

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Wick	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
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Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
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TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: November 16, 1966

FROM : A. Rosen

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Shroder
- 1 - Mr. Raupach
- 1 - Mr. Wick

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963

PURPOSE:

To advise a citizen's letter has been received asking questions relating to observations of our Agents who attended the autopsy of President Kennedy. Acknowledgment letter attached.

BACKGROUND:

A letter has been received from David S. Lifton of Los Angeles, California, who indicated he telephonically contacted Special Agent James W. Sibert, Jr., while SA Sibert was on vacation. He indicated he wanted to ask Mr. Sibert some questions concerning an FBI report written by SAs Sibert and O'Neill concerning the autopsy performed on President Kennedy on 11/22/63. Mr. Lifton referred to an FBI report indicating that the report said the President's body was removed from the casket and was placed on the autopsy table. He then quoted the following information contained in the report:

"Following the removal of the wrapping, it was ascertained that the President's clothing had been removed and it was also apparent that a tracheotomy had been performed, as well as surgery of the head area, namely, in the top of the skull." (emphasis added)

Mr. Lifton is referring to the FD-302 submitted by Sibert and O'Neill dated 11/26/63, which sets forth information orally furnished to them by the autopsy physician.

Briefly, Mr. Lifton wants to know what our Agents witnessed which formed the basis for their comments regarding the head surgery performed on the President, and in substance, requested an elaboration regarding the autopsy.

Enclosure *sent 11-17-66*

KMR:pah

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

When these questions were asked of SA Sibert, he advised that he could not comment on this matter and referred Mr. Lifton to Bureau Headquarters. The Baltimore Division submitted an airtel to the Bureau which revealed that SA Sibert had been contacted by Mr. Lifton. Lifton, a graduate student of the University of California, is doing a research paper and had read an account of President Kennedy's autopsy report by SAs Sibert and O'Neill which appeared in the book, "The Second Oswald," written by Richard H. Popkin. Lifton also indicated he had read an account in another book entitled, "Inquest," written by Edward J. Epstein.

Mr. Lifton's letter is one of several letters that have been received asking for information, and although his letter is being acknowledged, he will be referred to information which was furnished to the President's Commission and subsequently made available to the National Archives.

Based on information furnished, Mr. Lifton was not identified in Bureau files.

ACTION:

Attached for approval is a letter to Mr. David S. Lifton.

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Fair

November 17, 1966

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Shroder
- 1 - Mr. Raupach
- 1 - Mr. Wick

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ST-107

Mr. David S. Lifton  
 11818 1/2 Dorothy Street  
 Los Angeles, California 90049

Dear Mr. Lifton:

With reference to your communication of November 9, 1966, this is to advise that all the material developed by the FBI in connection with our investigation of the assassination of former President Kennedy was turned over to the Warren Commission for its consideration and the results of our inquiry into this matter were subsequently made available to the National Archives by the Warren Commission.

In view of the foregoing, it is suggested answers to any questions you may have concerning the work performed by the Warren Commission or the FBI would be available through review at the National Archives.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
 Director

KMR:pah  
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NOTE: See memorandum A. Rosen to Mr. DeLoach dated November 16, 1966, KMR:pah, captioned as above.

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