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23 July 1965

Mr. Lyndal Shaneyfelt  
Federal Bureau of  
Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C. 20408

Dear Mr. Shaneyfelt,

You perhaps will recall our telephone conversation of yesterday, during my one-day visit to the National Archives to view the Zapruder color transparencies in connection with research I am undertaking for a book on the assassination of President Kennedy. I telephoned from the theater, using improvised facilities, and I am not certain that my hasty notes accurately reflect what you actually said.

If I understood correctly, you indicated that the original Zapruder film was copied when it was first processed; the frames were numbered from the copy of the film; LIFE magazine made up the color slides but frames 208, 209, 210, and 211 were missing, presumably because the original film was broken or damaged; frame 210 (Warren Report, page 102) was processed from the copy of the Zapruder film utilized in the investigation conducted by the Warren Commission, which copy does include the four missing frames 208-211; those frames have been viewed and taken into consideration in the evaluation of the Zapruder motion picture film; LIFE has not made available the original film purchased from Mr. Zapruder; and that there was a variation in the adjustment of frames to account for an additional ten inches in the height of the reenactment car (frame 161 adjusted to 166, and 207 adjusted to 210) because of the variation in the angle to the southeast corner window on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository.

Should I have misunderstood any particular, I should be grateful if you would clarify the item, if you prefer by telephoning me collect; if my interpretation is correct, I should of course welcome a corroboration, if that is not too great an imposition; or will understand if I do not hear further that it is correct. May I thank you sincerely for your courtesy in responding to my request for clarification yesterday.

Yours sincerely,

Sylvia Meagher