

Assessment of President Kennedy

Date: July 1, 1966
To: Director, United States Secret Service
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Subject: CORRESPONDENCE FROM
DR. JOHN NICHOLS
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

There is enclosed a copy of a letter from captioned individual dated June 27th together with a copy of a letter from him to the Registrar of Vital Statistics, Dallas, Texas, dated June 21, 1966.

Dr. Nichols has been notified of this referral to your Agency and of the fact that the FBI did not issue any instructions prohibiting the release of the death certificate of President Kennedy.

For your information, inquiry on July 1, 1966, by our Dallas Office determined that in August, 1965, Secret Service representatives had noted copies of the death certificate of President Kennedy were being requested in great volume and some were subsequently sold on a commercial basis. By mutual agreement with the state and local authorities, the file containing the certificate was flagged with a notation that requests be screened so that copies would be furnished only to the family or an authorized representative of the family.

Wick

REC-47 *62-109060-467*

MAILED 4
by post
JUL 1 1966
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (2)

4 JUL 6 1966

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Wick _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

NOTE: Acknowledgment to Dr. Nichols made separately.
DCM:cao (4)

362 K
cc

P
HHS
J
GM

57 JUL 15 1966

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT



UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS MEDICAL CENTER

RAINBOW BOULEVARD AT 39TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66103 • AREA CODE 913 • ADams 6-525

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY AND ONCOLOGY

June 27, 1966

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

John Edgar Hoover, Esq., Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I am preparing for publication an article on forensic medicine which will, in part, deal with jurisdiction of the coroner. The Registrar of Vital Statistics in Dallas, Texas, has advised me that you have prohibited her from issuing certified copies of the death certificate of the late President John F. Kennedy as you can see from the enclosed Xerox copy.

Now, I should like to ask that you make an exception in my case and allow her to issue the requested certificate.

Shall look forward to a speedy reply.

sincerely, 62-109060 - 4138
REG-47

John Nichols
John Nichols, M. D.
Associate Professor of Pathology

37 JUN 29 1966

JUN 29 1966

Let to DeLoach...
act 7-1-66
66M:ml
Refer to...

ENCLOSURE

CORRECTION



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY AND ONCOLOGY

June 21, 1966

Registrar of Vital Statistics
Dallas, Texas.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find American Express Money Order number
705,265,823 payable in the amount of \$1.00 for which I
should like to receive a photostatic copy of the death cer-
tificate of:

KENNEDY, (President) John F. filed on or

about November 22, 1963.

If this is not the correct amount please go ahead and
send certificate to me and I will remit the correct
University of Kansas Health Center
Rainbow Blvd. at 35th St.
Kansas City, Kansas 64103

We cannot issue a copy of the death certificate of John F. Kennedy.
The F. B. I. has instructed that certified copies of this record
cannot be issued.

Laurino Lara
Registrar of Vital Statistics
City of Dallas

CITY OF DALLAS
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
1936 AMELIA
DALLAS, TEXAS 75235



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY AND ONCOLOGY

June 21, 1966

Registrar of Vital Statistics
Dallas, Texas.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find American Express Money Order number
62-705,265,823 payable in the amount of \$1.00 for which I
should like to receive a photostatic copy of the death cer-
tificate of:

KENNEDY, (President) John F.

filed on or

about November 22, 1963.

If this is not the correct amount please go ahead and
forward the certificate to me and I will remit the correct
amount by return post. Also, if this is not the correct
place from which to obtain a copy of this public document please
forward this letter with remittance to the correct place and/or
advise me. Shall look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

John Nichols
John Nichols, M.D.

Associate Professor of Pathology

ENCLOSURE

62-109060-4138

July 1, 1966

REC-42 62-109060-4138

SI-123

Dr. John Nichols
Associate Professor of Pathology
University of Kansas Medical Center
Rainbow Boulevard at 39th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66103

Dear Dr. Nichols:

In response to your letter of June 27th, with enclosure, I can assure you that the FBI has not issued either an instruction or a request that certified copies of the death certificate of President John F. Kennedy not be released.

Since another Government agency may be able to be of assistance to you, I am referring your communication to the Director, United States Secret Service, Washington, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John F.

1 - Dallas - Enclosures (2)

Reur telephone call 7-1-66 advising that by mutual agreement between the Secret Service, the State Department of Health and the Public Health Department of the City of Dallas the file containing the death certificate of President Kennedy has been flagged with an instruction that all requests should be screened so that copies of the death certificate will be issued only to the family or an authorized representative of the family. This confirms the above information and the fact that Mrs. Maurine Hamm, Registrar of Vital Statistics, City of Dallas, has assured you that she will not indicate in the future that the FBI had requested this document not be released.

See Note next page.

57 JUL 15 1966
GEM:mel (4)

55 JUL 1 1966

TELETYPE UNIT

MAILED 4
JUL 1 1966
COMM-FBI

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Dr. John Nichols

NOTE: Correspondent and Mrs. Lamm are not identifiable in Bufiles. In order to resolve the question as to the authenticity of the statement made by Mrs. Maurine Lamm, Registrar of Vital Statistics for the City of Dallas, to the effect that the FBI had instructed that certified copies of the death certificate not be issued, the Dallas Office was telephonically contacted. SAC J. Gordon Shanklin telephonically advised 7-1-66 that the FBI definitely had not made any such request, but that the Secret Service in Dallas had suggested that a more restrictive policy be adopted since a great number of copies of the death certificate had been issued to people who were in turn selling them. This was in August, 1965. On August 17, 1965, Secret Service Agent Kenneth J. Wiseman at Austin, Texas, contacted W. D. Carroll, State Registrar of Vital Statistics, State Department of Health, concerning this matter. Subsequently, by mutual agreement between state and city authorities and the Secret Service, the file was flagged with a notation that all requests should be screened so that the death certificate would be issued only to the family or an authorized representative of the family. A memorandum concerning this matter was prepared by Dr. Hal J. Dewlett, Director of Public Health, City of Dallas. Mrs. Lamm, Registrar of Vital Statistics, was on leave when the Secret Service Agents came around and when she saw the notation flagging the file she erroneously assumed that the FBI had made the request. She advised the Dallas Office yesterday that she definitely will not make such an assumption in the future concerning this matter. Copy of incoming referred to Secret Service. ~~by [unclear]~~