies?

A copy of Exhibit 2591, the 11/30/63 report of Dallas FBI Agent Robert Barrett;

A copy of the green sheet used at the end of Document 7, preferably the sheet with the few blanks filled in rather than a Xeroxed copy;

Secret Service Agent Vial filed a lengthy report of his late-November investigation in New Orleans, printed in the appended volumes. In it he makes no reference to the odd paper Lt. Martello got from Oswald's wallet, which is in the record (copy) as Exhibit 827 (also in CD1553) and (original) as Exhibit 1438. I should like a copy or copies of any reports or

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memos with which he transmitted this paper or in which he comments on it;

CE2002 (24H142) is a statement that pictures taken by KRLD Reporter George Phenix were in the possession of the Dallas police. Are these now in the archive? Is there any record the government ever had them?

CE2594 refers to the review of a film taken by Thomas P. Alyea, WFAA-TV. Is this now in the archive? Was it, from the records, ever in the possession of the government?

I have been told that there were occasions on which people who took pictures at the time of the assassination were interviewed by the Dallas police but not federal agents. Are there records of such interviews and pictures?

I have also been informed that the FBI took film and tape, including scenes at and near the assassination, in the hospital, at the scene of the Oswald murder, and of interviews. Does any of this now exist in the archive, or is there any record of any of this?

In my letter of 12/26/66 I asked for data on film taken at the time of the assassination and whether or not lists of such film and the photographers and interviews with the photographers exist in the archive. Possibly it will be helpful if I refer you to Exhibit 2594, in which Mr. Hoover reported to Mr. Rankin an investigation that "included a review of all available film taken near the Texas School Book Depository Building following the shooting".

If the FBI made copies of the Betzner pictures, they should now be in the archive, as should any correspondence or memoranda, including on their return. If this is the case, I should like one copy of each.

Are there any pictures taken by or records of pictures taken by Ron Reiland?

The location of Phillip Willis when he took the fifth of the slides that are in evidence as Willis Exhibit 1 and Hudson Exhibit 1 was fixed not by Willis's testimony but, according to the testimony of FBI Photographic Expert Lyndal L. Shaneyfelt, by his correspondence with Willis. The Commission considered this (15H696) and considered it an adequate positioning. I should like to have copies of this correspondence which, under the order of the Acting Attorney General, should be in your custody and not subject to any restriction.

As of this morning, it is my plan to be in Washington on the 20th, when I will phone to see whether any of this or things I have earlier asked for are available.

Thank you very much for your help.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg