

OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

Date of transcription 06/08/98

WILLIAM PAUL LUDTKE, III, white, male, date of birth [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Officer, United States Secret Service (USSS), was interviewed at the Office of the Independent Counsel (OIC), 1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, 20004. Present for the interview were Associate Independent Counsel (AIC) MICHAEL TRAVERS, AIC MARY ANNE WIRTH and Department of Justice (DOJ) attorneys ANNE WEISMANN and DAVE ANDERSON. LUDTKE was interviewed under the terms of an agreement reached between the OIC and DOJ. LUDTKE was apprised of the official identity of the interviewers and thereafter provided the following information:

LUDTKE has been employed by the USSS since 1974. Since August of 1995, LUDTKE has been assigned to the [REDACTED] post, situated in the lobby of the West Wing of the White House.

LUDTKE recalls seeing MONICA LEWINSKY when she worked as an intern. LUDTKE advised LEWINSKY did not initially stand out from the other interns. LUDTKE advised he recalls seeing LEWINSKY exit the Oval Office pantry door, sometime during the Spring or Summer of 1995. LUDTKE advised that LEWINSKY was wearing a warm-weather style, short, black dress, with no sleeves and no blouse. LUDTKE advised this is why he believes the incident occurred in the Spring or Summer.

LUDTKE was assigned to the Oval Office at what he called the [REDACTED] post. LUDTKE advised that sometime between 8 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., LEWINSKY exited the pantry. LEWINSKY seemed surprised, startled and possibly embarrassed to see LUDTKE.

LUDTKE advised the only thing he recalls LEWINSKY carrying was a purse. LUDTKE advised that it was unusual for White House staff and interns to be exiting from the pantry. The only people LUDTKE recalls seeing exit there on previous occasions were the Vice President and the White House stewards.

LUDTKE knows the stewards, NELVIS and MAES, though LUDTKE does not recall seeing them that day. LUDTKE thinks BETTY CURRIE was working that day. LUDTKE explained that if CURRIE or NANCY HERNREICH were not working, he would have asked LEWINSKY what she was doing in the study. LUDTKE does not recall doing

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that on this occasion.

LUDTKE advised the President was not in the Oval Office when LEWINSKY exited the pantry door. LUDTKE advised that if the President was in the Oval Office, LUDTKE would not have been stationed outside the pantry.

LUDTKE advised he has filled in at the [REDACTED] post quite often since he was transferred to the [REDACTED] post, which is located in the West Wing lobby. LUDTKE advised he does not recall filling in at [REDACTED] except during the hours of 2:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m., immediately after his regular shift.

LUDTKE advised he knew LEWINSKY by name when he saw her exit the pantry. LUDTKE advised LEWINSKY had been an intern at least two months prior to this incident. LUDTKE advised he had seen LEWINSKY around the West Wing on several occasions. Prior to this incident, LUDTKE had heard some jokes about LEWINSKY being in the West Wing so often.

LUDTKE advised the next time he saw LEWINSKY was at approximately 8 a.m. on a Saturday in the Summer of 1996, when LUDTKE was posted at [REDACTED]. LEWINSKY was no longer a White House employee and she was cleared in to see BETTY CURRIE. LEWINSKY was wearing the same black dress she wore the time LUDTKE saw her exit the pantry.

LUDTKE contacted CURRIE to advise that LEWINSKY had arrived. CURRIE seemed hesitant on the phone and she stammered when LUDTKE spoke to her. CURRIE appeared very business-like when she came to [REDACTED] to escort LEWINSKY back to the Oval Office area. LUDTKE heard on his service radio that the President moved from the White House Residence to the Oval Office shortly after LEWINSKY arrived.

LUDTKE advised that LEWINSKY was the only person he recalls visiting the West Wing that day. LUDTKE advised that he does not recall many appointments on Saturday mornings. LUDTKE did not see LEWINSKY leave that day nor does he know when she left. LUDTKE advised that LEWINSKY would not necessarily have exited near LUDTKE. LUDTKE did not talk to anyone about LEWINSKY's visit that day.

LUDTKE advised that other officers commented on LEWINSKY wearing the same black dress and it became sort of a trademark for LEWINSKY. LUDTKE thinks it was understood that when LEWINSKY was wearing the black dress, she was going to see

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the President.

LUDTKE has heard a rumor involving LEWINSKY and the Northwest gate, parts of which the DOJ is claiming a "protective function" privilege and executive privilege over. LUDTKE advised that he heard the following rumor: LEWINSKY showed up at the Northwest gate one Saturday at 8 a.m.. An officer from the gate called BETTY CURRIE. CURRIE advised the officer to keep LEWINSKY at the gate. LEWINSKY somehow found out that the President was meeting with ELEANOR MONDALE and LEWINSKY became irate. LEWINSKY called CURRIE and was eventually allowed into the White House.

LUDTKE heard that Sergeant KEITH WILLIAMS and Captain PURDY went to CURRIE's Office and were "verbally corrected" by CURRIE, who was upset. LUDTKE advised he knows of no reprimand or disciplinary action taken as a result of this alleged incident. LUDTKE was told by Officer BRENT CHINERY, when CHINERY came on duty, that LUDTKE should be glad he was not on duty. CHINERY proceeded to tell LUDTKE what had transpired.

