

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service

Washington, D.C. 20108



DATE: April 7, 1970

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: N

SUBJECT: Correspondence with Mr. Harold Weisberg.

TO: L - Mr. Robert J. Yock

Enclosed is a draft reply to four letters we have received from Mr. Harold Weisberg. In his letter of March 13 Mr. Weisberg specifically asks whether we have the Government copy of the "memorandum of transfer" which was the subject of our memorandum to you dated March 18, 1970.

As you will note, we are going to try to reduce the amount of correspondence with Mr. Weisberg by applying to him a rule that we apply to other researchers - that we do not furnish information from or about records when the time required to do so is excessive. The correspondence with Mr. Weisberg has been going on, with some intermissions, for nearly four years and shows no signs of tapering off. In fact, it may increase. Enclosed is a copy of a transmittal slip and a letter from Mr. Weisberg to the Department of Justice which shows how the Department under the present administration has refused to correspond with him. As the Secret Service also will not correspond with him, the National Archives is left as the chief target for Mr. Weisberg's theory that the Government is "covering up" a conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy.

In the future we would like to restrict correspondence with Mr. Weisberg to (1) furnishing copies of records when we can do so without excessive searching or correspondence, (2) informing Mr. Weisberg of the reasons for withholding any specific records he may request that are withheld, and (3) furnishing copies of any specific records he requests that later become available.

James B. Rhoads

JAMES B. RHOADS
Archivist of the United States

Enclosure

*concur with these recommendations
as being entirely reasonable and legal
R. Yock 7/16/70*

April 16, 1970

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Enclosed are copies of electrostatic copies of documents concerning films relating to the autopsy of President Kennedy which we recently received from the Secret Service.

The area on the collar of President Kennedy's shirt which you pointed out to Mr. Johnson, in the photograph of the shirt which he showed you, is a wrinkle. We prepared the photographs of the shirt and the coat to show to researchers instead of the clothing itself. We do not furnish copies or enlargements of these photographs for the same reasons that we do not take special photographs of the clothing for researchers -- to avoid any possible violation of the agreement with the Kennedy family.

Sincerely,

J. B. Rhoads
JAMES B. RHOADS
Archivist of the United States

Enclosure

CC: Official file - NND
Reading file - NNDC
Day file - N

MJohnson/pp X23171
NND70

NND 7168 NN ESL