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From: CN=Tom Samoluk/O=ARRB
DisplayFromDomain:
DisplayDate: 02/14/1996
DisplayDate_Time: 3:17:57 PM
ComposedDate: 02/14/1996
ComposedDate_Time: 2:41:52 PM
Subject: Conversation with Hugh William Betzner, Jr.

On February 13, 1996, Mr. Betzner returned my phone calls regarding his photographs taken at the scene of the assassination. He said that he had the negatives locked in a safe and had not looked at them in about 10 years. He does not have any prints of the photographs. Betzner initially expressed reluctance to discuss the Board's interest in the photographs. Early in the conversation he stated that he might just "take them (the photographs) to his grave." After further discussion, he began to consider the prospect of working out an arrangement in which he gave the original negatives to the Archives, but there with restrictions. Stating that he had not thought about giving the negatives away before, while noting that he had always hung up on people who called about them, Betzner added that "sooner or later you'll probably talk me into donating them." By the end of the conversation, Betzner had outlined the following possible conditions under which he might donate the original negatives to the Archives: 1. The Archives could make prints of the photographs. 2. No reproductions could be made. Researchers would have to look at the Archives prints there. 3. The photographs could not be published. 4. He would keep negative copies for whatever use he wanted to make of them. 5. If he wanted to, he could sell the rights to his photographs or publish them himself. Betzner said that he doubted he would ever do anything with the photos, but he wanted to preserve that right, just in case he needed to do something because of his financial situation at some later point in time. In addition, Betzner asked if he could maintain the right to change the conditions in the deed of gift. Another question he raised was the ability to get a tax deduction for the gift. These were issues that he was raising as the conversation progressed. Betzner said that the tax deduction was not a big issue. He was just trying to think of everything that might be relevant. We concluded the conversation with an agreement that I would get back to him on Friday, February 16th or Tuesday, February 20th regarding his questions on the deed of gift. In the meantime, he is going to think about what he wants to do. Betzner suggested the possibility of meeting him in person to further discuss the matter. I told him that I would be glad to do that at any time. NOTE TO LAURA: COULD YOU TAKE A LOOK AT POSSIBLE CONDITIONS FOR A DEED OF GIFT MENTIONED ABOVE? THANKS.

Body:
recstat: Record
DeliveryPriority: N
DeliveryReport: B
ReturnReceipt:
Categories: