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Subject: release of depositions
On July 31, 1998, the Assassination Records Review Board will make available for purchase copies of information that it has collected relevant to the medical evidence on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. (See Order Form below.) For pre-paid requests received prior to July 29, copies will be mailed or be available for pickup on July 31. Orders will continue to be accepted through August 14. The information to be made available includes deposition transcripts of 11 witnesses and one Master Set of Exhibits. All of the records will be available for examination in the Review Board's Reading Room on July 31. The witnesses whose testimony is being made available, without redaction, are: Dr. J Thornton Boswell, Jerrol F. Custer, Dr. Pierre A. Finck, Robert Groden, Dr. James J. Humes, Frances X. O'Neill, Edward F. Reed, Jr., Floyd A. Riebe, James W. Sibert, Sandra K. Spencer, and John T. Stringer. With the exception of Mr. Groden, all of the witnesses were involved in the creation of records related to the autopsy of President Kennedy. Mr. Groden's testimony pertains to his knowledge about photographic records related to the assassination. The Review Board followed standard legal procedures in taking the depositions. All depositions were taken under oath and the witnesses were subject to the penalty of perjury. With the exception of Mr. Groden, witnesses were shown the autopsy photographs of President Kennedy that have been identified by the National Archives as the camera-original color transparencies as well as black-and-white prints. The depositions were tape recorded by a court reporter who also transcribed the words as they were spoken. The transcript was subsequently sent to each witness who was, in accordance with standard procedures, afforded the opportunity of making corrections before signing the corrected version of the transcript. The corrections also were made subject to the penalty of perjury. A corrected transcript was thereupon prepared by the court reporter. Although the Review Board is now making available copies of the final transcripts, the Board's permanent files, which will be made available to the public upon the completion of its work, will include the original tape recordings, the pre-corrected transcripts, the hand-corrected transcripts, and the final corrected versions. All but three of the depositions are available in "minuscrite" format, which reduces four full-size pages to fit onto one page. The cost of reproduction of the minuscrites is substantially less per-page of transcript testimony. The Review Board is also making available to the public a copy of its "Master Set of Medical Exhibits." The exhibits were referred to, by exhibit number, throughout the depositions and they provide a useful reference point for persons reading the transcripts. The majority of the exhibits are records that have long been in the public domain, although some new records are included as well. Some exhibit numbers refer to entire deposition transcripts. In such instances, only the title page of the exhibit is included.
Body:
recstat: Record
DeliveryPriority: N
DeliveryReport: B
ReturnReceipt:
Categories: