

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

014464

NAME Floyd Albert Riebe Date 4/30.78 Time _____
Address P, O. Box 185 Place Via telephone
Kellyville, Okla 74104 Tel: 918 247-6616

Interview:

I contacted Mr. Riebe by telephone on April 30, 1978 regarding his presence at the autopsy of President Kennedy.

Riebe stated that at the time of the autopsy he was a hospital corpsman second class in the Medical Photography Department. He served as a general photographer photographing surgery and microscopic examinations.

Riebe was involved in the autopsy because he was on duty that evening. He arrived at the autopsy room around 8:00, simultaneously with the President's body and the Secret Service. He recalled that three or four doctors, FBI agents, S.S. agents, and some Marines from Arlington were present. Riebe stated that the Kennedy family remained in the Presidential suite near the top of Bethesda Naval Hospital.

Riebe said he took photographs from as many angles and positions as possible. He used two different cameras, a Canon 35 MM single lens reflex and a Speedgraph lens 4 x 5. These cameras were in addition to the graphic view 4 x 5 camera that Mr. Stringer, director of photography, used during the autopsy. Riebe added that the FBI took the film as soon as he would use

Interviewer Mark Flanagan
(Signature)

Mark Flanagan
(Typed)

001318

Date Transcribed May 12, 1978

one cassette. Also, the FBI wanted him to use flash bulbs instead of artificial light so that the number of photographs could be counted by the number of flashes.

Riebe stated that he began taking pictures as soon as the remains were on the table. Riebe recalled that the autopsy doctors were waiting for the arrival of an Army Colonel named Finck before beginning the autopsy.

Riebe mentioned that he had witnessed approximately 10 or 12 autopsies prior to the JFK autopsy.

Riebe recalled seeing one wound in the lower neck near the front of the body and one very large wound located around the rear of the head near the top. He could not recall any other wounds.

Riebe stated that the doctors initially began probing the wounds for bullets.

Riebe couldn't remember anything concerning the examination of the organs. Riebe also could not recall any specific measurements that were made although he does recollect the pathologist using a ruler calibrated in centimeters to measure the wounds.

Riebe also remembered the pathologists discussing various issues among themselves, but could not recall any specific details.

Riebe stated that the doctors must have cut into the chest because he can recall their examining the lower abdomen and lumbar spine.

001319

Riebe could not recall specifically who took notes, but feels that a secretary or yeoman must have been doing this.

He stated that the FBI and S.S. just observed.

Riebe could not recall signing any attendance sheet or anything else. He stated that X-ray reports would frequently be called into the autopsy room via telephone.

Riebe stated that a portable X-ray machine was used which afforded the technicians closer access and more mobility. Riebe stated that the Secret Service would escort the technicians to the laboratory where the technicians would develop the X-ray films.

Riebe did not believe that the pathologists performed a "total body autopsy."