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Subject: Interview of Robert I. Bouck
MEETING REPORT DOCUMENTS Author: Douglas Horne/ARRB Date Created: 05/02/96 Meeting Logistics Date: 04/30/96 Agecny Name: Witnesses/Consultants Attendees: Jeremy Gunn, Tim Wray, Joan Zimmerman, Douglas Horne Topic: Interview of Robert I. Bouck Summary of the Meeting On April 30, 1996 Joan Zimmerman led a team of ARRB staffers who met with and interviewed Mr. Robert Bouck, former head of the PRS. Mr. Gunn kicked off the meeting and asked some preliminary questions, at which point he turned the chair over to Ms. Zimmerman. Ms. Zimmerman asked numerous questions about Secret Service records and filing systems, at which point she relinquished the floor to me for specific chain-of-custody questions relating to individual documents. This meeting report summarizes Mr. Bouck's initial answers to Jeremy Gunn's questions; the chain-of-custody questions I asked; and the answers provided by Mr. Bouck to my chain-of-custody questions. It is not a verbatim transcript. (However, the entire meeting was recorded on 2 audiotapes.) Ms. Zimmerman will summarize her interview in separate correspondence. Summaries of Answers to Jeremy Gunn's preliminary questions: Functions of PRS were to perform records searches on/for suspicious or threatening or dangerous individuals; to conduct room searches and building searches for overseas trips; security searches of airplanes; and security searches of incoming White House mail. He said that while physical security for individual domestic trips was a White House Detail function (not PRS), that sometimes on big overseas trips, he would personally precede the President on the press plane. On the evening of the assassination, Mr. Bouck stated that he stayed in the office until about 2:00 A.M. before going home. Prior to going home, he said he received documents, doctor's notes and other records, and undeveloped photos following the end of the autopsy. He said the doctor's notes were handwritten, and were written on prepared forms; in response to detailed follow-on questions, he said these notes were much more than 2 or 3 pages, and constituted a "sheaf" of papers. He stated items of President Kennedy's clothing, such as the shirt, etc. were received at the same time as the autopsy materials. He said that the autopsy materials were received all at the same time, and included several little cans containing the brain and other biological materials. He said some of these cans or "round cannisters" had material which "sloshed" inside; two of the cannisters were about 4" X 5" or so in size, and that one might have been labeled as brain matter. He said that he had a four-drawer lock-file safe which was fireproof and had a combination lock on each drawer, and which normally did not have much inside of it, since most of the PRS files were not classified. He said that on the night of the assassination, he changed the combination on his safe and put all the materials brought to him following the autopsy in the top drawer. Bouck said that no one but he had the combination to the safe containing the autopsy materials and films. He
Body: Record
recstat:
DeliveryPriority: N
DeliveryReport: B
ReturnReceipt:
Categories: