

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, DALLAS (89-43) (P)

DATE: 9/1/76

FROM : SA ROBERT P. GEMBERLING

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
November 22, 1963,
Dallas, Texas
MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING

OO: DALLAS

On 8/26/76, Supv. [redacted] FBI Laboratory, Ext. [redacted] telephonically advised that letter had been received from Congressman RHODES inquiring about some Polaroid prints of the wounds of Officer J. D. TIPPIT, which one GARY CRANE, formerly of 20 East Oak Street, Clayton, New Jersey, and now of RD Tab Farm, 2314 East Alta Vista Road, Phoenix, Arizona, had made inquiry.

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Apparently CRANE has been unable to find certain Polaroid prints in the National Archives, and his efforts to learn of their whereabouts through the other sources have been unproductive.

Supv. [redacted] was advised an interview with Dr. EARL FORREST ROSE, Medical Examiner, Parkland Memorial Hospital, 3201 Harry Hines Boulevard, Dallas, Texas, concerning his autopsy performed on Officer J. D. TIPPIT is set forth on pages 250-261 of the report of SA ROBERT P. GEMBERLING, dated 4/15/64, at Dallas, Texas, under the LEE HARVEY OSWALD caption (100-10461-5200). The last paragraph on page 261 indicates SA ARTHUR E. CARTER received such Polaroid prints. These are recorded as 1A-227 of File #100-10461, and the exhibit envelope indicates they were returned to BETTY J. HARRISON, Secretary to Dr. ROSE, on 3/25/64, by SA ARTHUR E. CARTER. Three copies of each of four prints were submitted to the Bureau as

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enclosures to the above described report and one copy was retained in 100-10461 as Exhibit 1A-228.

SA [REDACTED] indicated the foregoing information was adequate for a Bureau response to Congressman RHODES, and that the Dallas Office would be furnished a copy of such Bureau letter. **b7c**

ACTION: FILE and INDEX.

Intelligence

~~James J. Florio~~ JFK ASSISTANT
Crane, Gary

March 1, 1976

Mr. Gary Crane
20 East Oak Street
Clayton, New Jersey 08312

Dear Mr. Crane:

Thank you for your correspondence expressing your interest in the whereabouts of the autopsy photographs of a Dallas police officer, J.D. Tippit, killed in the line of duty on November 22, 1963.

In reference to your request, I contacted Ms. Mabel E. Deutch, Assistant Archivist for the National Archives, telephone (202) 523-3130. She informed me that Mr. Marion Johnson in their building was more familiar with the Tippit case than she. I contacted Mr. Johnson at (202) 523-3152. After reviewing the records on the Tippit case, Mr. Johnson informed me that Dr. Rose had sent 5 polaroid prints of Tippit's wounds to the F.B.I. who were conducting an investigation of the event. Dr. Rose had requested the 5 prints returned after they had served their purpose. The last address Mr. Johnson had on Dr. Rose was the Parkland Memorial Hospital, coronary medical examiner, Dallas, Texas. Mr. Johnson stated he was not aware of any photographs in the possession of his office.

Thank you again for expressing your concern over the location of Tippit's autopsy photographs. If I may further assist you in this or another matter, please feel free to ask.

With Best Wishes,

Sincerely,

James J. Florio
Member of Congress

JJP:MS

44-43-9873
JAV
JAV

AUG 10 1976

refer

NEW ADDRESS----- Ro Tab Farm
2314 East Alta Vista Rd.
Phoenix, Arizona 85040

4 August 1976

AUG 10 1976

THE HONORABLE JAMES J. FLORIO
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

Photos

RE: J. D. TIPPIT autopsy photographs

Dear Congressman Florio:

My efforts to locate the missing, misplaced, or destroyed autopsy polaroid prints of Dallas Police Officer J. D. Tippit have been totally unsuccessful as of this moment.

Correspondence with varying individuals, including Dr. Earl F. Rose, former Dallas County Medical Examiner who performed the 1963 autopsy, lead me to believe that the only place where the photographs might still be (providing they have not been destroyed) is in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. All other probable locations of this vitally important photographic evidence have been competently eliminated.

Since the FBI is rather aloof to private citizens' requests, I thought it wise to request that your office seek the truth from Director Clarence M. Kelley. Your efforts will be deeply appreciated.

The prints are not with: (1) the National Archives; (2) the Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office; (3) Dr. Earl F. Rose. If they are located with any of the above, then officials have been less than candid with me. If the FBI maintains that they do not have the prints, would you please ask them the whereabouts of same. I cannot file an action under the Freedom of Information Act as Amended if I do not know where these prints are located.

RESPECTFULLY YOURS,

Gary Crane
GARY CRANE

89-43-17874
Jan

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

8/13/76 19

Congressional Liaison
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Ref: rmd-Crane

Sir:

The attached communication
is sent for your consideration.
Please investigate the statements
contained therein and forward me
the necessary information for re-
ply, returning the enclosed corre-
spondence with your answer.

Yours truly,

John J. Rhodes

John J. Rhodes M. C.
First District, Arizona
Minority Leader

87-43-9875J
encl. for

U. S. District Court

September 1, 1976

~~Mr. Gary Crane~~
Ro Tab Farm
2314 East Alta Vista Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85040

Dear Mr. Crane:

On August 16, 1976, we received a copy of your letter to Congressman Florio dated August 4, 1976, concerning the autopsy photographs of deceased police officer J. D. Tippit. We are advising the Congressman that your inquiry will be handled pursuant to the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA).

An exceedingly heavy volume of FOIPA requests has been received these past few months. Additionally, court deadlines involving certain cases of considerable scope have been imposed upon the FBI. Despite successive expansions of our staff responsible for FOIPA matters, substantial delays in processing requests continue.

Since January 1, 1975, the FBI has received a total of 24,972 FOIPA requests. Of these, our present backlog is 8,530. In an effort to deal fairly with any request requiring the retrieval, processing and duplication of documents, each request is being handled in chronological order based on the date of receipt. Please be assured that your request is being handled as equitably as possible and that all documents which can be released will be made available at the earliest possible date.

We are now beginning to work on requests which we received during November, 1975.

Your patience and understanding will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Clarence M. Kelley
Clarence M. Kelley
Director

To Mr. [unclear]
SEP 1 1976
FBI - PHOENIX
Simuloy [unclear]

*emailed
to Mr. [unclear]
9-7-76 ear*

1 - Assistant Attorney General for Administration - Enclosures (3)
Attention: FOIPA Administrative Unit (Room 1134)

① - SAC, Dallas (FOIPA Info)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

89-112-2201

Mr. Gary Crane

NOTE for SAC, Dallas:

In reference to the telephone call between SA Gumberling and SA ██████████ of the Laboratory, the attached is being handled as an FOIPA request.

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