President's clothing-unknotted tie- panel's handling, etc. 9/20/71

When I was at the Archives a.m. 9/17, I asked Marion Johnson if it is he who had delivered the clothing to the panel when it made its examination 1/68. He did not answer this but said it is he who received the clothing back from the panel.

He says he did not notice anything unusual about the clothing and had no special reason to. This may seem reasonable, but to a large degree it would depend on how the garments are and were stored. If all were stored in a box, for example, and if he did not examine if only to inventory on its return, possible he did not notice anything.

But if he did inventory, as he should have, or if the garments, being separate exhibits, are stored separately, they the tie was either separate or at least came to his attention, and it would seem difficult to believe he would not or did not notice that the knot was not tied if, in fact, it was not at that time.

I did ask him about giving the clothing to the panel and examination on return, but got only the foregoing.

I was in my car outside the Archives when he brought negatives I had bought to me. I stopped as soon as I got arojnd the corner and made notes from which this is typed. It was then 10:45 a.m.

I simply cannot understand the lack of concern about the destruction of this evidence.

Rhoads has refused to make any comment or to answer my question, was he conducting or going to conduct an investigation.