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CopyTo:
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From: CN=Douglas Horne/O=ARRB
DisplayFromDomain:
DisplayDate: 01/31/1997
DisplayDate_Time: 6:08:37 PM
ComposedDate: 01/31/1997
ComposedDate_Time: 6:08:26 PM
Subject: ARRB Called Joe O'Donnell (Revised 1/31/97)
CALL REPORT. PUBLIC DOCUMENTS ACTION. Douglas Horne/ARRB Date Created: 01/29/97 THE PLAYERS WHO initiated the call? Review Board's representative in the call: Jeremy Gunn and Douglas HorneWitnesses/Consultants's representative in the call: Joe O'DonnellDescription of the Call Date: 01/29/97Subject: ARRB Called Joe O'Donnell (Revised 1/31/97)Summary of the Call:Jeremy Gunn and Doug Horne called Joe O'Donnell this date, following up on the most recent Joe O'Donnell lead from Dr. Gary Aguilar. He confirmed that he did know Robert Knudsen in 1963, and that he was shown autopsy photographs of President Kennedy by Robert Knudsen.The following is a summary of information provided by Mr. O'Donnell in response to questions asked by Mr. Gunn:-Mr. O'Donnell was a government photographer, employed by USIA in 1963, who was frequently detailed to the White House to perform various photographic tasks during the Kennedy administration.-He knew Mr. Robert L. Knudsen quite well, and had a close professional association with him circa 1963. He said that he always called Knudsen "Knute," but had never met his family.-Within the week after President Kennedy's assassination, on two occasions Robert Knudsen showed him autopsy photographs of President Kennedy.-On the first occasion, he was shown approximately 12 ea 5" X 7" B & W photos. The views included the President lying on his back, on his stomach, and closeups of the back of the head. He said that the back-of-the-head photograph(s) showed a hole in the back of the head, about 2" above the hairline, about the size of a grapefruit; the hole clearly penetrated the skull and was very deep. Another one of the photographs showed a hole in the forehead above the right eye which was a round wound about 3/8" in diameter which he interpreted as a gunshot wound.-The second occasion occurred a few days later, when Knudsen showed him a second set of photographs, once again about 12 ea 5" X 7" B & W prints. On this second occasion, the back-of-the-head photograph(s) was intact, and showed no hole in the back of the head. Instead of a hole, he remembers seeing neatly combed hair which looked slightly wet, or damp in appearance. Another photograph he remembers showed President Kennedy lying on his back, with an aluminum probe emerging from his stomach or right side (details were vague).-He said it was his impression that Knudsen had taken the photographs himself, but that he had never specifically asked him that question. He said he never discussed with Knudsen the apparent discrepancy between the two back-of-the-head photos. -He said Jacqueline Kennedy told him, in response to his questions about her apparent attempt to "escape" from the limousine in Dallas during the assassination, that she was not trying to escape, but rather was trying to retrieve a part of President Kennedy's head from the back of the limousine (i.e., the trunk lid).
Body: Jeremy Gunn told Mr. O'Donnell at the conclusion of this first interview that ARRB would be contacting him
recstat: Record
DeliveryPriority: N
DeliveryReport: B
ReturnReceipt:
Categories: