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SendTo: CN=Joseph Freeman/O=ARRB @ ARRB

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From: CN=Douglas Horne/O=ARRB

DisplayFromDomain:

DisplayDate: 03/18/1998

DisplayDate_Time: 10:51:34 AM

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Subject: My Medical Memo on Parkland Doctors dated February 11, 1998
 Jeremy blew the questioning of Humes in this area. He only asked Humes if he saw any evidence of surgery in the head area, and Humes, apparently anticipating the question, cut Jeremy off in mid sentence, saying most emphatically "NO!!!" I then whispered (begged, actually) to Jeremy to show the Sibert-O'Neill report exhibit to Humes, read him the statement that quoted him saying there was "surgery to the head area, namely in the top of the skull," and ask Humes: (1) did he say that? and (2) if so, what made him say it at the time? Jeremy got quite nervous at that point, and said, "why bother, it's in the record anyway." He blew it, Joe. We had our chance, and we blew it with Humes in this one area...this one critical area. [Having said this, Jeremy did well in other areas of questioning, regarding notes, first draft of protocol, etc.]The memo was an act of last resort by a staff member convinced (and properly so) that I was being "strung along" with the old "wait and see" stiff-arm by someone who had no intention of ever briefing the Board on the Parkland-Bethesda issue, much less of asking the Board Members whether we should depose any Dallas Doctors. Jeremy had made it quite clear to me that the Board wanted medical efforts to shut down sooner rather than later, and that they thought it was an unwise diversion of limited resources. All of his discussions with me were concentrating on the Staff Medical Memo (wrap-up memo) which we will release to the public when we release the depo transcripts. He was completely dismissive of my repeated suggestions to depose Dallas doctors, from late November on. (When David was here, it was out of the question, because of his belief system.) In Jeremy's case, I was much more concerned, because he is not entirely convinced that the body of the President was NOT altered, yet he seemed unwilling to utilize our powers to test that hypothesis. It doesn't require rocket science...show them the autopsy photos, and ask them if this is what they saw in Dallas. Period. Even if I am "PNG" now, and was not to be invited to any prospective depositions of Dallas doctors, the most important thing is that the ARRB does this thing (not whether I am present or not), and does not repeat the mistake of the HSCA, namely sticking its head in the sand and avoiding the proper methodology because of presumption, and bias that "this is so preposterous that it just couldn't have happened, so we won't bother with that."If the Board Members vote not to do this (depose Dallas doctors), than so be it; but I would want them to make a formal decision (not to have the issue hidden from them because someone is afraid of losing his credibility), and I would want that to be an informed decision.So, my memo is an attempt to both (1) brief the Board members; and (2) encourage a formal vote.END of STORY.To: Douglas Horne/ARRBcc: From: Joseph Freeman/ARRB Date: 03/18/98 08:28:44 AMSubject: Your memoLoved it, substantively (though I have one question, re: Humes' current take on his Sibert-and-O'Neill-reported "surgery to the top of the head" remark).
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