

of Watergate burgler Frank Sturgis. The FBI questioned Sturgis about the whereabouts of Pichardo in the course of their investigation of Browder. In 1978 I asked Sturgis if he knew Browder. He told me he was "not sure".

In 1959 Browder was arrested for possession of \$136,000. worth of stolen securities. Browder claimed that the bonds, which were stolen from two Canadian banks, did not come from the National Crime Syndicate. According to Browder, the July 26 Movement had given him the stolen securities.

The available evidence contradicted this - Browder had told Jesse Vickers, who had been arrested with Pichardo in 1953, that "Cleveland Mob people" were connected with the securities. Browder's passport revealed he had recently returned from Switzerland, where the Mob laundered millions of dollars and his wallet contained the name of an attorney who defended numerous Mob figures. Another of Browder's associates, Paul Hickman, told the FBI that Vito Genovese, a nationally known hoodlum, had advised Browder to "shut-up" about the origin of the bonds.

During Browder's trial he was asked if he knew National Crime Syndicate member Sam Manarino. Browder answered - "I was introduced to him by one of Carlos Prios' followers, on the assumption that Mr. Manarino was going to supply some money for arms for some of the Cubans involved in fighting against Batista. I understood that this money came from sources that had gambling concessions in Cuba or slot machines in Cuba, that he was trying to protect in the event that Castro overthrew Batista".

Sam Manarino, reputed Mafia-boss of Western Pennsylvania, was involved in a bizarre plot to convert part of the Mob's 13 million dollars in stolen Canadian bonds* into cash to buy up arms for Fidel Castro. Guiseppe Controni the Mafia boss of Canada, was a principal in this plan, as was Joseph Merola,

*Manarino's bonds came from the same Canadian bank as Browder's.

a gun-running pilot linked to Browder, who was a close associate of Prio Soccarras and a United States government informant to boot. Merola reported to Herbert J. Miller (see page _____) of the Justice Department's Criminal Division. Merola supplied the Justice Department with information that caused Manarino, and his associate Norman Rothman, to be indicted for arms smuggling and stolen securities charges.

Manarino's partner, Norman ("Normie Rough-house") Rothman was born on December 26, 1914, in the Bronx, New York. In 1951 Rothman became another "victim" of the Kefauver Investigation and was arrested several times on gambling violations. In 1952 he moved to Cuba and began managing the San Souci Casino along with Santo Trafficante, Jr. In 1956 Rothman was charged with Interstate Transportation of Gambling devices when the FBI intercepted a shipment of his slot machines on their way to Cuba. Rothman had become the slot machine king of Havana and was busily dividing up the rest of Cuba among fellow gangsters like Sam Manarino. Rothman had become the "slot-king" of Cuba by going into partnership with Batista's brother-in-law. By 1956 Rothman had a controlling interest in another casino - The Tropicana.

When Castro and his rebel band began guerilla warfare against Batista, Normie felt he needed some kind of "insurance" against an unfriendly revolution. Despite his close association with Batista, he smuggled arms to Castro. When Batista was overthrown, he helped the deposed Dictator establish headquarters at the Biltmore Terrace Hotel on Miami Beach. Normie remained in Cuba until mid-1959, when he returned to the United States just in time to be indicted on the Canadian bond rap. In the course of investigating Rothman, the FBI spoke with Pedro Diaz Lanz, the former Commander-in-Chief of the Rebel Air Force. Lanz, the brother of Marcos

Lanz (see page _____) was Frank Fiorini Sturgis' closest confidant.* The FBI also questioned Jose Aleman, a Cuban exile who was close to Santo Trafficante, Jr.

Rothman, Manarino and Controni were all National Crime Syndicate members involved in gun-smuggling to Cuba. They were closely associated with Edward Browder, who is linked to Jack Ruby not only through Johnson's testimony, but through his co-defendant on the Canadian Stolen Securities case. Frank "Francesco" Ferrara, who was under indictment in his native city of New Haven, Connecticut on two counts of dealing in stolen securities was arrested a month after Browder.

