Time, Incorporated (Attn: General Counsel) 1271 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 2871 New York, N. Y. 10020

Re: Search for Color Slides of Zapruder Film of President Kennedy's Assassination in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963

## Gentlemen:

In the Autumn of 1966, LIFE magazine and the Bernard Geis Associates jointly agreed that Professor Josiah Thompson, who was under contract with Bernard Geis Associates to write a book for them about the Kennedy assassination, would work collaboratively with LIFE magazine as a consultant to LIFE on that subject, in exchange for access to the Zapruder film, then owned by LIFE. LIFE published one major article on the subject in November, 1966, and then suspended work on the collaborative effort with Professor Thompson. In the publisher's forward to Professor Thompson's 1967 book, *Six Seconds in Dallas*, Mr. Bernard Geis explains (on pages xvii and xviii) that when author Josiah Thompson made a routine request for reproduction rights to selected frames from the Zapruder film that Mr. Thompson had used as research aids while working at LIFE on the collaborative project, he was repeatedly refused. It is public knowledge that in Thompson's book, charcoal sketches were substituted for the film images in the possession of LIFE at the time, and that litigation ensued.

On April 2, 1997, Mr. Thompson clarified for the Assassination Records Review Board that the images with which he was working were 4" X 5" color positive transparencies of each and every frame of the 8 mm home movie, and that they had been made directly from the original film, and were of striking clarity.

On April 10, 1997, a member of my staff met with attorney Jamie Silverberg, who represents the LMH Co. in most Zapruder film matters, in order to determine whether the LMH Co. was in possession of this set of (approximately) 486 color slides. After reviewing the LMH Co. inventory of holdings and directly asking about this matter, Mr. Silverberg represented that his client, the LMH Co., was not in possession of these materials, and suggested that your organization may have retained them when the original film and assorted 8 mm and 35 mm format copies were resold to his family in

the mid-1970s.

Accordingly, I am writing to ask Time to conduct a search and determine whether you are in possession of the color positive transparencies exposed directly from the individual frames of the original 8 mm film while it was in your possession; or whether you know to whom they were transferred, and when, if they were not kept by your organization.

[Jeremy--please insert appropriate legal wording here about our powers, etc; cite JFK Act as appropriate, and adjust tone on "legal matters" to whatever you deem appropriate.]

I look forward to hearing from you no later than May 30, 1998. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director and General Counsel