

DA Seeks JFK Assassination Movie ^{S-1}

3-15-68

Zapruder Film Subpenaed

District Attorney Jim Garrison today subpoenaed a motion picture film of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy owned by Life Magazine.

The film, taken by Abraham Zapruder of Dallas, was cited frequently in the Warren Commission report of the President's death, and a number of frames from it appear as commission exhibits.

However, Zapruder sold the original print to Life for \$25,000, and the commission never subpoenaed it. Instead, the commission used a second print.

A MAJOR PART OF THE COMMISSION'S conclusion that only one assassin fired at the President rests on its analysis of the frames of this film and the speed at which they were taken.

In a motion filed today by assistant DA James L. Alcock, Garrison asked that the original film be produced before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury at 9 a. m. April 4.

The subpoena request describes the film thusly:

"An 8-mm. color movie taken by Mr. Abraham Zapruder, of Dallas, Tex., on Nov. 22, 1963, at approximately 12:33 p. m. and sold to Life Magazine for an initial price of \$25,000.

"THIS FILM WAS EXPOSED by Mr. Zapruder from a Bell & Howell camera at 18.3 frames per second at the time President Kennedy was assassinated in Dealey Plaza in Dallas.

"Mr. Zapruder's camera was aimed directly at Presi-

dent Kennedy, and the film, which has never been publicly shown, thus depicts in some detail the critical instants when the President's limousine was under sniper fire.

"This film, which was purchased from Mr. Zapruder on the day of the assassination, is now in the possession of Time, Inc., through its subsidiary Life Magazine, and is kept in the Time-Life Building at Rockefeller Center in New York City, New York.

"IT IS NECESSARY THAT THE original film be produced because several of the copies which have been made available to select federal employes do not correspond and are not true and accurate reproductions of the original film."

The motion says the subpoena should be served on a Time Inc. employe in Louisiana. If this is not possible, service should be made on the Louisiana secretary of state, who would forward it to Time Inc.

The subpoena was issued by Criminal District Judge Matthew S. Braniff.

GARRISON HAS PUBLICLY claimed in recent weeks that an examination of the original film would show that President Kennedy was shot from the front, not the rear as the Warren Commission concluded.

The commission said the assassination was the work of one man, Lee Harvey Oswald. Garrison contends it was the result of a New Orleans-based conspiracy.