

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

July 22, 1964

By Courier Service

Honorable J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel  
The President's Commission  
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to your letter dated July 16, 1964, requesting an examination of the photograph Life Magazine used in the preparation of the cover of their February 21, 1964, issue. This letter also requested examination of the Zapruder film to determine the elapsed time between frame 313 and the time Special Agent Hill of the Secret Service first reached the presidential limousine.

Examination of the photograph used by Life Magazine shows that there is retouching on the stock and telescopic sight of the rifle, as well as other areas of the photograph, and this retouching conforms to the retouching described by Special Agent Lyndal L. Shaneyfelt in his testimony before the Commission on April 23, 1964, regarding his examination of the cover of the Life Magazine for February 21, 1964.

Examination of the Zapruder film shows that Special Agent Hill of the Secret Service first places his hand on the presidential car at frame 343, which is approximately 1.6 seconds after frame 313. Special Agent Hill places one foot on the bumper of the car at frame 368, which is approximately 3 seconds after frame 313. Special Agent Hill has both feet on the car at frame 381, which is approximately 3.7 seconds after frame 313. It is noted that some of the films of the assassination show that Special Agent Hill's foot

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

slipped off the bumper the first time he attempted to get on the presidential limousine. The above reference to the foot on the bumper relates to the final attempt, at which time Special Agent Hill succeeded in getting on the back of the presidential limousine. Since the portion of the action where Special Agent Hill's foot slips in his first attempt does not show in the Zapruder film, the frame number could not be designated for the point where Special Agent Hill's foot first touches the bumper.

This completes the examinations requested in your letter. The photograph furnished to the Commission by Life Magazine is being returned to you separately.

Sincerely yours,

*J. Edgar Hoover*