LUDTKE advised he thinks this incident occurred in 1996, but he is not sure.

LUDTKE has heard approximately six stories about LEWINSKY and the black dress, but can recall no further details. LUDTKE knows White House steward NELVIS. LUDTKE has never seen NELVIS with LEWINSKY. On several occasions, when LUDTKE was relieving CHINERY at the [REDACTED] post, CHINERY would tell LUDTKE that LEWINSKY had been to the White House earlier in the day.

LUDTKE has heard a rumor involving GARY BYRNE, the details of which the DOJ is claiming a "protective function" privilege. In addition, the DOJ is leaving open the option of the White House claiming executive privilege over portions of this information. LUDTKE heard the rumor two weeks ago and he did not hear it from BYRNE.

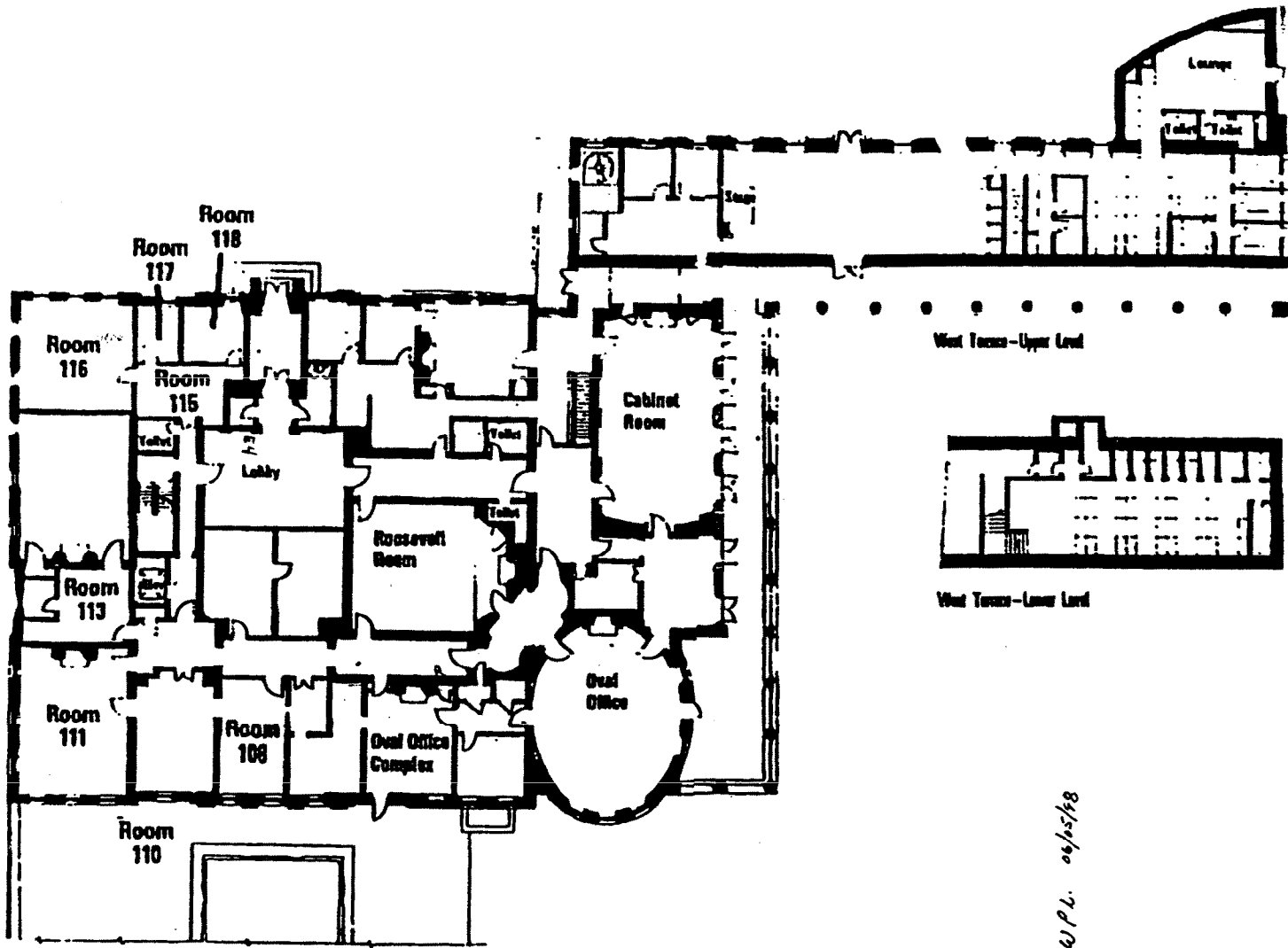
LUDTKE recalls KATHLEEN WILLEY working in the East Wing of the White House while LUDTKE was stationed at the [REDACTED] post. LUDTKE did not know WILLEY and he never saw her in the Oval Office.

LUDTKE was provided a diagram of the layout of the first floor of the White House, a copy of which is attached to this FD-302. The original of the diagram was placed in an FD-340, with the Agent's original notes of the interview. At the request of the OIC, LUDTKE marked on the diagram where the [REDACTED]

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and [REDACTED] posts are and LUDTKE wrote a "P" to denote where the pantry door was.



W.P.L. 06/25/78

