

Archives Given JFK Autopsy Data

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Kennedy family has given the National Archives 65 photographs and X-rays of the late President John F. Kennedy's autopsy under conditions which virtually preclude the public from seeing them for possibly a generation, the Justice Department reported Tuesday night.

The pictures were not even seen by members of the Warren Commission which investigated the assassination.

Included are 14 X-rays, 25 black and white negatives and 26 color transparencies, each 4x5 inches. There are also an undisclosed number of prints.

Under conditions for viewing the photographs laid down by the Kennedy family, for the first five years there is to be no non-official access to the photos without the consent of the family. This does not include official government investigating bodies which may see the pictures at any time.

After the first five years access is limited to recognized experts in pathology or related services with the consent of the Kennedy family.

The duration of the restrictions, under an agreement with the Kennedy family, is for the lifetime of the late President's widow, his parents, brothers and sisters, and his two children.

The department said the pictures all were authenticated by two of the pathologists who conducted the autopsy—J.J. Humes and J. Thornton Boswell.

The department's statement came hours after it was disclosed that a great mass of evidence considered by the Warren Commission on the assassination of President Kennedy had been given to the National Archives.

Dr. James B. Rhoads, deputy archivist of the United States, said of the evidence — which includes a rifle with telescopic sight, designated by the Warren Commission as the death weapon: "We don't plan to place them on exhibit any time in the foreseeable future."

He said, however, that those persons with some serious research or investigative purpose in mind might be shown the evi-

dence.

A Justice Department spokesman said the department had asked for the autopsy photos to complete the government's collection of assassination material for the historical record.

He said arrangements to take possession of the evidence were handled informally.

A letter dated Oct. 29 and signed by an unidentified representative of the Kennedy family made the gift to the government.

The letter was addressed to Lawson B. Knott Jr., administrator of the General Services Administration, which accepted the photos — and the restrictions on their use — on behalf of the government.

A Justice Department spokesman said the Warren Commission had never seen the pictures, but had relied on testimony by pathologists who performed the autopsy. Humes was the chief pathologist.