

Assassination Records Review Board
Notation Voting Form
Regarding
Possible Issuance of Subpoenas to Jerrol Custer and Edward Reed
August 14, 1997

This notation voting form is being distributed to each Member of the Assassination Records Review Board. The Members of the Board are requested to vote on and sign this form. In accordance with the terms of the Sunshine Act, the Members of the Board must not, while in a group of three or more members, "deliberate" on the advisability of issuing subject subpoenas.

Jerrol Custer and Edward Reed were the Navy enlisted x-ray technicians who in 1963 took the x-rays at President Kennedy's autopsy. Questions about how many x-rays were taken, and which views were taken, have been raised and debated for many years. Since the consulting radiologist at the autopsy, John Ebersole, is deceased, Mr. Custer and Mr. Reed are the only eyewitnesses who can assist the ARRB with clarification of the record in this area.

Mr. Custer, the lead technician, has never been interviewed by any government body, and Mr. Reed, who assisted him, was contacted once via telephone by HSCA staff, but the questioning left much unresolved, and raised new questions. Although Mr. Custer has granted numerous interviews to researchers over the years (some even on film), and Mr. Reed's comments about the autopsy x-rays appeared in a professional journal, both individuals have refused to cooperate with ARRB staff in our repeated attempts to conduct informal interviews.

In light of the record of provocative and contradictory statements concerning the nature of the x-ray evidence as well as the refusal of Custer and Reed to cooperate with us, we recommend that the Review Board authorize the staff to seek subpoenas of Jerrol Custer and Edward Reed, and subsequently take their depositions.

Vote FOR issuance of a subpoena to Mr. Custer and Mr. Reed _____
Vote AGAINST issuance of a subpoena to Mr. Custer and Mr. Reed _____

Signature of Board Member _____

Date: _____

Please Return ASAP
(202) 724-0457 (FAX)