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SendTo: CN=David Marwell/O=ARRB @ ARRB;CN=Thom Wilborn/O=ARRB @ ARRB
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DisplayDate: 05/30/1997
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ComposedDate: 05/30/1997
ComposedDate_Time: 1:17:13 PM
Subject: 1st conversation w/William Sexton re: alleged Castro attempt to kill JFK

CALL REPORT Issue # 83 Document's Author: Dave Montague/ARRB Date Created: 05/30/97 Who initiated the call? Review Board's representative in the call: Thom Wilborn & Dave Montague Working Press Project Subject: 1st conversation w/William Sexton re: alleged Castro attempt to kill JFK Description of the Call _____ Thom Wilborn & I spoke w/a Sexton who confirmed he once worked for UPI in New York City. Sexton was cordial & said he read a reviewer's copy of the book once his connection was brought up by a friend (not author & former coworker Edward McCarthy). Sexton has not spoken w/McCarthy since the 1950s. Sexton retired from UPI & is believed to be associated w/the Richmond Historical Society, Inc. in Richmond, MA as President. We explained McCarthy's allegations in the book (for mutual understanding) re: a plot by Fidel Castro to kill JFK in 1962 & how Sexton is named as associated w/this event. Sexton said the following: -he's familiar w/McCarthy's reporting over the years & considers him a competent reporter- "...a lot of wild rumors were going around at that time & we checked out every one of them..." -he recalls reading McCarthy's allegations (in the book) about such an incident, but has no recollection of such a rumored plot by Castro... "...I have no specific memory of this affair..." -he has no memory of w/holding any information on behalf of the government except for information re: the Bay of Pigs affair -he feels certain that if UPI thought anything seemed "solid", his office would surely have run the story- "...if UPI had "squashed" such a story, I'd certainly remember it..." Sexton said it's important for the ARRB to know 2 things re: McCarthy's book "Working Press": #1- it should be clear that McCarthy is working from memory & not from notes & #2- he's noticed several inaccuracies w/in the book, including Sexton's position at UPI during 1962. Sexton also feels it might really be a "wild goose chase" to peruse this further; but if we decide to "press on" he'd recommend contacting Lucian Carr or Joseph W. Morgan (UPI Night Editors in 1962). He feels Richard Harnett may have phone numbers for them. We verified Sexton's statements, address & thanked him for his time. William Contrell Sexton 105 West Road Richmond, MA 01254 413.698.3247 born 1928 ~end~

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