Investigative reporter Earl Goltz discovered that a Frank Ferraro of Whittier, California, allegedly met Tony Accardo of Chicago when he visited Los Angeles in 1953.

Ferrara, who admitted that he was a close associate of Browder, became an employee of Jack Ruby in 1962. In August, the two men had a falling out and Ruby pounded Ferrara with a pair of brass knuckles. A day after Jack shot Oswald, the FBI questioned Ferrara in New Haven, Connecticut. He told them he worked for Ruby as a "handyman".

In April 1960 Browder was convicted on two counts of receiving and concealing stolen bonds. He received a three year sentence from Judge Emmett Choate. Choate gave Browder a week to "tie up loose ends" before sending him to prison and Browder disappeared.

The FBI began a fugitive investigation in the course of which they subpoenaed Browder's toll records. They discovered Browder was in close

*During the course of the Hunt vs. Weberman libel suit in Miami we asked Frank if he knew Rothman - "I have never worked for Norman Rothman. I knew him in Cuba. When I returned to the States I ran across him on the Beach with my Cuban friends. Just "Hello", "Goodbye" "Have a drink" and then leave. That's it".

contact with National Crime Syndicate member Dominick Bartone.

Bartone was an old-time Cleveland gangster who dated back to the time of Al Capone. When Castro came to power in Cuba in early 1959, Bartone attempted to win his favor by smuggling him several planeloads of arms. Bartone had worked out a deal with Jimmy Hoffa; the Teamster's Union would lend a "Cleveland Group" three-hundred thousand dollars to buy several surplus cargo-aircraft; Bartone would supply the arms and the pilot who would fly the plane to Cuba. Bartone was promptly indicted for his efforts.

In late 1959 Bartone and Edward Browder formed The Aero Ordinance Corporation, which allegedly dealt in "government surplus". When the FBI questioned Bartone about Browder's whereabouts he told them he did not know where Browder was and had disassociated himself from him.

In 1962 Browder turned himself in and began serving his sentence.*

Mack Blaney Johnson's information opened up a can of worms that neither the FBI nor the Warren Commission wanted to get into. Mack was written-off as a crank despite the fact that his contentions were partially corroborated by State Department documents. These documents revealed that in 1958 "Jack Rubenstein" wrote a letter requesting permission to negotiate the purchase of firearms and ammunition from an Italian firm. Interestingly enough, in January of 1959 Eddie Browder traveled to Italy to negotiate the purchase of five thousand sub-machine guns. "Jack Rubenstein" is also mentioned in a 1959 Department of the Army Report concerning U.S. Arms Dealers in Scandinavia; "A Jack Rubenstein is listed as a representative of the Saunder Company in the U.S.".

In 1976 I attempted to obtain copies of the Office of Munitions Control and Army Intelligence Reports under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The Army conducted a thorough search of their files and even went

*Browder is currently serving a 25 year sentence for a 1970 stolen securities rap.

as far as checking all reports in their possession on "Jack Ruby" and "Jack Rubenstein". No report dealing with Arms Trafficking was uncovered. The State Department responded that "while the existence of the letter may have been known in 1963, we are now unable to locate it". They suggested that the letter might be in the inactive files at the Office of Munitions Control - but demanded a two-thousand dollar fee for "a search involving 15,000 documents".

There is reason to believe that the CIA was aware of "Jack Rubenstein" and his activities. In their letter to the Warren Commission regarding "Information concerning Jack Ruby (aka Jack Rubenstein)" the CIA stated "Examination of CIA records failed to produce information on Jack Ruby or his activities". What about Rubenstein? The CIA is currently withholding "a brief biography of an individual named Jack Rubenstein whose name is the same as Jack Ruby's but his background obviously shows that he is a separate individual in no way related to Jack Ruby who killed Lee Harvey Oswald". The question remains, obvious to whom?

Not only was the CIA aware of Ruby's "Jack Rubenstein" identity, they also had information that Ruby used the alias of "Abe Rubenstein". In 1958, a former member of the Oklahoma State Crime Bureau linked an "Abe Rubenstein", owner of the Carousel Club in Dallas, to a carload of guns and ammunition destined for Cuba.

