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February 4, 1983

Mr. Henry I. LaHaie
Trial Attorney
Federal Programs Branch
Civil Division, Room 3338
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

Re: Civil Action No. 78-0322/0420,
Weisberg v. Webster, et al.

Dear Mr. LaHaie:

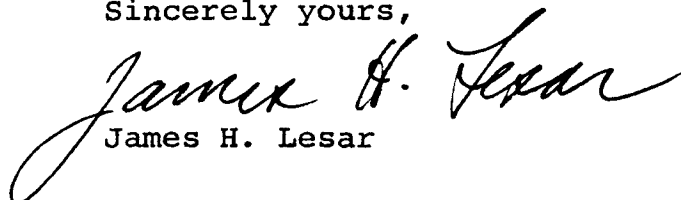
The FBI's copy of the Zapruder film finally arrived. Unfortunately, it was not properly packaged. There was no casing to protect it, nor anything else except the flimsy plastic spool around which it was loosely wound. The end of the film was not taped down or otherwise secured, so it unwound beyond the rim of the spool. The spool was enclosed inside an ordinary white envelope which was placed inside a slightly larger brown envelope which also contained your covering letter to me of February 2, 1983.

Whether this was done intentionally or through negligence on your part--you will remember that you rejected my request that the FBI send the film directly to Weisberg instead of routing it through you and me--, the result has been to damage the film. The last few inches of the film--the only part I have examined--contains four tears. In addition, because the film was left loose in the envelope and sent unprotected through the mails, it is possible that the emulsion on the film may have been scratched.

In view of this, I want to warn you that it may be necessary for Mr. Weisberg to insist on a new copy being made by the FBI. I will transmit the film to him so he can determine whether this is required.

The FBI has not provided the evidence envelope in which the Zapruder film is contained, as I requested. This is required to eliminate questions about which copy of the film has been provided. I again request a copy of the appropriate evidence envelope.

Sincerely yours,


James H. Lesar