

It's not my memory of it: three recollected documents

2003

single-channel video, 25 minutes, color, NTSC

Produced and directed by Julia Meltzer

Written and directed by David Thorne

Sound design by Chris Kubick

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Distributed by the Video Data Bank, info@vdb.org

“It’s not my memory of it” is a documentary about secrecy, memory, and documents. A former CIA source recounts his disappearance through shredded classified documents that were painstakingly reassembled by radical fundamentalist students in Iran in 1979 following the takeover of the U.S embassy. A CIA film—recorded in 1974 but unacknowledged until 1992—documents the burial at sea of six Soviet sailors, in a ceremony which collapses Cold War antagonisms in a moment of death and honor. A single photograph pertaining to a publicly acknowledged but top secret U.S. missile strike in Yemen in 2002 is the source of a reflection on the role of images in the dynamic of knowing and not knowing.