

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICES

PAGE

INTRASERVICE MEMORANDUM AND ENDORSEMENT

OF PAGES

SUBJECT OR TRANSACTION

"Memorandum of Transfer" of Kennedy Autopsy Material.

FROM	TO	DATE AND MESSAGE
RND MJ	N	<p>6/30/70. Attached are (1) a copy of the letter of April 22, 1965, from Robert F. Kennedy to Admiral George G. Burkley (marked Exhibit A) authorizing Burkley to turn over certain material to Mrs. Evelyn Lincoln; (2) a copy of Admiral Burkley's letter to Mrs. Lincoln of April 26, 1965 (marked Exhibit B) transmitting this material; and (3) a copy of the "memorandum of transfer" of the material headed "Transferred to Mrs. Lincoln, National Archives, April 26, 1965."</p> <p>By the deed of gift of the Kennedy family in 1966, the autopsy material listed in Items 2-8 of the "memorandum of transfer" were transferred to the Government by the Kennedy family subject to certain restrictions. Item 1 on the list is the handle which was accidentally broken from President Kennedy's first casket when it was loaded on the Presidential airplane from Dallas. It is in Room 6W-3 with other Robert F. Kennedy material. If the "memorandum of transfer" is made public, we will probably get some questions about the casket. A GSA official called me about 1965 for information about the casket and said that GSA had under consideration the question of destroying it to prevent it from becoming an object of morbid curiosity. I don't know whether this was done. Also, if the memorandum is made public, we will receive requests from Weisberg, Dr. Nichols, and others for access to the material listed under Item 9 on the list. Some of this material is involved in Dr. Nichols' suit against the Government, as well as the "memorandum of transfer" itself. We have no information about the present location of this material.</p> <p>The listing of the "Complete autopsy protocol of President Kennedy (orig. & 7cc's)" under Item 9 may be partly in error, as we have the</p>

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FROM	TO	DATE AND MESSAGE (Continuation)
NND	N	<p>original (ribbon) copy ^(taken over to copy the document) and one carbon copy ^(existing in Warren Commission records) of the autopsy protocol or report. This document has been published as Commission Exhibit 387 of the Warren Commission. There was also, however, a supplementary autopsy report (Commission Exhibit 391) of which we have found neither the original nor a carbon copy in the Warren Commission records. We have ^{photostatic} only electrostatic copies ^{which are found in the Commission records.} I have marked with an "X" other documents under Item 9 of which we have ^{apparently} no copies of any kind.</p> <p>The attached copies were made from the Kennedy family's copies of the documents. A separate memorandum concerning the Government copies of these documents, which we sent to L some time ago, accompanies this memorandum.</p> <p><i>Marion M. Johnson</i> MARION M. JOHNSON</p> <p>Legislative, Judicial and Diplomatic Records Division</p>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FURTHER CONTINUATION - If a series of messages on one subject requires more than one page, front and back, continue it on additional sheets, consecutively numbered. Arrange all such sheets with page one on top and staple them together. Begin a new series for messages written after a different type of document is added to the dossier.

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