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Subject: Suggested Talking Points For Jack on Fritz Notes
PLEASE ADVISE JACK THAT MOST OF WHAT WE CAN SAY ON THE FRITZ NOTES IS IN THE NEWS RELEASE. I SUGGEST THE following talking points to supplement the news release:1. Captain Fritz's notes original notes add depth to the primary record of what went on during the hours following the shooting of the President while Oswald was in custody.2 The notes are important because there was no stenographer and no audio recording of the interrogation sessions.3. This is the second time that the Board has obtained previously unavailable Oswald interrogation notes made by a law enforcement official who was there. Earlier this year we obtained the original and contemporaneous notes of former FBI Agent James Hosty who cooperated with the Board.4. The Board has aggressively sought to supplement the record surrounding the assassination, beyond the review of the records held by federal agencies.5. The Board's mandate is to make the record of the assassination as complete as possible for the American public. We will not draw conclusions about the meaning of the records, that will be left to others. However, we can say that because the record of the Oswald interrogation is so sketchy, any additional records created by the primary players, like these notes, make the history richer.6. Captain Fritz told the Warren Commission that he did not take notes during the interrogation. He did indicate that he took "rough notes" after the interrogation, perhaps within days. Since Fritz said he took no contemporaneous notes, we probably have acquired the "rough notes" he took at some point afterwards.7. Others will certainly analyze the notes and determine whether or not there is anything that we have not seen before. And like most everything connected with this case there will be disagreement. However, the importance for the Board is that we have supplemented the historical record. Some people will probably say that the notes are consistent with what Captain Fritz told the Warren Commission. Other people will probably draw different conclusions after analyzing the notes. Our job is to make them public, as we did today.8. Although the donor of the notes wants to remain anonymous for privacy reasons, we should say that the donor should be praised for cooperating with the Board after we made contact.9. When we contacted the donor, we did not know these notes existed. It was a very pleasant surprise because of the mystery that has surrounded the Oswald interrogation.10. We want people to come forward. As we approach another anniversary of this tragic day in Dallas, it is appropriate for us to call on people who do have records or photographs from the day of the assassination to contact the Review Board at (202) 724-0088. People may have items in a shoe box in their attic, something that may be of historic value that should be part of the historical record.11. We will probably not answer all of the questions surrounding the assassination, however when the Board is done the government will be able to say that we tried to make the record as complete as possible.
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