



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NATIONAL NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20889-5600

IN REPLY REFER TO

5720
Ser OOJ/ 2051
JUN 27 1997

David G. Marwell
Executive Director
Assassination Records Review Board
600 E Street NW - 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Marwell:

Subj: FINAL DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH JFK ACT

The following information summarizes National Naval Medical Center's (NNMC) action in response to your initial correspondence of December 6, 1997, regarding compliance with the JFK Assassination Records Collection Act, 44 U.S.C. § 2107.

1. In a letter 5720 Ser OOJ/4616 of December 18, 1996, NNMC expressed its initial "Statement of Intent To Comply With the JFK Act" and designated the following personnel as NNMC's "Agency Compliance Officials":

Commander Jeffrey Ogorzalek, MC, USN, Laboratory Department;
Commander Jeanne Rushin, MC, USN, Laboratory Department;
Captain Eugene Silverman, MC, USN, Radiology Department; and
Lieutenant Gillian Jaeger, MSC, USN, Medical Records Department.

2. In response to earlier requests by your Board, Captain William D. Wurzel, MC, USN, then-Head, Laboratory Medicine Department, NNMC, was designated as NNMC's original point of contact for questions regarding JFK assassination records. In late 1993, Captain Evelina Yunan, MC, USN, current-Head, Anatomic Pathology Division, Laboratory Medicine Department, NNMC, located what appeared to be an unsigned copy of President Kennedy's autopsy report in the Anatomic Pathology Division safe. I believe Captain Wurzel subsequently turned that document over to Commander Carol Cooper, JAGC, USN, NNMC's then-Staff Judge Advocate who forwarded it to the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED). You now have that document, which BUMED evidently forwarded to the National Archives. Captain Wurzel now is assigned to BUMED.

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3. Commander James Norman, JAGC, USN, currently assigned to BUMED, may also have information relevant to your inquiry. Commander Norman was NNMC's Staff Judge Advocate from July 1994 to September 1996 and communicated with Mr. Dennis Quinn of your Board in February 1996. In response to prompting by Mr. Quinn, Commander Norman requested all NNMC Directorates to conduct additional searches to locate any records, photos or other documents related to President Kennedy's autopsy. Those searches yielded no relevant documents, a fact Commander Norman relayed to Mr. Quinn in a letter dated March 4, 1996, and attached to my December 18, 1996, letter to you.

4. Following receipt of your December 6, 1996, letter, I ordered additional searches for relevant records, photos or documents in NNMC's Laboratory Medicine and Radiology Departments. On December 17-20, 1996, Commander Ogorzalek and Captain Gary Warnock, DC, USN, conducted a complete search of NNMC's Anatomic Pathology archives room and found no materials related to President Kennedy's autopsy. Only records from 1996 and later exist. On December 30, 1996, Captain Silverman and HMC Kirk Young, USN, searched NNMC's Radiology film and file room and found no films or records related to President Kennedy. All inactive radiology reports are destroyed after five years; the film is destroyed in a silver recovery process.

5. In response to your letter of February 27, 1997, addressed to my Staff Judge Advocate, Lieutenant Commander Paul M. DeLaney, JAGC, USN, the following additional actions were taken:

a. All extant files related to Freedom of Information Act requests for autopsy or other assassination-related records were photocopied and are enclosed as Attachment A to this letter.

b. HM1 W. A. Freund, U. S. Navy, Head, Medical Photography Department, Naval School of Health Sciences, conducted a search for the camera used to photograph President Kennedy's autopsy (a 4" X 5" Graphic tripod-mounted View Camera with a bellows and adjustable focal length). The search did not

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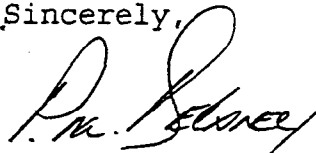
locate that camera. Additionally, HM1 Freund searched the Medical Photography Department and the Biomedical Photography School for any photographs or film negatives from the Kennedy autopsy. That search also was unsuccessful.

c. Lieutenant Commander Sharon Winkler-Peiser, MSC, USN, NNMC's Associate Director for Administrative Services, confirmed there are no 1963-64 letters, memoranda, notes or summary reports at NNMC that relate to President Kennedy's autopsy. Additionally, Lieutenant Commander Winkler-Peiser confirmed NNMC has stored no records at the Federal Records Center at Suitland, Maryland.

d. All internal tasking documents on file regarding direction to conduct searches and any written responses are enclosed as Attachment B to this letter. Organizational charts for NNMC are enclosed as Attachment C to this letter.

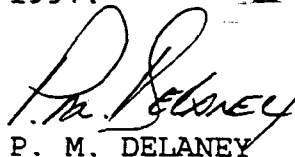
Please contact the undersigned at (301) 295-2215/2295 with any questions.

Sincerely,



P. M. DELANEY
Lieutenant Commander
Judge Advocate General's Corps
United States Navy
Staff Judge Advocate
By direction of the Commander

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Executed on June 27, 1997.



P. M. DELANEY

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Enclosures: 1. Attachment A
2. Attachment B
3. Attachment C



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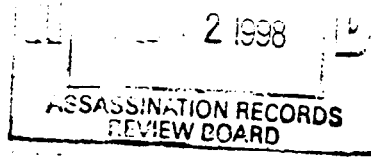
IN REPLY REFER TO

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Ser 011/ 4 1 1 7

DEC 23 1997

Mr. T. Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director
Assassination Records Review Board
600 E Street, NW, 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20350



Dear Mr. Gunn:

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH JFK ACT

This letter is in response to your letter of November 10, 1997 requesting information regarding the death of President Kennedy. Specifically you requested that the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) determine whether there are still in existence any 1963-64 records from the top NNMC officials at the time of the assassination, including Rear Admiral Galloway, Commander, NNMC; Captain Canada, the Hospital's Commanding Officer; Captain Stover, the Medical School's Commanding Officer; and Commanders Humes and Boswell, who performed the autopsy. You asked that NNMC determine whether any such records were retired to the Federal Records Center at Suitland, Maryland or any other storage facility. Per our conversation of December 12, 1997, the due date for this information was extended to December 19, 1997. A voicemail was sent for you on December 19, 1997 outlining the contents of this letter.

Regulations for the disposal of official records for all Naval facilities are contained in the Navy and Marine Corps Records Disposition Manual, SECNAVINST 5212.5C. Chapter six specifically applies to Medicine and Dentistry Records (enclosure). "Administration Records", e.g. general correspondence files, inspection and survey files and hospital and health care staffing reports, are required to be held locally for two years and then may be destroyed (page III-6-4). Medical Officer-of-the-Day logs for activities in a non-combat zone are to be retained onboard the facility for ten years and then destroyed (page III-6-4). These are the most logical types of records that would have been kept by the above individuals concerning the assassination. There are no existing logs, files or documents at NNMC indicating that any personal correspondence for the above individuals was transferred to the Federal Records Center in Suitland, Maryland or any other storage facility. A

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master listing of all records relating to Medicine and Dentistry stored in the Federal Records Center in Suitland, Maryland was obtained through the Department of Navy Records Center. No administrative records submitted by NNMC were on that listing. Additionally, no records labeled as relating to the Kennedy assassination from any command were found on that listing.

Lieutenant Commander William McGee, Medical Service Corps, United States Navy, Administrator, White House Medical Unit, was contacted regarding policies concerning presidential medical records. Lieutenant Commander McGee stated that since the President of the United States is a private citizen, all medical records are turned over to that individual, or their next-of-kin, when an incumbent leaves office. No presidential health records are retired to the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri.

A storage room containing inpatient admissions cards was searched during this review. These cards included information such as name, admissions registration number and admission diagnosis. No records pertaining to the Kennedy assassination were found.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (301) 319-6804.

Sincerely,



S. K. WINKLER-PEISER
Lieutenant Commander,
Medical Service Corps,
U.S. Navy
Associate Director for
Administrative Services
By direction of the Commander

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH JFK ACT

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Executed on December 22, 1997.



S. K. WINKLER-PEISER

Enclosure: 1. Copy of sections of Chapter 6 of the Navy/Marine Corps Disposal Manual