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Subject: ARRB Interviewed Vince Madonia
MEETING REPORT DOCUMENTS AUTHOR: DOUGLAS HORNE/ARRB Date Created: 11/27/96 Meeting Logistics Date: 11/22/96 Agecny Name: Witnesses/Consultants Attendees: Vince Madonia, Jeremy Gunn, Doug Horne, and Dave Montague Topic: ARRB Interviewed Vince Madonia Summary of the Meeting ARRB interviewed Vince Madonia on Friday, November 22, 1996 after his arrival the previous day from California and recorded the interview on the first 3 sides of two 90-minute audiocassettes. The audiocassettes are filed along with a set of 15 exhibits which will be needed to understand the documents discussed on the tape. Accordingly, this interview report is limited to bullet summaries of his best and/or most significant recollections:-His Navy Career: Active Duty from 1949-1974; started out as a photographer's mate (Navy enlisted), and was commissioned a Limited Duty Officer (LDO) in the field of photography in 1962. His first duty assignment as an LDO was at the Navy Photographic Center (NPC) in Anacostia, across the river from Washington, D.C.-Duties at Anacostia: Was in charge of color lab, meaning color still photography--primarily color prints. Supervised about 15 people in the color lab; approximately 4 of these people operated a separate, distinct White House lab (from within the color lab) which made prints directly for the two White House military photographers. His job was to take care of personnel and see that they were performing their jobs; he said that while at Anacostia he did no hands-on photographic work, and was merely a supervisor.-He recognized a photograph of Robert Knudsen and Cecil Stoughton, and verified that these were the two White House military photographers to whom he had referred. He said he had fairly regular contact with Mr. Knudsen.-Color Lab capabilities: Ektachrome E3 Color Positive Transparencies: Probably; Kodachrome Color Positive Transparencies: No, Kodak would have had to do these; Portrait Pan B & W negatives: Yes; Color Prints: Yes.-Activity at NPC Weekend of Assassination: Remembers 3 full days of photographic activity, which began the evening of the assassination prior to midnight. Federal agents from both the FBI and Secret Service (a total of 2 or 3 people, he estimated) were present these three days to ensure tight control over films, and to prevent unauthorized reproduction. No one went home the night of the assassination--people worked straight through that first night. He believes he saw Robert Knudsen sometime that weekend, but is not sure when. He does remember that some personnel in the White House lab unit developed autopsy photography that weekend, as well as motorcade photography from the time of the assassination until and including arrival at a hospital in Texas (and removal of the President from the limousine); however, he does not remember any details of the President's wounds from any of this photography the weekend of the assassination. He does remember development of color negatives, and color prints that weekend; he does not remember development of color positive
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