

August 5, 1997

Congressman Bob Goodlatte  
U.S. House of Representatives  
10 Franklin Road, S.E. Suite 540  
Roanoke, VA 24011-2121

Dear Congressman Goodlatte:

Thank you for your letter of July 24, 1997, regarding your constituent's inquiry about the Zapruder film.

The Assassination Records Review Board does not play a role in assessing the economic value of the Zapruder film. The Review Board's principal responsibility has been to determine whether records, such as the Zapruder film, are "assassination records" within the meaning of the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (Supp. V 1994) (JFK Act) and to make the factual finding of whether such records were "made available for use by . . . the 'Warren Commission' . . ." *Id.* at § 3(2). On April 24, 1997, the Review Board essentially answered both of these questions in the affirmative.

It is the Review Board's understanding that the value of the Zapruder film will be determined either by an agreement between the Justice Department and the Zapruder family or, if that is not successful, by the United States Claims Court. As far as the Review Board is aware, there are no ongoing proceedings where the value is being discussed. The Review Board is certainly not aware of any "secret" price of the film nor does it understand how there could be a "secret" price.

I hope that this information is of use to you and your constituent. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

David G. Marwell  
Executive Director

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