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SHERMAN OAKS, CALIFORNIA
91403
February 14, 1969

Dear Gary,

If you think your last letter was depressing, wait until you finish this one.

At approximately 4:15 today Marlynn called me from the doctors office to say that she was listening to Bob Grant on Station KLAC a talk radio program and a caller with a british accent said Zapruder film would be on KTLA Channel 5 at 5 p.m. today.

Next, Burton called to say the same thing and that he heard this from City News Service. I asked Burton where the station would get this and Burton said he didn't ask but that this was probably reliable info. I asked if he had informed others of this showing and he said he had and was now near the end of his list, the N's.

Lifton called about something else and I told him of showing. He called a few minutes later to say that he had arranged with a firm to video tape this program.

I then went to the TV and set up a tape recorder. Following is a transcript of KTLA, Channel 5 News program, at 5 p.m. Friday, February 14, 1969:

Announcer: In showing the Zapruder film Garrison exposed it to a public gathering for the first time. KTLA has obtained an exclusive film of the assassination of John Kennedy, Hal Fishman has the story.

HF: You are about to see a film of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The Warren Commission concluded that the President was shot from behind by one assassin. Some maintain that one shot did hit the President from behind, but another bullet was fired from the front, thus implying that more than one person was involved. Now this film may be considered as one and only one bit of evidence in determining the validity of conflicting claims. Much of the controversy revolves around the reaction of the President's body after being hit by the second shot. At this point in the news broadcast we will show you the film twice, once at regular speed as photographed by an 8-mm home movie camera, and the second time in slow motion. Now at the midway point in this news program, we will more closely analyze each frame of the film with three professors from the California State College at Los Angeles. They are from the department of police science. We will later on, stop the film at the exact point where the President was hit. Now here is that film.

Motorcade in Dallas. He is the President's limousine. He is in the back with his wife, Gov. John Connally in the front. He has been hit once...the second shot, the President moved backwards...secret service agent jumped on the car. Now let's look at it once again, in slow motion.

First, the police escort, for the President's limousine. Now recall once again that the President and his wife are in the back seat and in a jump seat in front of the President is Gov.

HF:

John Connally of Texas. Here comes the limousine...Now when the limousine moves past the sign board, the President has been hit once...He clutches at his throat...The second shot has not been fired yet...Most of the controversy will hinge about the motion of his body after the second shot...His wife Jacqueline moves towards the back of the car, a secret service agent jumps on the car, from his position just to the rear of the automobile...Now the half way point in this program, we will stop that film for you on precisely the frame where the issue is in discussion, and joining us will be three professors from Cal State, department of police science. So stand by for that, we will run it, re-run it, forward and back, so you can study it much more closely.

Now once again, here is Dick Garten:

DG:

... (After giving other news, they go back to the film) Assassination of John Kennedy, never before seen on television. As you realize, this subject is dominating news from New Orleans where Clay Shaw is on trial for conspiracy in that shooting. Hal Fishman and three ballistics experts from the police science department from Cal State at Los Angeles have an analysis of that film as we show it to you now in stop motion. Harold,

HF:

On November 22nd, 1963, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas. The result of the investigation by the Warren Commission it was their contention that one man acted alone shot President Kennedy twice from the school book depository. While this was the contention of many for awhile, and then there were others that disagreed with that, they said that there was another shot, that President Kennedy was actually struck once from the front, which of course, would mean that there was more than one assassin. We have film of the assassination of the president on that day in Dallas, Texas. And joining me from the Cal State, department of police science, to discuss that film, to analyse it for you, are three professors from that department. On my left is Professor Allan Bristow, and Professor Edgar Smith and Professor Harry Diamond. Now, we are going to run the film for you to give you a view of what happened. The film was taken by a resident of that area, taken by a 8-mm color camera. We will run it for you twice at normal speed and then frame by frame so you can see what is happening. First, let's see what occurs as the motorcade turns the corner. Let's watch the film at regular speed.

