

John R. Workitt

Dear John,

6/25/79

Thanks for your 6/22 and the Archives' 5/15/79.

It was written by a (Philadelphia) lawyer (probably Johnson, who is a lawyer) rather than an Archivist and is evasive and equivocal. Until the Kennedy Library was established naturally it had no employees, and until all the Kennedy records were formally deeded to the Archives naturally it could not employ ~~any~~ Lincoln. But it did give her office space, which JFK had and could have provided if she were working for him.

The photo I have of the back brace is rather one that includes it. It will cost less to get it from the Archives, which will be able to provide a clearer copy, because I'd have to have a photo shop here first make a negative and then print it.

My recollection is that JFK was also wearing a wide Ace bandage.

I have no personal interest in the two tapes but I'm sure Wrons would welcome copies. If you are getting them from WPSU that is best because the other versions have been altered. (The Stuckey program was radio, ran a little over 30 minutes and I believe was never aired. He claimed it as his property in a dispute with Butler, who pirated it with a record from it by Key records.)

~~REMARKS~~ Normally restrictions are against commercial rather than scholarly uses. There generally is no limitation of scholarly access so with transcripts having been used by the government all you need fear is someone selling the tape and then using it rather than the content.

However, I suggest that with any copy of any tape attach the reservation so that the reservation will always be known.

There may be more than the single picture I have of all the (other) clothing so I'd ask the Archives. If there is a separate one of the brace that may interest you more than the one I have, which even includes the shoes. (I think mine is packed up but I believe it included his undershorts, belt, wax, etc.)

Sincerely,

June 22, 1979

Harold Weisberg  
Route 12-Old Receiver Road  
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear Harold:

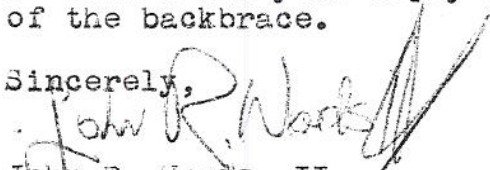
Thank you for your latest letter. Dr. Wrone has been in touch with me since then.

I am inquiring if I may obtain a photograph copy of President Kennedy's backbrace as mentioned in your book Post Mortem. In regards to the ownership of the autopsy material, after two years of struggle with the Archives I have finally obtained some sort of a statement. I have enclosed a copy.

I am now in the process of obtaining a copy of two live interviews of Oswald 3 months before the assassination. To the best of my knowledge the only tapes of Oswald during that time period would be that of the interview of Oswald by Bill Stucky on August 21, 1963, and later the debate with Carlos Bringuier. If in fact these are the two copies I am obtaining it is against the law according to the agreements I made with WDSU-TV. However, if you care to have copies made please let me know.

I shall await your reply concerning the photograph of the backbrace.

Sincerely,

  
John R. Woods, II  
538 Ironton Court  
Aurora, Colorado 80010

May 15, 1979

Mr. John R. Woods, II  
538 Ironton Court  
Aurora, CO 80010

Dear Mr. Woods:

Thank you for your letter of May 5, 1979, concerning the assassination of President Kennedy.

The following is in reference to the three points made in your letter:

- (1) Mrs. Lincoln was not subject to the control of the National Archives or the Kennedy Library while she was working on President Kennedy's papers. She was not an employee of any part of the National Archives and Records Service, which includes the Office of the National Archives and the Kennedy Library.
- (2) Senator Robert F. Kennedy's letter of April 22, 1965, to Admiral Burkley indicates that Senator Kennedy intended for Mrs. Lincoln to act as his agent in accepting the autopsy materials.
- (3) From President Washington's administration until 1974 Presidential records and related historical materials were treated as the property of the President or of his estate. It was pursuant to this practice that the autopsy materials were turned over to Senator Kennedy by Admiral Burkley in accordance with the request in Senator Kennedy's letter.

Sincerely,

(MISS) JANE F. SMITH  
Director  
Civil Archives Division