

DEC 11 1974

Acting Archivist of the United States - N

Correspondence with Mr. Harold Weisberg

Attorney Advisor - LRR

Enclosed is a copy of a letter of November 23, 1974, from Mr. Weisberg. We would prefer not to answer it in order to avoid prolonging the correspondence with him, but a draft reply is enclosed for use if you think a reply should be made.

Copies of the relevant pages in Dr. Lattimer's article are enclosed. No laboratory tests were made by Dr. Lattimer on the shirt, but he may have "tested" the fabric and collar button by feeling them with his fingers. Mr. Weisberg may say this was a violation of our regulation that researchers will not be permitted to touch or handle the exhibits, but he himself was permitted to handle Oswald's shirt as indicated in the draft. In practice it is sometimes difficult for researchers to make the examinations they want to make without touching or handling the exhibits. Dr. John Nichols, for example, has recently photographed the interior of the firing chamber of the Oswald rifle with his own equipment, and this involves touching the rifle. The regulation serves as a basis for the staff member who shows the exhibits to decline to allow a researcher to touch an exhibit, if it appears that any actual danger to the exhibit might result.

WALTER ROBERTSON, JR.

cc: Official file NNFL
Reading file - NNF
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