

July 1, 1967

Dr. Robert H. Bahmer  
Archivist of the United States  
The National Archives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Bahmer:

Numerous public reports are consistent in saying that Dr. James Humes has "re-examined" the alleged pictures and X-rays of the autopsy of President John F. Kennedy.

It is undisguised that Dr. Humes was granted an opportunity for a commercial purpose, his appearance on a commercially-sponsored commercial TV show of a non-scholarly character.

Aside from the other dubious aspects of this procedure, it is a violation of the so-called guidelines established for the non-examination of this material when it was returned to government possession. I have already contested the legality of the entire procedure. I now add that granting Dr. Humes and the Columbia Broadcasting System, as whose agent he acted, the right to examine this material establishes a precedent.

Accordingly, I renew my demand for access to this file.

It cannot possibly be argued that Dr. Humes was given access to this file because he is part of an official government investigation or because he enjoys status as a government investigator because a) there is no such properly constituted federal investigation and b) the strictly commercial and propaganda functions he served are obvious and are not scholarly.

Thus, in two respects, the so-called guidelines have been nullified. Accordingly, I do not see how you can properly accord me less than equality of treatment.

I also renew my demand for access to the autopsy notes that you have previously informed me are not in your custody. Their presence in your custody is required by the order of the Attorney General of October 31, 1966. If they have not been placed in your custody since then, they have been destroyed or the federal government is guilty of violating its own regulations or both. These notes had been duplicated, in any event, and not less than a Xeroxed copy must be in your care. I call to your attention Dr. Humes's own testimony as proof of "consideration" by the Commission.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg