

August 1, 1996

Mr. Jack Valenti
President and Chief Executive Officer
Motion Picture Association of America
1600 Eye Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Valenti:

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Assassination Records Review Board, 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. As I know you are aware, President Bush signed the Act into law and President Clinton appointed the five members of the Board in April 1994. Please be assured, I recall that you supported the release of records related to the assassination and that your congressional testimony in favor of such legislation was instrumental in its passage in 1992.

The Review Board would like to invite you to testify at a public hearing in Los Angeles on Tuesday, September 17, 1996. As someone who was in the presidential motorcade in Dallas on November 22, 1963, as a former aide to President Johnson during the Warren Commission investigation, and as an early supporter of the legislation that created the JFK Collection and the Review Board, your testimony would provide the Board and the public with an invaluable opportunity to hear how the historical record surrounding the assassination could be enriched. In addition, we would be interested in knowing if you had any thoughts on appealing to the relevant media outlets to search their libraries and archives for records, films, and photographs that would be important to the historical record.

The Review Board has reached out to many knowledgeable parties and has already heard testimony at public hearings conducted in Washington, Dallas, Boston and New Orleans. Consistent with the desires articulated by the Congress, the hearings have proven to be an important vehicle for the Review Board to gather information and allow the public to see it at work. We are confident that the hearing in Los Angeles will be equally successful.

Thank you for your time and cooperation. The members of the Review Board appreciate your consideration and hope that you will be able to appear at the hearing on September 17th.

I have enclosed a fact sheet on the Review Board for your additional information. Please call me, or Tom Samoluk, Associate Director for Communications, at (202) 724-0088, if you would like more detailed information about the Board or the public hearing. We look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

David G. Marwell
Executive Director

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