

Assassination Records Review Board

600 E Street NW ▪ Suite 208 ▪ Washington, DC 20530

May 1, 1995

E. Gabriel Perle, Esq.
3-G Weaver's Hill
Greenwich, Connecticut 06831

Dear Mr. Perle:

Thanks so much for taking the time to speak with me recently about the legal status of the Zapruder film after its purchase by Life magazine in 1963 and the subsequent transfer back to the Zapruders in 1975. Thanks also for referring me to Time Inc.'s current general counsel, Harry Johnston, who was most helpful as well.

As you can see from the enclosed copy of materials that Harry provided to me for the Review Board's use from Time Inc.'s files, it appears that the Zapruders do have legal title to the original film as well as ownership of the copyright. As Harry explained it to me and as the documents seem to bear out, Time Inc. was constrained by terms in the original contract that reserved to the Zapruders certain rights in the final disposition of the original film.

The government is now trying to determine what steps to take next regarding the original film. However this may be resolved, the information you helped us obtain will be very useful. On behalf of the Review Board, please accept our thanks and deepest appreciation for your assistance. It was a pleasure to speak with you.

Very truly yours,

Sheryl L. Walter
General Counsel

cc: Henry Graff, Assassination Records Review Board
David Marwell, Executive Director

