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Subject: ARRB Interviewed Dr. Charles Crenshaw
MEETING REPORT DOCUMENTS AUTHOR: DOUGLAS HORNE/ARRB Date Created: 04/14/97 Meeting Logistics Date: 03/19/97
Agecny Name: Witnesses/ConsultantsAttendees: Jeremy Gunn, Douglas Horne, and Charles Crenshaw
Topic: ARRB Interviewed Dr. Charles Crenshaw
Summary of the Meeting On March 19, 1997, Jeremy Gunn and Doug Horne of the ARRB visited Dr. Crenshaw at his home in Fort Worth, Texas, and conducted an interview. The interview was conducted because Dr. Crenshaw was present in Trauma Room One on 11/22/63, and had not been interviewed by either the Warren Commission, or the HSCA. An audiotape recording was made of the interview. Dr. Crenshaw completed 4 drawings of wounds he observed which are labeled Crenshaw Exhibits 1 through 4.
Summary of Dr. Crenshaw's recollections of President Kennedy's wounds:-Only saw one head wound;-Head wound was behind right ear, in the occipital-parietal region, in right rear quadrant of the head, and was baseball-sized;-Brain matter was oozing out, and had a consistency resembling oatmeal;-He feels he definitely saw cerebellum extruding from the wound;-There was a complete absence of bone, hair and scalp at the wound site;-There was a large blood clot high in the left forehead, above the left eye, but when the body was washed at Parkland after the President was declared dead, there was no wound there;-He observed what he interpreted as a classic bullet entrance wound in the anterior neck, the size of the tip of one's little finger, just prior to the performance of the tracheostomy by Dr. Perry;-He observed no damage to the right side of the head, above the ear or forward of the ear, nor did he observe any damage to the top of the head;
Records:-He said he did not know the whereabouts of either his personal journal which he kept after the assassination, or of the lecture notes he subsequently prepared prior to giving lectures. He said it was possible his co-author, Jens Hansen, or his attorney, Brad Kizzia, might have these items, since they were called for during discovery during his legal battle with JAMA. He promised to contact Brad Kizzia, his attorney, and ask him to look for his notes and journal.-He said he regretted inaccuracies in his book (which he described as embellishments by Jens Hansen) which had resulted from a rushed and incomplete proofreading process. He said that his primary form of relating Parkland events which he witnessed to Jens Hansen was via conversations which were tape-recorded. Mr. Gunn asked him to try to locate these also, and he said he would.
Miscellaneous:-He recalled that Secret Service and FBI agents visited Parkland several times after the assassination. The one specific incident he recalled was a November 29, 1963 visit to Parkland by Secret Service agents who met with several Trauma Room One doctors; he was not a part of this meeting. He said he was aware of no incidents in which either the FBI or Secret Service "forced changes" in testimony or observations of Parkland Hospital personnel.
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