MEMORANDUM

July 1, 1996

To: T. Jeremy Gunn

From: Laura Denk

Subject: Highlights from Groden's Testimony to Rockefeller Commission

Groden testified to the Rockefeller Commission on March 26, 1975. He provided the Commission with copies of a number of photographs and prints from films and then testified about them.

Eric is at Archives II today. I have called him to ask him to pull copies of the Exhibits and to bring them back with him.

I am attaching my notes with corresponding page numbers identifying the most important parts of the testimony so that we have them available for quick reference.

LAURA'S NOTES on GRODEN TESTIMONY

7-8 Loans the Commission a copy of the Zapruder film. A 16 mm, color, double perf so it will run on any 16 mm projector. Identifies it as "the Z. film straight through from beginning to end as it appears on the original at this very moment in Time, Inc.'s possession."

18 Identification of **Exhibit 1**. "[A] typed sheet, a document headed "Lee Harvey Oswald in New Orleans 8/9/63," accompanied by 2 sheets, the first containing 3 photographs and the second containing 2 photographs."

41-51 Discussion of **Exhibit 1**. **1A** shows two arrest photographs of David Ferrie. The 3rd photograph is of David Ferrie in a homosexual party in New Orleans. **1B** is a photograph from the same party and shows Ferrie and Shaw together. The copy he shows to the Comm'n is a newspaper copy, but he says he has a copy from a photograph as well. Received the photographs from Richard Sprague.

18 Identification of **Exhibit 2**. "[A] document entitled "Dallas, November, 1963, a typewritten one-page sheet accompanied by two photographs, one being a photograph of the Presidential

parade and the second having two photographs, one of which is that of Lee Harvey Oswald.

66-70 Discussion of **Exhibit 2.** 2A -- **Altgens photos** -- secret service men appearing to be looking over shoulders at the depository doorway and pres. parade in Dallas on the day of assassination. 2B -- two photographs, unknown photographer -- one is Oswald under arrest in the police station. The other is labeled "Lovelady or Oswald?" and is an enlargement of the Altgens photographs in exhibit 2A.

19 Identification of **Exhibit 3.** "[A] page consisting of a sketch and a photograph below which appears the legend of man wanted for King slaying, etc. . ."

98 Discussion of **Exhibit 3.** Tramps.

19 Identification of **Exhibit 4.** "[A] document consisting of two photographs, both shown on the same page" and "the photograph on the left here is a mug shot made by the DPD of Lee Harvey Oswald on November 22, 1963." "[T]he photograph on the right is drawn from the head of a photograph introduced as an exhibit before the Warren Commission, the rest of that photograph being one in which a person is shown holding a rifle and wearing a pistol."

101-102 Discussion of **Exhibit 4.** "The photograph on the left is unmistakably an undoctored photograph taken by the DPD on the day of the assassination or the day after." The photograph on the right . . . is a blow-up . . . of the face or the head of a figure who is shown on one of the exhibits that were introduced in evidence in the report of the Warren Commission.

20, 100 Identification of **Exhibit 5.** A print of the Zapruder film, and perhaps one of Oswald's arrest folders (?). See page 100.

144+ Frame by frame analysis of the Zapruder film.
153 His copy of the Zapruder film is very clear. Can read Connally's lips.

21-22 Identification of **Exhibit 6.** Tramp photos. A mounted series of photographs all together on one page. "The caption above the photograph on the left hand side" is "Dallas, 1963" "and on the right hand side are five smaller photographs just showing the heads of people with various captions above them."

206+ Discussion of Exhibit 6 & tramp photos generally.

24 Identification of **Exhibit 7**. A still of one frame 322, give or take a frame or two, of the Zapruder film.

138+ Discussion of Exhibit 7.

25 Identification of **Exhibit 8**. A document consisting of 5 pages, plus 2 pages of photographs. The front page of the document is headed "Tramp Photographs." Exhibit 8 is a descriptive sheet for Exhibit 3.

26 Identification of **Exhibit 9**. Five photographs (9A, 9B, 9C, 9D, and 9E) taken in Dallas, Texas on 11/22/63.

113+ Discussion of Exhibit 9A through 9E. Tramp photographs. Photographs are by William Allen, George Smith, and Jack Pierce, except that Groden explains that Jack Pierce's photographs are not part of the exhibit. Groden believes he has information about where the Pierce negatives are located (115-116).

27 Identification of **Exhibit 10**. Two photographs (10A, 10B).

70-73 Discussion of Exhibit 10. **10B** is a frame from **John Martin's** motion
123+ picture in 8 mm of the assassination. Martin 5 -- Billie Lovelady in front of the SBD at 12:45 p.m. (at 126). 10A is a frame from a 16 mm film taken by **Weigman**. He believes he obtained the Weigman from NBC news.

27 Identification of **Exhibit 11. "P. Willis, 1964."** A photograph of a scene of the presidential parade in Dallas at the moment of the assassination.

130+ Discussion of **Willis** photo. On page 137, states, "this is originally from a color slide. Now, the slide -- the original slide, I am sure, has a great deal more clarity than any of the duplicates that have been made availab.e I have only been able to work from duplicates. I have tried to reach this man (Philip Willis) to look at the original and try to isolate that man. But he wants a great deal of money for the use of his original slides."

33-41 Discussion of an item that Groden had, but did NOT bring to his testimony. "[A] motion picture which is in my possession that shows Lee Harvey Oswald and Clay L. Shaw . . . in New Orleans, together at the same time." Film taken on 8/9/63. Does not know photographer's name. Has the motion picture, but will not disclose from whom he obtained

it. A 16 mm film. Has a copy. Knows who has the original. Film is not available anywhere else other than from Groden.

35 Will not disclose from whom he obtained the Zapruder film.

52-65 Groden background.

84 Has seen better photographs in investigative files of Harold Weisberg, Richard Sprague, and Jerry Policoff.

127+ Discussion of DCA film and where it might be located.

129 Has in his possession a photograph from the CBS reconstruction of Lovelady wearing the shirt he wore on the day of the assassination.

166 Brought with him a "projection copy" of the Nix film. Would not allow the Comm'n to copy it. Says UPI has the original

192 Identification of Exhibit 12. An 8 page copy of a printedpublication entitled "Executive Action, Facts Behind the Making of this film" written 11/1/73.

197 Says he has never seen the autopsy photographs.

212 "Let me state this as loudly and as clearly as I can. If I was worried about a lawsuit, I wouldn't have taken a chance of being the man to liberate the Zapruder film. I am not worried about a lawsuit."