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CopyTo: CN=David Marwell/O=ARRB @ ARRB;CN=Ron Haron/O=ARRB @ ARRB
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BlindCopyTo: CN=R ecord/O=ARRB
From: CN=Douglas Horne/O=ARRB
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Subject: Compliance Meeting Between Bethesda NNMCM and ARRB
MEETING REPORT DOCUMENTS AUTHOR: DOUGLAS HORNE/ARRB Date Created: 02/03/97 Meeting Logistics Date: 02/03/97 Agency Name: Department of the Navy -- National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda Attendees: LCDR Paul M. DeLaney, JAGC, USN, James B. Norman, JAGC, USN, Commander Jeanne Rushin, MC, USN, Ron Haron (ARRB), and Doug Horne (ARRB). Topic: Compliance Meeting Between Bethesda NNMCM and ARRB Summary of the Meeting A compliance meeting was held this date between officials from Bethesda NNMCM and the ARRB. Place: 6th floor conference room, Bethesda Tower; Time: 1100-1300; Attendee roles were as follows:-CDR Norman: represented BUMED-LCDR Delaney: represented Bethesda NNMCM-CDR Jeanne Rushin: Bethesda Laboratories-Ron Haron: ARRB Compliance Official-Doug Horne: Senior Analyst, ARRB Ron Haron opened with a discussion of the JFK Act and ARRB's mandate. Following this, Mr. Haron asked the Navy's representatives at the meeting to explain in further detail searches for records referred to in their Initial Statement of Compliance letter (Ser 00J/4698, dtd Jan 1, 1997). [Documents applicable to this meeting are ARRB's letter to Bethesda NNMCM of December 6, 1996; Bethesda NNMCM's Statement of Intent to Comply with the JFK Act/Designation of Agency Compliance Officials (Ser 00J/4616, dtd December 18, 1996); and Bethesda NNMCM's Initial Statement of Compliance (Ser 00J/4698, dtd Jan 1, 1997).] Highlights of the meeting included the following: -CDR Rushin explained that Laboratory records (such as autopsy reports and/or histology slides, paraffin blocks and associated paperwork) are/were never retired anywhere outside of Bethesda, and specifically stated that Laboratory records were never retired to Suitland, Md. She has been stationed at Bethesda since 1988 (longer than anyone else in the Laboratories Directorate), and was detailed to search for JFK records by Commander Ogorzalek, Head, Laboratory Department. She said the normal retention schedule for paraffin blocks is 5 years, and for tissue slides is 20 years. Paraffin blocks and tissue slides were transferred from underground tunnels to BLDG 14 during the 1987-1988 period, and were further transferred from the basement of BLDG 14 to the basement of BLDG 9, a room adjacent to the present morgue, in 1993. During each of these transfers, excess/out-of-date material was disposed of: paper laboratory records (re: paraffin blocks and tissue slides) were shredded, and paraffin blocks and tissue slides were incinerated. Following the meeting, Mr. Haron and Mr. Horne were allowed to inspect all existing laboratory records in the basement of BLDG 9 (next to the current morgue), and were able to ascertain, through personal inspection, that the oldest autopsy reports on file commence in 1966, and the oldest paraffin blocks and tissue slides (and associated records) on file commence in 1975. [For the record, several 1966 autopsy reports were reviewed, and it was noted that, just as in the case of President Kennedy's autopsy protocol, the date/time of death of the
Body: Record
recstat:
DeliveryPriority: N
DeliveryReport: B
ReturnReceipt:
Categories: