

Mr. Melvin Belli

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January 11, 1964

army service and discharge, he seemed to aspire to more permanent types of work. His army record indicated three years as a PFC in the U.S. Air Force. He had state-side duty and was given an Honorable discharge after three years of service. During this period he had one fight with a sergeant whom he knocked down, but no courts-martial.

Most of his work career, until he got to Dallas was in selling trinkets, selling tickets and refreshments at sports events, doing house to house canvassing selling subscriptions, operating a mail order business, selling salt and pepper sets; in fact he energetically made a living wherever he could, changing jobs frequently.

At one time he had business relations with a man who was convicted of a crime and sentenced to eight years in State Prison. At that time he felt he was suspect to being tied in to the Chicago Syndicate. "They wanted to run me out of town."

While in Dallas, the prisoner was in contact with gamblers with whom he tried to arrange all sorts of big deals, the details which were never very clear cut. He stated he saw various officials, as the Mayor, offering to sell something or make a "proposition". Aside from the two clubs he operated in Dallas, and the one that failed (Silver Spur), the history is obscure as to actual business ventures in which he was engaged.

As a reflection of his business capacity, one can interpret that he was considered somewhat unreliable. Since he makes a great deal of his competitors in the strip-tease business taking advantage of him, one can interpret a paranoid

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