

NR_key_name: 3B0EB100287F69178525635300546AC5
SendTo: CN=Tom Samoluk/O=ARRB @ ARRB;CN=Jeremy Gunn/O=ARRB @ ARRB
CopyTo: CN=David Marwell/O=ARRB @ ARRB
DisplayBlindCopyTo:
BlindCopyTo: CN=R ecord/O=ARRB
From: CN=Dave Montague/O=ARRB
DisplayFromDomain:
DisplayDate: 06/24/1996
DisplayDate_Time: 11:24:07 AM
ComposedDate: 06/24/1996
ComposedDate_Time: 11:22:04 AM
Subject: Confirmation re: current location of Don Cook
CALL REPORT ISSUE # 57110 initiated the call: REVIEW BOARD'S representative in the call. Dave
MontagueDate:06/20/96 Subject: Confirmation re: current location of Don CookSummary of the Call: Dallas
Project: I spoke with Paul Donald Cook today & he confirmed he is the same "Don Cook" who shot the footage
in Dealey Plaza on 11/22/63. He said he worked for Channel 11 at the time but it was not then affiliated with
CBS. Cook saw some of the recent coverage by Dan Rather which he found exciting. We discussed his actions
of 11/22/63 & he described the following: Cook met Air Force One at Love Field where he shot some footage
of the 1st family. He was working with another camera person named Jack Renfro that day & they decided to
beat the crowd by heading directly to the press room at the Sheriff's office (on Houston & Main he believes) to
catch the motorcade while in the downtown area. As the motorcade entered the downtown area, Cook
walked along side it & stopped filming after the motorcade turned onto Elm Street out of his range. Cook
thought they'd still get good coverage because Renfro was positioned near the triple underpass. After the limo
turned onto elm, Cook heard 3 shots which he thought "sounded like they came from the direction of the
underpass". He said the problem is that there is a lot of reverberation in Dealey Plaza, so he's unsure of the
specific actual location(s) of fire. Right after the shots rang out, a young African-American boy ran past the
press people who were near the TSBD & pointed upward at it saying "They came from up there". That's when
Cook contacted Renfro to make sure he knew shots were fired. Cook tried to remove his car from the parking
lot so he could be mobile if needed but said was unable due to "a sea of cars". He then decided to call Channel
11 so they could at least start preparing his film for the news reports; Channel 11 sent someone from Ft.
Worth to pick up his film. His understanding is that Channel 11 did whatever normal editing process was
involved & it was "pretty much out of my hands after that". Cook asked numerous times for a copy of his
footage & Channel 11 wouldn't give it to him. During that time period, Cook was also contracted by a French
group (he can't remember the name) to take still shots of JFK's visit & (after the assassination) was asked to
shoot any other relevant material. He planned to take some still shots on 11/22/63, but left his still camera on
the seat of his car because he was going to focus on other JFK events after the motorcade trip through
downtown. I explained the Deed of Gift process & the fact that we're looking for any records re: the
assassination. Cook said he doesn't have any audiovisual records but did make some extemporaneous notes
each day following the assassination for himself; he prepared them using his typewriter. He said he's divorced
now, but is on good terms with his ex-wife & the papers should be at her house. He'll contact her , look for
them & is willing to donate them to the Collection under a Deed of Gift. I explained that if he finds them, I
Record
Body:
recstat:
DeliveryPriority: N
DeliveryReport: B
ReturnReceipt:
Categories: