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**Subject:** Conference Call today and Burton letter  
Probably the two most important items for the call today are the Zapruder film and the open meeting for Final Report deliberations. (As always, it is important that the Board not "deliberate" on the substantive issues.)With regard to the Z-film, I am intending to make no suggestions or observations.With regard to the Final Report, I would like to suggest to the Board what I suggested to you earlier this week. I believe that the discussion of the Final Report needs to be at an open meeting. I believe that most chapters can be drafted initially by the staff, circulated to Board members for comments, revised, and discussed. With respect to Chapter 7 (findings, conclusions, and recommendations), I think it would be highly appropriate for Board members to deliberate on such issues in public and devise a scheme for drafting at least this section of the report. As I mentioned to you, I hope that a Board member (or members) will take the principal role in drafting this chapter which, more than any other, will reflect the Board's understanding of its own work. For the immediately upcoming meeting, I recommend that we have a one day meeting on either May 12 or 13 with something like the following agenda: Morning: closed meeting on records and Zapruder. Afternoon: public meeting on discussing approach to Final Report. In my experience, the Board will consume in discussion the time allotted for discussion. I have not noticed a positive correlation between the length of a discussion and the quality of results reached. Following the (proposed) public discussion of the Final Report, the Board could then consider how many such meetings it believes would be most useful. For reasons of budget and for the productive use of staff and Board members' time, I urge that we not commit to having more discussion time than is reasonably needed.On the letter to Burton, unless I hear from you to the contrary, I will state matter-of-factly that we had a meeting with DOJ and that concerns were raised about the potential cost of the Z-film.  
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