

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 16, 1992

Dear Mr. Keck:

Thank you for your letter to President Bush about the Warren Commission and about the possible release of additional information regarding the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy.

President Bush believes that there is no reason to question the findings of the Warren Commission. As for the release of materials relating to the investigation, the only records held by the National Archives and Records Administration that come under the control of the executive branch are the records of the Warren Commission.

You may be interested to know that the National Archives estimates 98 percent of the documents that are contained in the records of the Warren Commission have already been made available to the public. The remaining 2 percent of the documents have been previously determined to be exempt, under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, from mandatory public release. These have been withheld from public release for authorized reasons, including the protection of national security information and of the privacy of living persons.

The National Archives and other Federal agencies have jurisdiction over determining which information should remain classified. The National Archives and these agencies are currently conducting regular, periodic reviews of the Commission documents. Information that no longer requires protection under the standards established by law will be released. This process is the appropriate means through which to determine the release of additional Warren Commission records.

The Archives also holds autopsy photographs and X-rays that were deeded to the Archives by President Kennedy's estate. Access to these materials is limited by the terms of the deed.

In addition, the Archives holds the records of the United States House of Representatives Select Committee on Assassinations. Access to these records is controlled solely by Congress.

I hope that this information is helpful to you. The President appreciates your interest in this matter, and he sends his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

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