The police escort comes first...then the car containing President Kennedy, he will be on the left on the back on the screen, that's his wife Jacqueline, and Gov. John Connally up front...secret service agent moves on to the back of the car...that Jacqueline on back with her husband, President John F. Kennedy...now the car comes by the sign, gentlemen, I think we agree that he has been hit once, as the car comes by the sign, and the second shot you will see kind of a cloud around his head, which has been referred to as bursting when the bullet hits. There. Now it's the contention those who say that - let's go back and stop it just prior to the sign, let's go back a little ways more - ...right about there, let's stop it, let's hold there for a moment. Now it's the contention of those who say there was more than one assassin, gentlemen, that the cloud that erupted about President Kennedy's head shows that he was struck from the front

HF: BECAUSE HE IS THRUST BACKWARDS. Let's go very slowly, frame by frame, I would like you all to look at it, and then I'm going to ask you for your reaction, what you think. He has been struck once from the back, grasps his throat, his hands go up, his wife Jacqueline looks at him, and Gov. Connelly in the front turns around. Let's keep going...the second shot is going to come up very shortly...he moved past the light post...there will be two figures coming into your picture -

FTN: (A spot in the film a few frames earlier.)

HF: There's three there, and there will be two more, as I recall the film...there they are. Now shortly after he passes the two figures, you will notice a white puff...I would like to stop on that white puff, if possible...it coming up in just, right there...now that's the time that the bullet hit the President...let's move up one or two frames, and notice the motion of the body...Alright, now let's roll back once again, just prior to that point there, now stop... stop the film and move forward just one more time very slowly... he's been hit once from the back, now the question is, where does the second bullet come from...That's it...now move a few more frame, now we can see the motion of the body. Alright, now, gentlemen, I would like your reactions to what you see on a basis of the film. And let's divorce ourselves from any concept of the Warren Commission or the Clay Shaw trial, in New Orleans at the present time, from what you see on the film, what conclusions would you draw: Professor Smith -

PS: We stopped each time on a frame, the second frame, I think, after the puff occurred - the first puff seemed to be all in the front of President Kennedy and a moment later, we saw the second puff or the second frame where the puff was entirely around his head. It appears that the car moving forward allow the puff to envelope his head, that the puff was entirely in front of his head, then the puff enveloped it as the car moved forward slowly. The third of four frame, as I see it, showed the President's body being forced abruptly towards the back of the seat.

HF: Now would you conclude then, now, there's the point, right there, what you're referring to, the puff seems to be, as you say, in front of his head. Let me ask you this tho, could that be on the side of his head, or could we conclude that it's directly in front? Of course, we have relative motion here, the car is moving ahead at a fairly low rate of speed, but let's assume that what you say is the accurate point here, then your implication is that he was hit from behind, is that correct?

PS: Yes.

HF: That would be your implication. That he moves into the puff at that time.

PS: Yes.

HF: Professor Diamond, would you go along with that or would you say he is hit from the front?

PD: This would just be a mere inference.

HF: Right.

PD: Obviously if you want the most truth, you can get concerning this, this is only one piece of the evidence, this kind of interence, that he fell backwards, which may have been due to some sort of a lash effect, after being hit in the back, or it could have been hit from the front, and obviously just to look at this piece of the context, without all the other evidence, the pathology, the entrance wounds, the exit wounds, this is just, well it's relevant, but it can't be looked at by itself as only a single piece, it must be linked with the other evidence.

HF: Let me ask Professor Bristow, would it be possible for a man to be hit from the back and his body lurch backwards? The way it does in the next few frames, let's roll on a few frames, once again, take a look, you can see the violent motion backwards...let's go through that once again now at real speed...~~XXXXXX~~there...~~we~~ maybe, let's do it just one more time if we could...we see the motion backward after the hit...Professor Bristow, what do you think about that?

PB: Well, I think that if he were hit by a projectile at over 2,000 feet per second, that the motion of his body would have been in the same direction as the projectile. It would appear to me from watching just those few frames, that the momentum of the President as he is apparently struck, does not square with his having been hit directly ~~xxxx~~ from the back in the head by a projectile at a high velocity. Now the puffs, admittedly the quality of this film is not the best and the circumstances under which we are viewing it, but, that could possibly be two things, among many others, perhaps, one, it could be tissue from an exit wound from a bullet that penetrated the back or entered the back of the head and blew it's way out forward, or also, it could be an explosion of moisture and tissue from the impact of a high velocity bullet on the front of the head, but, from the quality of the film, it is almost impossible to arrive at a firm conclusion.

HF: Okay, I think that we all agree that this is basically one piece of evidence, concerning the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Let's go back once more and look at it in slow motion and of course, thank you for your opinions, and we will let the viewer come up with his own conclusions.

Thank you for your assistance, gentlemen, the news continues in just one moment.

This was a copy of the same film Jaffe left with me, as I could recognize imperfections in various frames. I assume that either Rose, Burton or Jaffe got this for KTLA.

Some frames at the beginning of the film were not shown and I would guess that perhaps as many as 30 were missing, including the first 14, which show personal scenes.

Sincerely,

FRED