

Dear Howard,

5/17/76

With too much competing for my time and attention I'm never sure how clear I am in what I dash off in haste. I'll not be able to get the tape to you until after I dub it and give it to Jim. So before I go out with today's mail let me go into one aspect of what I have in mind on the chance that you can find time to do something with in where what I do have in mind is immediately clearer in yours.

I'm certain that after a hassle with Rhoads it was clear that I want everything and anything relating to the autopsy and medical evidence. This hassle began when they let Wise have some executive sessions on what amounts to an exclusive basis. You know the record with Graham and the GSA-family contract. I filed for pictures of the clothing. (Your new papers says I correctly interpreted both intent and language then and Rhoads lied to Gesell on this) I spent years forcing the Memo of Transfer out.

C The Archives has yet to let me even know that the papers provided to you are available. At the same time they've shifted their position in providing what is asked for, about last summer.

Now it turns out that they have held back, given me false papers and that there were in their possession and never subject to withholding records other than and in some ways, as I'm sure you noted, quite different than what they did provide.

O For a long time I've wanted to file for money damages as the new law provides. I know it is also in Jim's mind, which is influenced by the limits on what he can do. I think this provides a very good basis for such a suit, with the probability of it becoming one from which Jim can get a return for his time while accomplishing the other, legitimate purposes we have.

P Whether or not we get to this, as I want to, one of us should still do a good job of comparing the various versions of the various documents. I think in some ways this would be a good exercise for you, on contracts. I think you might well redo what you have done on the family agreement to include the shifting and contradictory provisions as they emerged and the dates, meaning the timing. Remember, it had already been decided that the other stuff would be transferred to the Archives under Clark's executive order. The medical stuff was needed as the two of the one-two punch. So it had to be completed in time for use and release. Even if the release was, as it turns out, premature, before all was formalized. This then clearly is a political contract.

Y With Item 9 as I recall there is a significant difference in the Memo of Transfer because examination shows it was not in what was transferred. This includes the brain container, etc.

With a good research-analysis job that you can do we can file one hell of a complaint and have it also the occasion for a press conference.

The way things are going now the timing can be very important. We might be able to have some impact with the various elements this will draw together, from the governments hiving to its politicizing to the frame-Kennedys aspect. I can see possibilities of including the still withheld stuff and overturning the contract, if Jim wants to go that far, and of asking for a Vaughn v Rosen type inventory. One of the needs is an inventory of the tissue slides. We'd then find none of the front of the neck or some variant and that could be mind-blowing with some attention.

The problems we'll face include the three of us being able to get together to talk this over, especially now with Jim having two more big ones after tomorrow and you that far away. Your mother does say you'll be coming up soon, though.

One possibility I can see is drawing together aspects of all the previous relevant suits and possible use in the spectro one of parts. Jim argues that the 3rd. On appeal. We now have enough in suppressed records on the transfer of the materials to make an issue of the destruction of the knot after the Commission's use, when it was intact. By FBI? Who could have? And attention to the absence of shirt & tie traces, etc. In haste,