

August 20, 1996

The Honorable James M. Inhofe
United States Senator
1924 South Utica, Suite 530
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74104-6511

Dear Senator Inhofe:

Thank you for your letter of August 12, 1996 regarding the film donated by Mr. Tom Alyea to the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection (JFK Collection), through the Assassination Records Review Board.

Mr. Alyea first contacted the Review Board in December 1995 regarding his interest in the work of the Board. Our communications with him culminated in his donation of the original film that he took as a professional television cameraman on the day that President Kennedy was assassinated. After turning the film over to the Review Board for inclusion in the JFK Collection and signing an agreement, Mr. Alyea apparently changed his mind and has subsequently raised additional conditions for the donation that he had not previously discussed with us. Because of provisions in our authorizing statute, the Board is not in a position to return the film to Mr. Alyea. However, as you can see from the enclosed letter to Mr. Alyea, dated August 6, 1996, we continue to seek to work with him so that we can fulfill our obligations under the law that created the Board and he can achieve his goals.

Again, thank you for your letter regarding this matter. I hope that I have clarified the situation for you. Please do not hesitate to have Ms. Claire Gentry of your staff contact me at (202) 724-0088, ext. 227, if she has any questions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Samoluk
Associate Director for Communications

enclosure