Thanks, in part, to the efforts of the National Crime Syndicate, Castro was able to out-gun Batista.

Just before Castro took power on January 1, 1959, Batista flew to the Dominican Republic. When Castro entered Havana, angry Cubans ransacked many Mob owned casinos. One of Castro's first decrees ordered all the casinos padlocked. Santos, who was widely believed to be involved in narcotics traffic, was arrested by Castro's barbudos (bearded-ones), as

was Jake Lansky, Meyer's brother.* A week later (January 7, 1959) the Lansky brothers caught a chartered plane to Florida. Many other hoodlums, such as Normie Rothman and Charlie "The Blade" Tourine were not arrested and remained in Cuba, hoping to win favorable concessions from Fidel, since they had helped put him in power. Lansky was deeply disturbed by Jake's and Santos' imprisonment, and began taking steps to free the Mafia Don. He wanted anyone who pulled weight with Fidel to intervene in Santos' behalf. Jack Ruby knew of one such person and in January, 1959, he sent a message to his former associate Robert Ray McKeown. McKeown had been closely associated with Carlos Prio's efforts to overthrow Batista. In 1952 McKeown had been investigated by the FBI for possible Neutrality Act violations in connection with Prio. By 1957 McKeown was allegedly employed by Jack Ruby - McKeown would pilot Jack's arms-laden ships to a drop-off point on the coast of Cuba where Fidel's men would be waiting in the nearby bushes.

On February 25, 1958 McKeown was charged with conspiracy to smuggle guns and related equipment to Castro forces in Cuba; an agent of the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) Division of the Treasury Department had raided McKeown's home and discovered a small arsenal. The ATF agent had not located Ruby's warehouse. Eight months later McKeown was given a 60-day sentence and five years probation.

When Ruby contacted McKeown in January, 1959, he asked him to use his influence with Castro "to get three individuals out of Cuba who are being held by Fidel Castro". Ruby offered McKeown fifteen thousand dollars for his efforts.

Three weeks later Ruby and McKeown had a meeting near Kemah at which time Jack upped the ante to twenty five thousand dollars. McKeown told

*Jake was released in a matter of hours.

the FBI that Ruby "stated he had an option on a great number of jeeps which were in Shreveport, Louisiana, that he wanted to sell to Castro at a very reasonable price".

There is reason to believe McKeown is lying and more than "jeeps" were involved as a ransom for the release of Don Santos.

First of all, the man Ruby was to procure these "jeeps" from, Russell Douglas Matthews, had a reputation as a strongman and gambler. Matthews had been in Havana, Cuba, from July 1958 until January 1959. He returned to Cuba about the middle of 1959 and worked at the Hotel Deauville Casino until November, 1960. In February 1963 Matthews allegedly "discussed the possibility of doing away with Castro and Cheddi Jagan".* When the FBI attempted to check this information out with the CIA they were advised "the alleged plots to do away with Jagan and Castro....were not CIA operations". Hoover interpreted this as confirmation of the existence of the plots and sent a "Duplicate Yellow" (Highly Sensitive) Airtelgram to seven Field Offices requesting an immediate investigation of the information.

Matthews, who commuted between Shreveport and Dallas, knew Joe Campisi and was in touch with the Marcello Mob. He was more likely to deal in guns than in "jeeps".

McKeown also covered-up Ruby's connection to a CIA operative and anti-Castro gun-runner named Thomas E. Davis. Ruby told the FBI he had contacted Davis in regard to the "jeep deal", and had told McKeown about Davis in 1959. When the FBI asked McKeown about Davis he told them he knew no-one by that name.

Seth Kantor, in his book Who Was Jack Ruby? contends that Davis was linked to CIA assassin "Q/J. WIN", an unsavory character with a network of

*The leftwing leader of Guiana.

Mafia contacts. Q/J WIN was the CIA's top assassin^{IN} Europe and Africa.

Davis was "accidentally" electrocuted in late 1973. Two years later McKeown appeared on national television and claimed that Oswald and a pro-Castro Cuban had tried to buy 300 sub-machine guns from him.

McKeown still maintains that Ruby never came through with a five thousand dollar down payment and so their deal fell through. What is more likely is that McKeon^w attempted to influence Castro but Castro would not budge - it was February 1959 and Santos was still in jail.

Castro had pledged to rid Cuba of its American-gangster population and the Syndicate was beginning to believe Castro's words were more than empty rhetoric. The Syndicate's only hope of freeing Don Santos would be to make Fidel an offer he could not refuse. The word went out - Lansky had put a one million dollar contract on Fidel's life! Just as the contract went out on Fidel, Castro revoked his order closing all the casinos, and released Don Santos. Castro made Frank Fiorini Sturgis (see page ____) Minister of Games of Chance. In late February 1959 Lansky returned to Cuba. On March 1, 1959 Cuba's Mob-owned casinos re-opened to skimpy crowds.

The rift between Castro and the Mob seemed to have healed - none-the-less the million-dollar contract was still out on Castro. Fidel had proven "unreliable", as far as the Mob was concerned.

Jack Ruby, who had helped Castro come to power, decided to take a stab at eliminating Fidel. In March 1959 Ruby began plotting a "gangland hit" on Fidel Castro. His co-conspirators included Tom Davis, his partner in the so-called "Jeep Deal". The keyman in Jack's plot was Lewis J. McWillie. McWillie, a long-time associate of Jack Ruby, was born at Kansas City, Missouri, May 4, 1908. At age 16 he was arrested for stealin a car and sentenced to two years at a Boys Reformatory. McWillie became

a professional gambler, working river boats up and down the Mississippi. In 1942 he began working for ^{BENNY BICKER AND} Benny "The Cowboy" Binion at the Top of the Hill Casino, located just outside the Dallas City limits. Binion had controlled gambling in Dallas ever since his rival was executed in gangland fashion. "The Cowboy" had a record that included arrests for murder and possession of a sawed-off shotgun. Binion left Dallas in 1948, after Paul Roland Jones went to prison, and moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, where he became associated with West Coast Mob figures Mickey Cohen and Jack Dragna. In 1951 the State of Nevada granted Binion a gaming license and he became a casino operator. McWillie decided to weather the storm created by Jones' imprisonment, and remained in Dallas. McWillie's new boss was Jack Ruby, who had just made Dallas his permanent home. McWillie and Ruby became close friends and in September of 1958 Jack . . . sent McWillie to Havana, Cuba. McWillie would work under Normie Rothman, as pitboss of the Tropicana Casino (see page ____); actually he was there to look after Ruby's interests. The FBI reported that investigation by a Confidential Source reflected that "McWillie solidified his syndicate connections through his association in Havana, Cuba, with Santo Trafficante, well known Syndicate member, from Tampa, Florida; Meyer and Jake Lansky; Dino Cellini and others who were members and associates of "The Syndicate".

Ruby felt it would be in his interest to inform the FBI of his intentions to assassinate Fidel Castro.* A murder that took place outside of the United States was not a crime and conspiracy to commit murder is a tough charge to make stick in the absence of witnesses. The conservative

*Meyer Lansky was also in touch with the FBI around this time: "I told Government Authorities that Castro was a Communist and would present a problem; they thought I was just being greedy because I was losing my gambling interests".

Eisenhower/Nixon Administration was still in power and it was likely that Ruby's information would be kept confidential and not used against him.

On March 11, 1959 Jack Ruby met with Special Agent Charles W. Flynn. Flynn claims that Ruby offered the FBI his services as a criminal informant and did not discuss Fidel Castro in any manner, shape or form. Flynn's informant reports seem to back-up his contention - there is no mention of Cuban affairs in any of them. Flynn appears to have questioned Ruby about bank robberies, major thefts and the like. Ruby was unable to supply Flynn with any information on these cases. He was dropped as an informant in November, 1959.

There is overwhelming evidence that suggests Flynn's meetings with Ruby were far from routine, as he contends.

Firstly, Ruby bought five hundred dollars worth of miniature tape recording equipment and rented a safe-deposit box before speaking with Flynn. Ruby planned to tape-record his meetings with the FBI and stash the tapes in his safe-deposit box. If his plan to kill Castro succeeded, he would have evidence that the FBI was an accessory before the fact to the murder of a foreign leader. Ruby figured he could blackmail the Justice Department into giving him immunity for the rest of his life.

The dates of Ruby's meetings with Flynn are a dead give-away that more than just criminal matters were being discussed: The second Ruby/Flynn meeting occurred on April 28, 1959, the same day that Ruby's ex-partner, Robert Ray Mc Keown, was embracing Fidel Castro at an Airport in Houston, Texas. Castro was on his way back to Cuba from Washington, D.C., when he ran into his old friend, who may have been setting him up for a hit.

Ruby's next meeting with Flynn occurred on June 5, 1959. On June 1, 1959, Santos had been re-arrested by the Castro regime on the basis of a

telegram from Harry Anslinger, former head of the United States Bureau of Narcotics. In late May, Ruby had given a slip of paper containing a short written message in code consisting of letters and numbers and the word "arriving" to Elaine Mynier, Louis McWillie's mistress just minutes before she left for Cuba. When Elaine gave the message to McWillie he told her that Ruby must be nuts to entrust her with something that important. McWillie was right - after the assassination Mynier came forward and spilled her guts to the FBI.

Judging from Ruby's message, it is safe to say that he expected to be arriving in Cuba shortly; Santos' re-arrest hastened his departure. Ruby's activities during his initial trip to Cuba remain a mystery. In all probability his activities were divided between freeing Santos and killing Castro. Marita Lorenz, who was living with Fidel Castro during this period, observed Jack Ruby in several casinos.- "It is possible I saw him with - oh, God I am going to get killed - Charlie - Charlie the Blade in Cuba...Charlie Tourini, Delmonica White, who is a friend of mine".

In 1978 Santo Trafficante told the House Select Committee on Assassinations that the Mob's first plan was to hit Castro, gangland style, on a Havana street.

Ruby returned from Cuba in mid-June, 1959. On June 18, 1959 Ruby had another meeting with Flynn. This pattern of a meeting before and after each of Ruby's three trips to Cuba would re-occur with startling regularity.

The next Ruby/Flynn meeting occurred on July 2, 1959. A few days later Ruby was spotted visiting Don Santos Trafficante in a prison outside of Havana. On November 27, 1963 John Wilson Hudson contacted the American Embassy in London and told them that he had been imprisoned by Fidel Castro on July 1, 1959. While incarcerated, Wilson had met Don

Santos, whom he described as a "gangster". Around this time Wilson said that Santos was visited by an American "gangster-type" named "Ruby". "Ruby", who would accompany the person who brought Santos' meals to him, was identical to the "Jack Ruby" who shot Lee Harvey Oswald.

John Wilson-Hudson had a long-time involvement in political intrigues. Born in Liverpool, England in 1918, Wilson-Hudson left his studies at Oxford University in 1936 to fight in the Spanish Civil War. Disillusioned by his experience as part of the International Brigade, he became an Axis agent. In 1939 he moved to Buenos Aires, Argentina, then to Santiago, Chile, where he married Eliana Bronfmann. In Santiago Wilson set-up a Chilean version of the "America First Committee" known as "The Universal Peace Movement". The British Ambassador requested his expulsion on several occasions. In the early 1950's Wilson began trading in copper, lead and sulphur. Wilson's partner in this enterprise was Heriberto Springwaller Einicke. Einicke, a German, had been a Colonel in the Nicaraguan Army in the late 1930's but had been expelled from the country. In 1957 Wilson-Hudson began working, in an unknown capacity, for Fulgencio Batista of Cuba. When Castro took power, Wilson-Hudson escaped arrest. Determined to destroy Castro, Wilson-Hudson became part of one of several plots designed to convince the United States to do something about Castro. Fidel's opponents were determined to "prove" that Fidel was "exporting" his revolution and was a danger to the stability of the rest of South America and the Caribbean, even if it meant organizing a military expedition against another South American country themselves!

On July 1, 1959, Wilson-Hudson, Captain Paul Hughes and Efrom Pichardo (see page _____) were arrested after Castro's police detained 200 armed men just before they were about to board three aircraft, including one bomber, destined for Nicaragua. Hughes, Pichardo and Wilson-Hudson were accused of attempting to discredit the Castro regime by organizing an in-

vasion of Nicaragua. Wilson-Hudson told his Cuban interrogators he was a British journalist who had only been in Cuba a few days. He was merely covering a newstory, and was an "innocent bystander". Hudson went on a hunger-strike, to prove his point, and had to be fed intravenously. In September, 1959 Hudson testified before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee regarding communist influence in the July 26 Movement.

Wilson-Hudson died in Santiago, Chile in 1964. None-the-less the FBI has classified several documents about Wilson-Hudson "Secret-Date of Declassification Indefinite".

While Ruby was in Cuba in July, 1959, the Cuban Cabinet ordered the deportation of Don Santos due to his involvement in international narcotics trafficking. The Cubans were acting on information they had received from the United States Bureau of Narcotics, and had not been swayed by the all-pervasive influence of "The Mob".

Ruby returned to the United States via Miami, where he met with McWillie's associate, Meyer Panitz. In January 1964 Panitz told the FBI Ruby was in Cuba in the summer of 1959, contradicting the official story of only one Ruby visit to Cuba in September, 1959.

Ruby's fifth meeting with FBI agent Flynn took place on July 21, 1959, shortly after Ruby returned from Cuba. Flynn filed a standard report on this meeting. (He had questioned Ruby about several bank robberies which Ruby said he had no knowledge of). Flynn rated his informant as "good". In late June, Curtis Lynam, the Special Agent in Charge of the Dallas FBI Field Office, received information that something wasn't "kosher" about the Ruby/Flynn relationship. Lynam sent Ruby's prints to FBI Headquarters, in Washington, D.C. so that he could get Jack's rap sheet.

Flynn's next meeting with Jack took place on August 6, 1959. Ruby told the Warren Commission that he went to Cuba for eight days in August, 1959, for a "vacation". McWillie explained - "In 1959 I wrote Jack and

asked him to come to Havana for a week. There was no ulterior motive. I extended this invitation as one would to a brother. I sent him a round-trip ticket. He came into the Tropicana and we had a few drinks together. He was like any other tourist; he didn't have any connection with Castro or Batista supporters".

Ruby's seventh meeting with Flynn took place on August 31, 1959 shortly after Jack returned from Cuba. By this time Flynn had received word from his superior to dump Ruby. Flynn countered - "While Ruby has not furnished any positive information to date, there is no indication of emotional instability or unreliability. It is recommended PCI be continued

A few days later, during the Labor Day Weekend of 1959, Ruby was seen by two Chicago businessmen standing next to the roulette wheel in the Tropicana Casino in Havana.

Ruby told the Warren Commission about this final trip to Havana:"I had to buy a \$2. ticket, a pass to get through Florida.....my dinners were served in the Tropicana. One thing I forgot to tell you - you are bringing my mind back to a few things - the owners, the greatest that have been expelled from Cuba, are the Fox brothers. They own the Tropicana....They are in Miami, Florida. They know everything about McWillie, I heard, and know the officials..... Evidently the Foxes were in exile at that time (1959), because when I went to visit McWillie, they looked through my luggage and they saw a photograph of Mr. Fox and his wife. They didn't interrogate, but they went through everything and held me up for hours....in my ignorance I didn't realize I was bringing a picture that they knew was a bitter enemy. At that time they knew that the Fox brothers weren't going to jail, or something was going to happen. Mr. McWillie was waiting for me, and he saw me go through the Customs line for a couple of hours, and he said, "Jack, they never did this to anyone before"

Evidently, they had me pretty well lined-up as to where I come in the picture of Mr. Martin Fox. I can't think of his name".

