

December 27, 1963

CASE OF JACK LEON RUBY, AGE 52

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

A psychiatric evaluation of this defendant, who is charged with the slaying of Lee Oswald on November 24, 1963, is requested.

MEDICAL HISTORY

The patient has had many fights in which he has been at least momentarily knocked out. One of the most severe occurred in Chicago in 1928 when he was selling tickets at Soldiers Field. Two plain-clothesmen attempted to stop him. A fight ensued, in which he was hit on the head with pistols. Following this he was dizzy for some time. He attempted to sue the City but was unsuccessful. He states that in 1941 he had a concussion in a fight with two men. He was taken to a hospital at Edgewater Beach at night and then released. In 1955 at the Silver Spur he had a fight with three customers in which he pulled out a pistol but used his fists. A woman hit him in the head with a half gallon jug of wine which broke and cut him. He states that he had the end of his index finger bitten off in a fight with a customer in Dallas. He was taken to the Methodist Hospital where they kept him for a week.

Patient states he had scabies when he was fourteen or fifteen. He has had six or seven attacks of gonorrhoea. When questioned about this he makes a rather incongruous remark, "I was always very clever about protecting myself. I used fish skins and I often carried my own syringe and medicine." When asked why he should have had so many infections if this were true, he replied, "The girls would throw me off."

Patient says he was not a bed-wetter as a child. He has not bitten his fingernails. His hands do not become moist when he is under tension. He says he has fainted only once. He idolized Barney Ross, the fighter. He attended a fight in San Francisco in which Ross was getting severely beaten. He says he only had about \$20 bet on Ross but he idolized him so much that he fainted. Ross subsequently won and the patient recovered in time to see the finish. He states he has never had convulsions.

Patient had a really severe depression that seems to have assumed psychotic proportions when his business in Dallas failed in 1952. He said, "I hibernated and became panicky for a couple of months. I had no desire for anything, I did not care if I lived or died. I thought about committing suicide a lot. I couldn't sleep or eat. I thought about being a complete failure. I stayed in a little Cotton Bowl hotel and didn't do anything." At that time the patient had lost the Bob Will night club and the Silver Spur. He owed the government tax money and he lost twenty to twenty-five thousand of money that other people had invested in these enterprises. Patient finally went to Chicago to be with his family. They recognized his seriously depressed state there. He could not get himself to do anything for several months. He lived at the YMCA because he didn't want to have to have intimate association with people. He did not consult a physician in regard to this illness.

Patient has had minor, depressive-like episodes at various times when he has met with failure and frustration but none that assumed this proportion.