

December 1, 1969

Dr. James Rhoads, Archivist of the U.S.
The National Archives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Rhoads,

It has now been quite some time since I asked Mr. Johnson about access to President Kennedy's shirt and tie. When he said he presumed it could not be seen I asked about having pictures taken for me. There has been no word since. I am therefore writing to ask that a closeup picture of the button-hole area of the collar be taken for me in such a fashion as to clearly show the slits, and, if you keep the negative, to get a duplicate negative. I would also like a closeup picture of the knot area of the tie, from the front and showing the cut and a picture directly from the side of the cut, showing the nick. Here also if you keep the negative, I would like duplicate negatives. I would like the Speed-Graphic camera used and SX10 prints. I would also like one SX10 print of GE395, the tie (FBI C 31) and GE394, the front of the shirt (FBI C38). In each case I want to be certain the print is not made from the reproduction negative, which includes a screen, but is from the original photographic negative, if you have it, or from the photographic print.

I would appreciate a written answer to my inquiry about Admiral Barkley's copy of the Supplementary Autopsy Report (GE391). When I was told there is nothing you can so identify I asked for any record that a copy had been sent him and, if you can find no such record, in the Commission files or any others, that I also be notified of this in writing.

Unlike the protocol, there appears to be none of the raw material of this report in the published evidence. I would like to know, whether in the relevant files of the Warren Commission or any other, there are any notes of any kind or nature relating to this, whether there are any attack drafts of it, biographic or other, and whether the evidence, such as the slides, are in the Archives or, if not there, anywhere else, to your knowledge or as reflected in the files. If you do not have these things, can you direct us to the agency that does? The Navy has informed us they have none of this.

In the past I have, without response, reminded you of various inquiries I have made that have long remained unanswered. It is my understanding this is in open violation of the Freedom of Information Act. I have just looked at the President's statement on signing it and the Attorney General's forward in his memorandum on it. I wish you would find time to read them (pp. ii,111).

Sincerely,

Arthur Schlesinger