

Harold Weisberg
Fyyttstown, Md. 20734
August 18, 1966

Mr. Phillip L. Willis
6911 Wabash Circle
Dallas 14, Texas

Dear Mr. Willis,

Thank you for your prompt and informative reply to my letter of August 15. However, some of it is not clear to me and it may well be that you do not have the information. For example, have you any way of knowing what was returned to you was, in fact, your original film?

The Report not only does not indicate how long your pictures were kept but, unless I am entirely mistaken, does not indicate that they were kept at all. I am confident this was not asked of you in your examination.

You do not have to assure me that you authorized no alterations. The entire character of your testimony, I think, makes your good intentions quite clear. At the same time, there is no doubt in my mind at all - alterations were made, and this is all of my interest in your pictures that are in evidence.

So far as your other pictures are concerned, I do not believe you have to go to the trouble and expense of copyrighting them before making them available to me, for I with this letter assure you I will make no use of them without your permission and will, if I find anything of interest in them, ~~WILL~~ pay you for that one-time use, in the analysis, which retains for you all the rights of ownership. May I also suggest to you that because of my knowledge of this subject, I may see in them what you do not or do not recognize. If I do, I will so tell you. I would also like to know if these other pictures were examined by the government.

In your set of 12, as printed by the Commission, I have already seen things you do not report in your descriptive sheet and they are credited to you in ~~xxxx~~ my book, which refers to them. I suggest to you, Mr. Willis, that the real importance of your pictures is unknown to you, and I further promise, when I have completed all of my work, to inform you of it.

While I would like very much to see those you did not include in your set, I would also, in your own interest, suggest to you that you not leave out of your possession and control the film you have. If you can see your way clear to let me examine a set of prints of them, I have already given you the assurances above and will make any others you desire.

I would also like to know, for purposes of this analysis, when you were questioned about your observations as an eyewitness and about your pictures, prior to your testimony, and whether the daughter not at the hearing with you was ever questioned or asked to give her observations in a statement.

You do not have to explain what burdens these things involve. My own day is sometimes longer than 40 hours and is never less than 18-20. But I hope that in the interest of history and accuracy, as well as your own interest, you can supply this further information and the opportunity to examine the unpublished pictures. Incidentally, do you know of any others? I have heard of a movie marketed under the name of DCA, in Dallas. Can you refer me to them so I can buy a copy of their film? And any others.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

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TR4-4248
TR4-4246

20734

August 13, 1966

Mrs. Phillip S. Willis
6911 Wabash Circle
Dallas, Texas 75214

Dear Mrs. Willis,

Your letter of August 12 does not respond to the questions I asked of your husband. I would appreciate an answer from him to the questions in my letter July 31. I am particularly anxious to hear from him in response to the questions I asked of him.

There is no reference to my first paragraph. I should like to know whether these slides were made from the original film and if not, how far removed they are. If there are either slides or prints of both made from the original film I would like to buy them, at least for the fourth and fifth slides.

In his testimony, Mr. Willis indicated there was a period of time during which he was not selling these pictures. May I ask him to tell me when he got them back from the Secret Service, whether he got back his originals or copies, and whether he knows of any alterations that have been made or has any reason to believe or suspect that any alterations have been made. My examination of the slides leads me to believe that there has been some retouching. If he did this or was responsible for it, I would very much appreciate an explanation of the reasons.

If these slides were made from the original film, are they 100% exact copies? If there are any differences in what is included on each negative? At least one of these you sent me definitely has been cropped, and as my letter made clear, I hope, I wanted the originals not any edited versions. If there is any reason Mr. Willis cannot supply these, I would appreciate knowing the reason or reasons. With regard to my request for prints, I know there are color prints, and I'd like them of the fourth and fifth, if I may, please, as clear as possible for I expect to want to reproduce them and again, uncropped and unaltered in any way. If you have prints either 4x7 or 8x10, I can use either, but I'd appreciate an 8x10 if there is a choice. May I ask the price?

You sent me two sets of slides but I ordered only a single set. I see no price on them, nor did I receive any bill. What shall I do with the extra set of slides?

Do you mean that you do not have any other pictures or that you do not have any others in this set? I understand Mr. Willis does, in fact, have about a half dozen more and I would very much appreciate an explanation from him of what they include and the price for either slides or prints, should I desire to buy them.

I am writing about this and would appreciate hearing from your husband as soon as possible. I am further anxious to hear from him because I want this writing to be as accurate as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Holcomb

Farms

Ranches

Business

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PHIL WILLIS COMPANY
REAL ESTATE SPECIALISTS

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6911 Wabash Circle ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Dallas, Texas 75214
DAvis 8-1560
August 12, 1966

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown, Md.
20734

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

We regret the delay in mailing your order for the set of slides
"Assassination in Dallas".

have

We do not/other similar pictures - just the set of 12 copyrighted
color slides. If the demand continues, we may make color prints
available, and will notify you if you still desire them.

We are enclosing a brochure that explains each slide.

We hope the enclosed is to your satisfaction.

Sincerely,

(Miss.) Marilyn S. Willis
for Phil Willis

Harold Weisberg
Hysttstown, Md. 20734
July 31, 1966

Mr. Phillip L. Willis
2824 Ava Lane
Dallas 27, Texas

Dear Mr. Willis,

I am anxious to obtain, as soon as possible, a complete set of your famous slides of the shooting of President John F. Kennedy and a set of prints of them. I would like the print to have been made from the original film so that they may be as clear as possible. Not knowing what you sell these for, I am enclosing a check for \$10.00. If this is insufficient, please bill me for the balance. If it is too much, you can refund the difference.

If, as I have heard, you have other similar pictures I should like to obtain them also, if you will be kind enough to describe them and tell me the price.

Because these will eventually be deposited in an archive at a major university, it would not be inappropriate, if you feel so inclined, for you to autograph them, as a matter of historical interest and record.

I found your testimony quite perceptive. You were one of the very few people who knew what was happening when it first happened, even before those who should have known. And your explanation of the significance of your picture when examined in conjunction with Mr. Zapruder's is also important.

I could not, however, follow your testimony about the various issues of LIFE, especially about "page 4". I have the black-bordered November 29, 1963 issue, in which the reproductions from the Zapruder film begin on page 24, and the October 2, 1964 issue on the Warren Report, with three color pictures on the cover and others on pages 43-46. Is there another issue of LIFE I do not have? Or had these photographs been made into a separate brochure? Can you straighten this out for me?

Also, if there are any clearer copies of these pictures that show you available than the ones in Volume 18 of the hearings, I should like to obtain them. I have, of course, the one numbered "1" at the top of page 43. From your examination of these pictures, in which frame do you believe you are last visible to the camera, either within the frame itself or in the area between the sprocket holes?

If you have prepared any other statement of what you observed that day, I'd welcome a copy, or if there is any way in which you can amplify your testimony, I'd very much appreciate it. Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg