

NR_key_name: 31D66400F05FD99386256661006B0CFB**SendTo:** Eileen_Sullivan@jfk-arrb.gov**CopyTo:****DisplayBlindCopyTo:****BlindCopyTo:** CN=Eileen Sullivan/O=ARRB**From:** Drmantik@aol.com**DisplayFromDomain:****DisplayDate:** 08/15/1998**DisplayDate_Time:** 7:28:27 PM**ComposedDate:****ComposedDate_Time:**

Subject: A Zapruder Camera Filming
CC: ARRB DAVID W. MANTIK, M.D., Ph.D. 72555 Jamie Way Ranchito Village, CA 92270 760-340-1904 e-mail.
Drmantik@aol.com August 14, 1998 Ms. Leslie Batchelor Civil Division Department of Justice, Room 3736950
Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530 Re: Authenticity of the Zapruder film Dear Ms. Batchelor:
Thank you for your courteous response to me today on the telephone. I think no one in the JFK assassination research community could ask for much more than a film (or films) shot through the original Zapruder camera. Such an experiment has already been done within the past year with a virtually identical camera--with nearly the same serial number. I have seen these films. This experiment has succeeded only in raising even more questions. It is critical that this experiment be repeated with the original camera, which, I am told, has been on display at the Sixth Floor Museum in Dallas, Texas. There has been serious speculation that the images on the extant Zapruder film have been magnified in the process of alteration and therefore cannot be the original. I have personally calculated the expected angle of view from the known optical parameters of this camera. Using known sized objects in the actual field of view (e.g., the limousine, the background buildings) it is also possible to calculate the angle of view that is actually seen in the film. The disagreement between these two numbers is larger than I would expect at the full zoom (telephoto) setting that Zapruder said he used. And if the camera had actually been set at less than full zoom, the mismatch is even worse. The direction of this disagreement does suggest that the extant images are too large, as has been implied previously. Furthermore, I did not find this problem for the Nix film. It is absolutely critical that the actual angle of view be determined for the original camera when set at full zoom. This will be trivial for any expert to do. I suggest, however, that one simple additional step be taken. To satisfy the critics, some well known object should be filmed from a well known position (e.g. the Lincoln Memorial as seen from the Washington Monument). This will allow anyone afterwards to do their own measurements of size and distance and to calculate the angle of view, which can then be compared to the actual film. If these simple steps are taken, they will go a long way towards satisfying the questions of many chronic students of this case. My understanding is that the Assassination Records and Review Board has been reluctant to engage in investigations of this type, apparently interpreting such steps as beyond their charter. However, I note that the FBI will soon be examining material found on one of the bullets discovered in JFK's limousine. That is obviously an investigation, so, if that can be justified, then surely shooting film through the original Zapruder camera can also be justified. Thank you again for your attention to this matter. I am very pleased that you are positioned to assist in a matter that is so central to our national history.

Sincerely yours, David W. Mantik, M.D., Ph.D. (Physics) P.S. I have attached several professional cards,

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