

August 30, 1996

Mr. John C. VanHoesen
427
Cobb Island, Maryland 20625

Dear Mr. VanHoesen:

I am writing you on behalf of the Assassination Records Review Board, an independent Federal Agency established pursuant to the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (Supp. V 1994). The Review Board, whose members are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, is charged with the responsibility of collecting records and information related to the assassination of President Kennedy. The Review Board is not seeking to reach any conclusions regarding the assassination, but is primarily concerned with identifying, clarifying, locating, and making available assassination records. I am enclosing some explanatory material about the Review Board and its mandate.

We have become aware, by studying the record, that you were a member of the Gawler's Funeral Home team which prepared President Kennedy for burial early in the morning hours on November 23, 1963, following his autopsy at Bethesda Naval Hospital on November 22, 1963. In recent months we have interviewed your former co-workers, Mr. Joe Hagan and Mr. Tom Robinson, and they both suggested that we contact you as part of our ongoing attempt to record and clarify the events related to the President's autopsy.

A member of our staff will be contacting you in the near future by telephone to set up a mutually agreeable date for an interview; if you desire, we can visit you at your home on Cobb Island. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call Mr. Doug Horne, a Senior Analyst on our staff who has been involved in our efforts to clarify the medical record in this case.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn
Associate Director for Research and Analysis

Enclosure

