

To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg re JFK records appeals 8/31/78
Ruby files

While I believe that my reference earlier today to pre-assassination Ruby records is adequate identification for the FBI it has occurred to me since I wrote this referenced memo that your staff cannot be as informed in detail as the FBI is. I therefore add the following:

I recall no reference in the records just provided, other than oblique comments, to Ruby's involvement in dubious trade-union activities in Chicago. Contemporaneous news accounts had him involved in a murder although I am not aware of any charges having been filed. There were no records on his union activities as such although there is a SAC memo reporting the existence of the pre-assassination records.

Ruby also appears to have been involved in the Senate Kefauver committee's crime investigations of an earlier era. There is no such reference in the records provided from DFO files.

Among the records provided there are references to Ruby's having been "exiled" from Chicago. This word is used in some of the records. The lack of any FBI investigation of this is not in accord with what one would expect of the FBI.

Dallas Police Lieutenant George Butler, if my recollection is correct, is the one assigned to signal that the time had come to take Oswald to the vehicle in which he was to have been transported to the county jail from police HQ. The signal was to have been given when this vehicle was in place in the garage beneath police HQ. The signal was given prematurely, before the car was in place. Oswald thus was brought down prematurely. Ruby, when he shot Oswald, stood where the car was to have been. While this may or may not be relevant to the report that Butler also figures in the Kefauver hearings, in connection with a reported Ruby effort to bribe then Sheriff Steve Guthrie, there is no such record or record of investigation in the Dallas Ruby or other files I have received.