

SUES FOR KENNEDY AUTOPSY EXHIBITS

 K.U. Med Center Pathologist Says Findings Really Are Public Records

 Hearing in U.S. Court

Dr. John M. Nichols Asserts in Petition That He Has Been Denied
 a Look

By Robert H. Clark
 (The Star's Topeka Correspondent)

Topeka - Suit was filed in the federal district court here late yesterday afternoon by Dr. John M. Nichols, pathologist at the University of Kansas Medical Center, to have all autopsy exhibits in the slaying of President John F. Kennedy declared public property and made available for his examination.

The suit brought against the federal archives division and the General Services administration contends the Kennedy exhibits are being illegally withheld from the public.

Dr. Nichols, who in the summer of 1967 wrote an article for the Journal of the American Medical association indicating the former President suffered from Addison's disease, is compiling material to be used in a book about the assassination.

Sam A. Crow, a Topeka lawyer, who filed the suit for Dr. Nichols, said the action was brought under the public records act, which holds that all persons are entitled to access to public records that are government-owned. The petition contends that the autopsy exhibits and reports are public property, since they were made and compiled at government expense and time.

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 The government, according to court procedure, has 60 days to file an answer, which will be heard by one of the U.S. District Court judges for Kansas. Either side would have the opportunity to appeal the ruling.

"I have requested this material about 50 or 60 times," Dr. Nichols said at his office at the medical center.

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 Since deducing in a July 10, 1967,**article that the slain President suffered from Addison's disease of the adrenal glands, Dr. Nichols repeatedly has criticized the released findings of autopsy performed by Naval pathologists after the Dallas assassination.

Noting that no mention was made in the report of the presence of Addison's disease, the K.U. pathologist questioned publicly how many more admissions might be in the autopsy.

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Complete clipping filed WC - Archives.

*News stories on this filed Medical, 10, 11 Jul 67.