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Garrison subpoenas LIFE film

NEW ORLEANS, LA March 15 (LNS) — District Attorney Jim Garrison subpoenaed the famous Zapruder Film of the Kennedy assassination from LIFE magazine.

LIFE, which owns a copyright on the film, has never permitted

the public to view the assassination as it was captured by Abraham Zapruder and his 8 mm amateur camera. The only place the public can see the film is in the National Archives, where a poor copy is available. Critics of the Warren Report

who have made extensive analyses of the film, such as Ray Marcus, Vincent Salandrian, Harold Weisberg, and Josiah Thompson, claim that the film proves that President Kennedy was killed by at least two gunmen. By carefully analyzing the movements of the President and Governor Connally, it can be determined exactly when each shot hit its target and, to some extent, from what direction the shot came.

Although the critics do not agree on all points, they are in unanimity on two: President Kennedy and Governor Connally were hit by two separate bullets, thus disproving the Warren Commission's single bullet theory and destroying the validity of the Report. The gunshot that hit President Kennedy in the head and drove him to the rear and left came from the front, thus establishing gunmen both behind and in front of the Presidential limousine.

In the subpoena, Assistant Dis-

trict Attorney James Alcock said that the original film was needed for study. There are two reasons why the original film is needed and the copies in the National Archives and published in LIFE

are insufficient.

The copies which are available to the public are incomplete. Four frames are missing at one point in the government copy. The copies end before the original film ends. The original is believed to include a glimpse of the grassy knoll, where one or more gunmen were probably stationed, at the end. The copies are of poor clarity as compared to the original.

Furthermore, the copies do not show the complete image. On the original, some of the image is printed between the sprocket holes on the far left. In the process of duplicating, this part of the image is not reproduced.

LIFE has been under fire for years for merely possessing the film. It has been maintained that the film is evidence and, as such, cannot be copyrighted and held by a private corporation. Congress has the power to take the film from LIFE, as they took the Mannlicher Carcano rifle from Marina Oswald, but they have not.

LIFE has consistently refused to grant permission to authors for reproducing its frames to augment books and magazine articles dealing with the film. They claim that the film is, "an invaluable asset of Time-Life, Inc."

It is reported that LIFE paid Abraham Zapruder over \$400,000.00 for the film.