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Subject: Re: Nov 20, 1963 Honolulu Conference on Vietnam

Very interesting. I hope it leads to what is so sought after by researchers and historians. To: Jeremy Gunn/ARRB, Tom Samoluk/ARRB, Jim Goslee/ARRBcc: Eileen Sullivan/ARRB, Ron Haron/ARRB From: Douglas Horne/ARRB Date: 01/09/98 10:50:42 AM Subject: Nov 20, 1963 Honolulu Conference on Vietnam MEETING REPORT Document's Author: Douglas Horne/ARRB Date Created: 01/09/98 Meeting Logistics Date: 01/08/98 Agency Name: Department of Defense -- Joint Staff Attendees: Will Kammer Topic: Nov 20, 1963 Honolulu Conference on Vietnam Summary of the Meeting
 I visited Will Kammer's office to review 5 Joint Chiefs of Staff histories [3 volumes titled "The JCS and the War in Vietnam (1960-1968); one titled "The Succession of Crises (1961-64);" and one titled "The Global Challenge (1961-64)"] to make an assessment of which portions of those histories I would recommend be designated as assassination records. Will Kammer was out, but I was assisted by Paul Jacobsmeyer, his colleague. While reviewing volume I of the 3-volume "JCS and the War in Vietnam," I once again ran across an important footnote (footnote # 70) on page 7-39 of volume I which serves as an invaluable lead in our search for the (as yet) unlocated written record of the proceedings of the Nov. 20, 1963 Honolulu Conference on Vietnam held at Camp Smith, in Hawaii. The footnote lists the source document which enabled the JCS historian to write the four-and-one-half page summary of the proceedings of that conference found on pages 7-35 through 7-39, inclusive, and reads as follows: "Footnote 70. (S-GP 1) "Records of Special Mtg on RVN, 20 Nov 63, JMF 9155.3/5410 (22 Nov 63) Sec 1 and 2. (TS) OCJCS File, Black Book for meeting in Honolulu." [I had discussed this footnote briefly with Will Kammer late in 1997 during a visit to his office, and he stated that no such document had been found in RG 218 (the 40 boxes of JCS records that the Joint Staff spent 210 man-hours searching for assassination records). During that conversation, I told Mr. Kammer that I had reviewed 4 or 5 boxes in RG 218 myself in my own unsuccessful search for the document.] So, today I revisited the issue with Paul Jacobsmeyer, and asked him to pass informally to Will Kammer that the ARRB staff considers this footnote a very important lead that must be pursued. I told him that if the Joint Staff were able to find this document, that it would be the perfect capstone to the exemplary work already performed by the Joint Staff for the Review Board. Specifically, my question was "is there any place you might look for this record that you have not yet searched?" RECOMMENDATION: ARRB may want to pursue this issue in writing with the Joint Staff, at the same time that we designate for them which portions of the 5 histories were determined by the Board to be A.R.s. END

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