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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/JFK ACT REQUESTS

October 7, 2009

Ms. Ramona Oliver
FOIA Officer
Office of General Counsel
National Archives and Records Administration
Room 3110
9601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Re: Records Related to Zapruder Film

Dear Ms. Oliver:

I represent the Assassination Archives and Research Center ("AARC"). The AARC provides information on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and other subjects, including other political assassinations, to the news media and the public, as well as to its members.

As president of the AARC, I have been interviewed by many television news programs and documentaries concerning the assassinations of President Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 ("JFK Records Act"), and related topics. I have also appeared on radio programs, including the Voice of America and The Larry King Show. I have appeared on a number of television programs, including CNN, Fox News, and Good Morning Luther King, Jr. I have been quoted by Reuters, the Associated Press, the New York Times, the Washington Post and numerous other representatives of the news media on matters pertaining to the assassinations of President Kennedy and Dr. King.

I testified to both houses of Congress regarding the pending legislation to require disclosure of records pertaining to the assassination of President Kennedy. In November 1993, I testified before the House Subcommittee on Legislation and National Security regarding the implementation of the JFK Act. On several occasions I testified at hearings held by the Assassination Records Review Board, a five-citizen panel appointed to enforce the JFK Records Act.

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Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, and the JFK Records Act, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 note, the AARC requests all records in your possession or subject to your control related to the film taken by Abraham Zapruder ("the Zapruder film") at Dealey Plaza in Dallas, Texas on November 22, 1963, as well as other films taken at that site on that day, including but not limited to the following:

1. All records pertaining to the Zapruder film during such time as it was in the custody or control of, or present at, the National Photographic Interpretation Center ("NPIC"), including but not limited to the following:
 - a. All records pertaining to briefing boards concerning the Zapruder film which were created during the period November 22-25, 1963, including but not limited to all notes created for the briefing boards that were generated under the oversight of Dino Brugioni at NPIC on or about November 23, 1963.
 - b. All records reflecting the identities of any personnel from the CIA or NPIC, the Secret Service, or any other agency who were present when any and/or all briefing boards were created at NPIC on or about November 22-November 25, 1963.
 - c. All records reflecting the dates and times at which the Zapruder film and any notes, memoranda, analyses, recordings, transcripts or other form of written or electronic or photographic record related to said film, including any and/or all briefing boards, were transmitted to NPIC or to the Office of the Director of Central Intelligence during the period November 22-25, 1963.
 - d. All notes, memoranda, analyses, recordings, transcripts or other form of written or electronic or photographic record related to said film, including any and/or all briefing boards, which were generated during NPIC's examination of the Zapruder film during the period November 22-25, 1963.
 - e. All gate logs or other records (such as desk calendars, appointment books, etc.) which indicate the time any persons who were present at the meeting which involved NPIC Director Arthur Lundahl and DCI John McCone arrived: (1) at the CIA on November 24, 1963; and (2) arrived at the office of DCI John McCone on November 24, 1963.
2. All documents listing or reflecting the identity of any person present during the briefing on the Zapruder home movie of the Kennedy assassination which involved NPIC Director Arthur Lundahl gave to Director of Central Intelligence John McCone during the morning of November 24, 1963.
3. All records pertaining to any photographic work performed pertaining to the Zapruder film on or about November 22 through November 25, 1963, at the laboratory allegedly run for the CIA by Kodak, Inc. in Rochester, New York (the "Rochester lab"), also known as "Hawkeye," "Hawkeyeworks," "Hawkeye Works," "Hawk-Eye Works," the "Hawkeye Plant," or other similar variations.
 - a. all records reflecting which persons were present at the Rochester lab who witnessed the examination of the Zapruder film, or who played any role in any copying, alteration, or modification of the Zapruder film, if such events occurred.
 - b. all records showing who received the Zapruder film at the Rochester lab, from whom, and at what date and time.

- c. all records pertaining to the transmission of the Zapruder film to the CIA, the NPIC, the Secret Service, the FBI, or any other federal government agency.
 - d. all records reflecting or pertaining to any telephone conversations regarding the Zapruder film.
 - e. all records pertaining to the processing of the Zapruder film or any other home movie or other type of movie film taken of the assassination of President Kennedy or the Dealey Plaza crime scene on November 22, 1963, which were generated at the Kodak lab in Rochester, New York known as "Hawkeye," "Hawkeyeworks," "Hawkeye Works," "Hawk-Eye Works," the "Hawkeye Plant," or other similar variations.
 - f. a listing of--or copies of any and all documents describing--all major equipment installed at said Rochester lab ("the Hawkeye Plant") in 1963 which was capable of processing motion picture film, including but not limited to: any and all contact printers, optical printers, and/or animation stands.
4. The list of persons present at NPIC on November 23, 1963, requested by the United States Secret Service. This list was requested by two Secret Service agents and was taken with them when they left NPIC early Sunday morning, November 24, 1963. This list contained the names of all persons who were present at NPIC on November 23, 1963. It also contained the name of the two Secret Service agents who arrived with the Zapruder film at NPIC on November 23, 1963, at approximately 10:00 p.m.
 5. Any documents listing or reflecting the names, titles or positions of any NPIC, CIA, or other personnel working on any "home movie" or other kind of movie of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy during the period November 22, 1963 through April 1, 1964.
 6. With respect to a report written by Dino Brugioni concerning the history of the NPIC, the AARC requests any portions which pertain to NPIC's processing of and handling of the Zapruder film or any other home movie (or other kind of motion picture) of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy during the period November 22-25, 1963.
 7. Any records pertaining to the purported Secret Service Agent "Bill Smith" who identified himself as such when he arrived at NPIC on November 24, 1963, which serve to identify him by his real name and affiliation.
 8. The list of persons present at NPIC on November 24 and/or 25, 1963, that was requested by alleged Secret Service Agent "Bill Smith."
 9. All records pertaining to the processing of the Zapruder film or home movie film or other types of motion picture film of the assassination of President Kennedy that may have occurred outside of Dallas, Texas, by any government agency, including but not limited to the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), or the Department of Defense (DOD).

It is acknowledged that some records associated with the CIA's possession of the Zapruder film in 1963---photocopies of 9 pages of working notes and memoranda created by employees at NPIC and the CIA---were given to the Rockefeller Commission by the CIA in 1975, and were then subsequently publicly released through FOIA in February of 1978, as CIA

document 1641-450. Additionally, *the originals of these notes and memoranda*, as well as *one surviving briefing board set* (consisting of 4 separate display panels with color photographs---enlargements of individual Zapruder film frames---affixed to each panel), were deposited with the National Archives in 1993 by the Historical Review Group, in response to the JFK Records Act. These records, now open in full and publicly available through the JFK Records Collection at NARA, **are not the records sought by this request**. Specifically, the additional briefing boards sought by this request (and associated records) concern two 3 feet by 6 feet briefing boards created under the supervision of Dino Brugioni (then Chief of the Information Branch at NPIC); these briefing boards each consisted of two 3-foot-square panels, connected by a hinge in the middle, that folded to allow for easier transportation. I trust this clarification will assist you in your efforts.

Thank you for your consideration into this matter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,



Jim Lesar
President, AARC