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DisplayDate: 03/31/1997
DisplayDate_Time: 6:46:39 AM
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Subject: Re: Zapruder film
 Paul--Thank you for your message about the Zapruder film. You may rest assured that the Board is very mindful of your concerns regarding public access to the the best available images that can be obtained from the film. We are all very hopeful that, by the time the Board goes out of business, the public will have access to the best available images that can be made through modern technology. At the upcoming meeting, the Board will be considering whether the camera original is or should be Federal property through eminent domain, or whether a very high quality, publicly accessible image (probably digitized), will be acceptable in lieu of the original. Best, Jeremy
 To: jeremy_gunn @ jfk-arrb.gov ("Jeremy Gunn") @ internet, david_marwell @ jfk-arrb.gov ("David Marwell") @ internetcc: [b]cc: Jeremy Gunn/ARRB)From: paulhoch @ uclink4.berkeley.edu (Paul L. Hoch) @ INTERNET @ WORLDCOM Date: 03/29/97 01:28:55 PM CSTSubject: Zapruder film
 Jeremy, David - In connection with your forthcoming hearing on the status of the Zapruder film: You may have seen my letter of November 26, 1994, to Mr. Tunheim, in which I wrote: [Quote on] First, some of the records which might be most useful to historians are those which could be used in control studies.... Second, I hope you can establish a principle of maximum access to all the information in the released records. Specifically, it would be good to have a procedure in place for the non-destructive extraction of information from photos and artifacts. For example, there was inevitably some loss of information from the original Zapruder film when copies were made., Interpretation of this film is intrinsically difficult enough, and should not be limited by lack of access to the best raw data,. There is still controversy about the visible reactions to the first shots. Also, it is becoming more widely recognized that the film is crucial photographic evidence of the President's wounds as they appeared in Dallas. Some credence has been given to allegations that the film shows wounds inconsistent with the official version, or that it has been tampered with. Many substantive questions might be answered if everyone had access to a digitized version of the film, made from the original or at least from one of the first generation copies. I expect that information from consecutive frames could be averaged to extract additional detail, and that computerized studies would be the only way to deal with allegations of film alteration. At the least, it would be good if you could establish in principle the public right to such information. As I recall, the FOIA is restricted to existing records, creating no obligation on any agency to summarize, index, or otherwise extract information. David Mantik was recently given permission to perform measurements on the autopsy X-rays with an optical densitometer; hopefully the right of researchers to do such studies can be established. Ideally, the government should extract information and make it available in a convenient form. (Making slides from various films, as suggested to you
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recstat: Record
DeliveryPriority: N
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