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ComposedDate:	02/02/1998
ComposedDate_Time:	8:47:55 AM
Subject:	January 29 Conference Call

Body:

All Board members participated. The principal points were:1. DOJ has made an offer to the Zapruders. I will include a copy of the letter in the next mailing. We have heard no response from the Zapruders.2. The forensic experts reviewed the enhanced photos and praised the quality of the images. They strongly recommended that we try to make a "virtual" 3D of the x-rays. We are looking into it.3. We discussed the experts conference. Although I did not voice the following thoughts during the call, I think it may be useful to offer the following thoughts. It seems to me that the principal goal should be to assemble a group of knowledgeable people who can help make suggestions that could be incorporated as recommendations into the final report. In my own mind, the issue is How can the process be improved for getting records from government files into the hands of scholars and researchers?To the extent this is the goal, we should seek to invite people who are knowledgeable about FOIA, mandatory review, the JFK Act, etc. This would not be a question of having people who are skilled users of archives, but people who can help find records that are not yet in the archives. If the Board wishes to make practical recommendations for improving the process, I think it would be useful to have objective and open-minded people on all sides of the process who can get together and consider better approaches than what we have now. We should take the lessons of the JFK Act, FOIA, mandatory review, and then see if we can come up with some suggested improvements in the process.I think that we do not need people who will offer the "party line" and make predictable and unuseful statements, whether they be from agencies or academe. We need positive and productive suggestions by people who understand the difficulty of finding records and declassifying them. I think that it would be helpful to have non-dogmatic people from the agencies who can explain how, from their perspectives, the process can be improved.

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