

Telephone call from Mr. Lyndal P. Shaneyfelt 2 pm Tuesday 27 July 1965

Mr. Shaneyfelt telephoned me at my home, in response to my letter of 23 July 1965. He wished to clarify two matters: (1) LIFE magazine had made available for viewing by the Warren Commission the original Zapruder film; a LIFE projectionist had been sent to screen the original film for the Commission, but it had not been practicable to stop that film at every frame for still examination. LIFE had therefore made the color slides from the original color film.

(2) The variation in the adjustment of the reenactment frames to account for the additional ten inches in the height of the reenactment car was based on factors other than the angle to the southeast corner window on the sixth floor of the Depository, as well on that angle; he did not offer to explain those apparently abstruse and complex considerations and I did not ask him to do so.

As Mr. Shaneyfelt did not himself raise the one question which I expected him to "clarify"---the source of frame 210 (Warren Report page 102) ---I commented that I was glad I had understood that correctly that frame 210 had been processed from the copy of the Zapruder film which was made available to the Commission. He confirmed that my understanding (more accurately, my invention) was correct. I repeated my bogus "understanding" again, and he confirmed it again.

Mr. Shaneyfelt pointed out that the copy of the Zapruder film which became the property of the Commission was provided before LIFE purchased the original, apparently by the film company that processed the original. He agreed with me that Mr. Zapruder was a very moving witness, and that it was emotionally affecting to view the color frames despite one's familiarity with the photographs.

Mr. Shaneyfelt suggested that if I had any further questions I should direct them to the public relations officer, Harold Leinbaugh, Executive 3-7100, ext. 691. He himself was unable to provide any information on when and if other photographic evidence might be made available in the archives; he was surprised, he said, to learn that the Zapruder color slides had been made available.

Mr. Shaneyfelt emphasized that he would appreciate it if I would not quote him. I drew in my breath in horror and assured him that I would never dream of quoting anyone without explicit written authorization. The telephone call was twice interrupted by loud buzzings and busy signals, as was the case with a call from California last night.

Sylvia Meagher