

February 27, 1996

Mr. John Davidson
Photo Editor
Dallas Morning News
508 Young Street
Dallas, TX 75202-4808

Dear Mr. Davidson:

As I know you are aware from our November 1994 public hearing in Dallas, the Assassination Records Review Board is an independent federal agency created by The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (PL 102-526) to oversee the review and release of records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. I have enclosed a fact sheet on the Review Board for your information.

An important part of the Review Board's mandate, as articulated by the United States Congress, is to compile at the National Archives as complete a record of the assassination as possible. The Congress clearly stated that the Review Board was to search beyond the records of previous governmental investigations and seek relevant assassination records that are in private hands.

Photographs taken by your newspaper in Dallas on November 22, 1963, and the days following the assassination, have prompted this letter. Any photograph or film of the motorcade or related events constitutes an important part of the assassination record. The Review Board is very interested in discussing with you, or the appropriate representative from your newspaper, any photographs and negatives in the newspaper's archives that may be relevant to the record of the assassination which we are compiling as part of our mandate.

For your information and assistance, I have enclosed an excerpt from a November 14, 1977 memorandum from the files of the House Select Committee on Assassination. The memorandum chronicles a Committee staff person's review of your negatives of the assassination during a visit to your station.

As a follow-up to this letter, Tom Samoluk, Associate Director for Communications, will be contacting you in the near future to discuss this matter. Please do not hesitate to call him at (202) 724-0088, ext. 227, if you have any questions or would like to direct him to someone else at the newspaper.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

David G. Marwell
Executive Director

enclosure