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**SendTo:** CN=Jeremy Gunn/O=ARRB @ ARRB  
**CopyTo:** CN=Tom Samoluk/O=ARRB @ ARRB  
**DisplayBlindCopyTo:**  
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**From:** CN=Joseph Freeman/O=ARRB  
**DisplayFromDomain:**  
**DisplayDate:** 05/16/1996  
**DisplayDate\_Time:** 11:45:21 AM  
**ComposedDate:** 05/16/1996  
**ComposedDate\_Time:** 11:22:58 AM  
**Subject:** 9/18/63 Warren Commission Ex. Session transcript

The original Ward & Paul stenotapes are at the National Archives, though Steve says this is not widely known. It also seems to run counter to Archivist Rhoads' letter of 6/10/68 to Weisberg (enclosed by Lesar), unless the Archives got them after that date (maybe when Ward & Paul went out of business?). What remains to be seen - and what Steve Tilley is going to try and check on today -- is whether the specific stenotape we'd be interested in (9/18/63) is among the ones the Archives have. Failing that, Steve is also going to check for WC correspondence with Ward & Paul, to see if we can get names of individuals we could then try and locate. I know nothing about these things but, even if the stenotape is at the Archives, Steve says we may face another problem: he says the Archives' experience with stenotapes is that only the original reporter is able to make sense of them for purposes of transcription. Needless to say, there's at least a fair possibility that the original Ward & Paul reporter (assuming we can identify and then locate him/her) will turn out to have passed on. Lastly -- and this is a long shot -- Steve suggested we may want to talk to J.L.Rankin, Jr. about this, just in case his father's papers would contain the tape or a transcript. I gather Tom has been in touch with him (I don't know the details; you no doubt do) about his father's papers, but that is another option if we come up short.

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**Categories:**