

August 8, 1997

Via facsimile

Mr. Tom Alyea
Box 4266
Tulsa, OK 74159

Dear Tom:

Thank you for the letter you faxed to me that was dated July 13, 1997 and received at the Review Board offices on July 21, 1997. It was good to hear from you.

From our first contact, it has been clear to me that you want to preserve the valuable film that you made and make it available to future generations. At the same time, you want to prevent its exploitation for commercial purposes.

Regrettably, the National Archives is not currently making the film (as transferred onto videotape) available to the public. As I know you will agree, it is an historical treasure, and the public would benefit by having access to it.

This situation can be resolved by your signing the enclosed Deed of Gift. I fully understand and appreciate your desire to prevent others from profiting from your film. For this reason, paragraph 5 of the enclosed Deed of Gift is important. Your copyright is clearly articulated in this provision. Anyone who did not receive your permission for commercial use of the film would be in violation of the copyright laws. As it stands now, no one benefits from your donation to the JFK Collection. Your desires for the handling of the film have not been clearly articulated, and interested researchers do not have access to the film. In a way, it is the worst possible situation for everyone.

I hope you will sign the enclosed Deed of Gift and return it as soon as possible so that we can put an end to a most unsatisfactory and frustrating situation.

If you would like to discuss the film, you can call me collect at (202) 724-0088, ext. 227, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (EST). Or, please feel free to fax me a note regarding what you would like to do about the film. If you do want to sign the Deed of Gift, we will send the appropriate copies for your signature in the mail, as soon as we hear from you.

Please allow me to raise one additional matter. In your recent letter, you made reference to the testimony of former Dallas police officers which you believe to be important to the historical record. I would be interested in hearing more specific information, if you have the time to write down some more details for us.

Again, thank you for writing. I appreciate your interest in making the film accessible to the American public. You and the Board share a common goal in that regard. I hope we can now resolve the situation with the film to everyone's satisfaction. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Samoluk

enclosure