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**Subject:** Viewing FBI and Secret Service Copies of Z Film

Dear Mr. Sullivan, I am sending this letter by overnight mail to Minneapolis. The original message from the National Archives is in a separate e-mail message being sent at the same time as this. David W Mantik DAVID W MANTIK, MD, PhD Peter A Lake Oncology Center 69-780 Stellar Drive Rancho Mirage, CA 92270 619-324-4591 FAX 619-324-7931 e-mail: dwmantik@aol.com September 30, 1996 The Honorable John R. Tunheim US District Court of Minnesota 669 US Court 110 South Fourth St. Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401 Re: Viewing FBI and Secret Service Copies of the Zapruder Film at the National Archives-- Request for Assistance Dear Judge Tunheim: During this year, for the first time, I have intensely examined the Zapruder film. This has led to original--and significant--results. In November 1996, a conference on the film will be held in Dallas, Texas, at which time I will present my findings, along with those of others who have been studying the film To strengthen my results, I have asked the National Archives for permission to view the FBI and Secret Service copies of the film. To my surprise, I have just heard from the National Archives by e-mail that I will not be allowed to do this (copy enclosed). Their decision appears unjustifiable to me and I would be grateful for your assistance in overturning this decision. The arguments that can be advanced against their position are various. 1. At least one other researcher (Anna Marie Kuhns-Walko) has already examined these films, without apparently obtaining any special permission. 2. These films purport to be copies of the original Zapruder film. I can understand that the original film cannot be examined, except under the most unusual circumstances, but what possible reason can be advanced for not permitting a simple inspection of copies as is the case for these FBI and Secret Service holdings? 3. I neither need nor want an 8 mm projector for this study. All I need is to view selected frames by means of a low power loupe (magnifying lens). I can wear gloves while doing this--or take any other appropriate measures so as not to affect the film in any manner. 4. I have little or no interest in examining later generation copies that the Archives might make available--as they suggest they may do in their message. The whole purpose of my study is to search for critical features that may appear in early generations of the film but which either disappear or become more difficult to see in later copies. 5. My research is a highly focused, specific review of the film. It is not some ill-defined fishing expedition with a vague hope of discovering an odd feature or two. On the contrary, I have quite explicit questions in mind, all of which now demand an answer. If these questions cannot be addressed now, while the ARRB is still active, then when can this work be done? And if not by me (I have reviewed the autopsy photographs and X-rays on at least seven occasions), then by whom? With a conference pending, the ARRB alive and well, and numerous questions about this film newly emerging, the public interest would be served by permitting this review now.

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