

## NEWS RELEASE

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### JFK ASSASSINATION RECORDS REVIEW BOARD RELEASES AMATEUR FILM TAKEN ON DAY OF JFK ASSASSINATION

The Assassination Records Review Board, an independent federal agency overseeing the review and release of records related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, released an amateur film today that was taken on November 22, 1963, the day the President was assassinated in Dallas.

The three minute 16 mm film, which has never been seen publicly, was taken by presidential aide Dave Powers.

The trip to Texas taken by President Kennedy and First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy on November 21-22, 1963 is chronicled through a series of short film sequences (some lasting only a few seconds). The assassination of President Kennedy is not shown on the film. Powers, who was riding in the Secret Service car directly behind the presidential limousine during the Dallas motorcade, ran out of film minutes before the motorcade entered Dealey Plaza where the shots were fired that killed the President and seriously wounded Texas Governor John Connally.

"This rare film is an important addition to the historical record of the assassination," said Judge John R. Tunheim, Chair of the Board. "As a presidential aide, Powers had unique access to President Kennedy and the First Lady. Much of the film of them is taken from a perspective that news photographers were not allowed. We appreciate Mr. Powers cooperation and hope that other individuals who possess films, photographs or other records related to the assassination will contact the Board."

The film begins with the arrival of President Kennedy and First Lady in San Antonio on November 21, 1963. The arrival is followed by a motorcade through San Antonio, during which well-wishers rush to the presidential limousine to greet the presidential party. The President and Mrs. Kennedy are then seen arriving and departing from the Aerospace Medical Center at Brooks Air Force Base.

Next, the film captures the arrival of the President and Mrs. Kennedy in Houston during the late afternoon of November 21st, followed by a motorcade through the city. Footage of the Houston stop is followed by scenes of the Kennedys departing Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth for the flight to Dallas on the morning of November 22nd.

The last group of scenes on the film show the arrival of the President and the First Lady at Love Field in Dallas. The presidential limousine is then shown at various points in the motorcade through Dallas. There is a brief scene of the President, seated in the back seat of the limousine,

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-2-

being surrounded by excited spectators who have left the side of the street. The last scene on the film is of the presidential limousine traveling on Main Street, minutes before the assassination.

The film will eventually become part of the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection at the National Archives.

The Assassination Records Review Board was established by The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act, which was signed into law by President George Bush. The five members of the Board were appointed by President Clinton, confirmed by the U.S. Senate, and sworn in on April 11, 1994. The law gives the Review Board the mandate and the authority to identify, secure, and make available all records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. It is the responsibility of the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.

The Review Board consists of the following members:

**Honorable John R. Tunheim**, Chair; U.S. District Court Judge, District of Minnesota.

**Dr. Henry F. Graff**; Professor Emeritus of History at Columbia University.

**Dr. Kermit L. Hall**; Dean, College of Humanities, and Professor of History at The Ohio State University.

**Dr. William L. Joyce**; Associate University Librarian for Rare Books and Special Collections at Princeton University.

**Dr. Anna K. Nelson**; Adjunct Professor of History at American University.

The Review Board has until October 1, 1997 to fulfill its mandate.

-30-

NOTE: Copies of the Powers film are being made available to the media only by the Review Board at this time. It is not yet available at the National Archives.

The Powers film is copyrighted. Mr. Powers has authorized use of the film for news broadcasts between November 21-25, 1996. Authorization for other use must be obtained from Mr. Powers.