

Talking points for Armed Forces Radio, 7.29.96

- **Not a re-investigation.** Our purpose is to provide the most complete and full historical record possible. This can be done in three ways:
 - a) The largest and most obvious aspect of our work is the release, in part or preferably in full, of the hundreds of thousands of documents relating to the assassination which remain classified by various government agencies.
 - b) Whenever possible, we seek to add to the collection those records which have been overlooked; i.e., documents which have remained in private hands or those not included by the government to this point.
 - c) On occasion, either to help clarify apparent inconsistencies in the existing record, or because doing so would perhaps fill in gaps in the historical understanding of the assassination, we can interview, or sometimes even depose, persons who played either significant or peripheral roles in the story of the assassination.

It is in the latter two areas where military personnel have been, and hopefully, will continue to be, of great assistance to us.

- **What are we looking for?** Firstly and most importantly, we are looking for documents. We are hoping to find government documents which may have been “rescued” by military personnel, or personal records, such as diaries or letters, which, when added to the collection, will enhance the historical understanding of this case. Secondly, we also are interested in the recollections of persons who, by assignment or geographic location, were in a position to perhaps have significant experiences to add to the collection. Recollections of a private who was home on leave, for example, would generally be of lesser importance than the recollections of personnel assigned to the National Military Command Center; unless, that is, the man on leave was recalled to his unit shortly after the assassination. What we don’t want is wild speculation.
- **What have we found from military personnel so far?** We have had varied contributions from former military personnel so far. For example, one man who was stationed at Andrews AFB in the early 70's was taking part in a housecleaning, and in the garbage, he found the special duty officer’s log from Andrews for November 22, 1963. He pulled it out of the garbage and saved it, and recently donated it to us to add to the collection at the Archives. We have interviewed personnel who were working at Bethesda Naval Medical Center on the night of the 22-23 of November, because there are apparent conflicts in the record in the past as to what was observed that night at the autopsy; it has been our hope that these

inconsistencies might be explained or cleared up. For example, we have talked with the military photographer present that evening, and each of the three military pathologists who performed the autopsy have been deposed.

- **If a person believes that he/she has either documents or recollections that would be of interest to the ARRB, what should they do?** The first step is to call us or write to us in Washington, and tell us what they have. Once we are aware of what is out there, we have to decide whether adding it to the collection will enhance the historical record. If we make that determination, we will either arrange to have material mailed to us or set up a telephone interview. On some occasions, we'll decide that the material or story involved is so important as to warrant direct attention, such as our personally facilitating the transfer of the documents to the Archives or conducting an interview in person.
- **What is the goal when all of our work has been completed?** To provide as many pieces of the puzzle as possible to the American people. Once we have done that, it is up to each person to put it together and decide what the information in the collection means to them.
- **Specifically, who are you looking for?** We have several areas or groups of persons which we are specifically interested in hearing from:

- Persons who were on duty at the NMCC on November 22, 1963

- Persons on or involved in the NEACP (National Emergency Airborne Command Post) flight on November 22, 1963

- Members of the ground support crews of Air Force One and Two who serviced either plane at either Love Field in Dallas, Andrews AFB, or both, on November 22, 1963.

- Persons assigned to the White House Communications Agency involved with communications between Air Force One and Washington, DC on November 22, 1963.

There are other possibilities as well, such as: persons with information about investigations of Lee Harvey Oswald that may have taken place after the assassination or elsewhere; persons who were assigned to or involved with working with anti-Castro Cuban exiles in 1963, whether at the CIA station in Miami or elsewhere; and persons who were assigned to either the 112th INTC Group or the 316th INTC Detachment at Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio Texas, from 1962-1964.

We also would like to encourage your listeners that if they themselves don't have anything for us, but they know a friend or relative who might, to encourage them to contact us.

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