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August 9, 1966

The Honorable Earl Warren Chief Justice Supreme Court of the United States Washington, D. C.

Dear Chief Justice Warren:

While I realize that there will be endless controversy concerning the work of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, I am particularly concerned about one aspect, just as I was a little more than two years ago when the Report was being put into final form.

The absence of inspection by the Commission or its staff of the photographs and x-rays of President Kennedy continues to be problemsome. I am even more concerned about persistent reports that no one knows where the photographs and x-rays are now located.

If there is any conceivable procedure through which any of the former commissioners could examine the photographs and x-rays, I think it would be most helpful. If that is not done, then at a minimum, some action should be taken to insure the preservation of the photographs and x-rays so that they may be available for examination at some time in the future.

I hope that you and Mrs. Warren have had a restful summer vacation.

espectfully yours,

ARIEN SPECTER

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Honorable Arlen Specter,
District Attorney,
Room 666 City Hall,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107.

Dear Arlen:

Sometime ago - in fact, so long ago that I hesitate to specify the date - you wrote me concerning the photographs and x-rays of President Kennedy made while his body was at the Bethesda Naval Hospital. I think you will find now that the situation has been remedied, if any remedy was called for, as they have been transferred to the Archives where they can be viewed by any responsible agency.

Before the Commission was disselved, I took occasion to see that these items would be preserved, but I did want to keep them from any ghastly dissemination to the distress of the Kennedy family. I felt that if they were in the Report they would be used for sordid commercial purposes, and perhaps for spite purposes. I saw them myself and they were horrible. The other members of the Commission had no desire to see them. They were satisfied with the testimony of the doctors who performed the autopsy. As a result, the pictures and x-rays were sequestered but in a manner which would guarantee production of them should it ever become a matter of official concern.

I saw you on television and thought you made a very forceful explanation of some of the challenged aspects of the Report.

I hope this finds you well and enjoying your work in which I am much interested. Should work or pleasure bring you to Washington, I would be happy to have a visit with you.

Sincerely,