In my first book, Coup d'etat in America, I wrote that the Fox brothers did not exist and Ruby was using the name as a pseudonym for Meyer and Jake Lansky. I was partially wrong - the Fox brothers did exist - they were front men for Rothman and Trafficante and nominally owned the Tropicana. None-the-less Ruby's description of the "Fox Brothers" still fits the Lansky Brothers more than it does Martin and Pedro Fox: Ruby calls them "the greatest that have been expelled from Cuba". The Fox Brothers left voluntarily in late 1961 and were not very well known at all. The Lanskys had left, fearing arrest, in May, 1959. Yet Ruby insists "Evidently the Foxes were in exile at the time"(August, 1959).

Ruby claims that the Cuban Customs officials recognized Mr. Foxes photograph and knew he was a "bitter enemy". The chances of a Custom's Inspector recognizing someone as obscure as Pedro Fox were slim; anyway, the Foxes were in the good graces of the Castro regime when this incident occurred. The Lanskys, on the other hand, were easily recognizable - their photographs had been published in Cuban newspapers on numerous occasions. They had also become "bitter enemies" of the Castro regime, due to Santo's arrest.

The Lanskys knew McWillie was plotting to kill Castro in connivance with "officials" of the United States government.

Ruby's last meeting with Flynn was on October 2, 1959 and was no different from any of the others - judging from Flynn's report. On November 6, 1959 Jack Ruby was dropped from the FBI Possible Criminal Informant rolls.

During Ruby's testimony before the Warren Commission in 1964 he hinted at his involvement in an assassination against Castro:

"Did you talk to McWillie down in Cuba? He is the Credit Manager in the Tropicana.....He was a key man over the Tropicana down there...I was bored

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gambling, because I don't gamble, and there is nothing unless you speak their language, which is Spanish, I believe. And that was the only environment. That was in August of 1959. Any thought of being close to Havana was all because of him.

(McWillie) was a little worried of the new regime coming in, and evidently he wanted some protection...He called me or sent me a letter that I should call Ray Brantley. He wanted some four little Cobra guns - big shipment....that was the only relationship I had of any mention, outside of phone calls, to McWillie, or any person from Havana, Cuba.As a matter of fact, the United States Government was wanting persons to help them at that particular time when they threw out the Dictator, Batista.

And at one particular time there was a gentleman that smuggled guns to Castro....I think his name was Langley or Longly out of Bay - something - Texas, on the Bayshore.....He was given a jail term* for smuggling guns to Castro. This is in the early part of their revolution....I think he had a boat, and he lived somewhere in Bay something, Bayshore, in the center part of Texas.....".

The gun-dealer Ruby made reference to in his testimony, Ray Brantley, denied selling Ruby or McWillie any guns in 1959. Brantley said his records reflected that Ruby purchased a Colt Cobra on January 19, 1960 and that on May 10, 1963 he mailed a .38 caliber Smith and Wesson revolver to Lewis McWillie in Las Vegas. Ruby was apprised of Brantley's statement and remarked - "...he denies that he ever got a call from me, definitely that makes it look like I am hiding something....evidently he feels, maybe he feels it would be illegal to send guns out of the country....".

When I spoke to Brantley in 1977 he told me "Jack Ruby is as far from
*Both Davis and McKeown had served time in jail for gunrunning.

the CIA, Fidel Castro and the Mafia as Billy Carter is to Lady Bird Johnson".

By November, 1959 Meyer Lansky's Cuban crime empire was in ruins. His casinos were losing ten thousand dollars a day because of the slack in tourist trade. The Syndicate strip joints and houses of prostitution had all been closed down. With Santos gone, the narcotics trade dwindled.

On November 22, 1959 Castro nationalized the Hotel Riviera, kicked-out the mobsters from the casino and put in his own men.

The Central Intelligence Agency was aware of all this and in 1960 they became formally involved in recruiting gambling Syndicate contacts to aid in assassinating Castro.* Robert A. Maheu, an ex-FBI agent who had become a "private investigator** in 1954, was recruited by the CIA as the liaison-man between themselves and the Syndicate. Maheu met with Sam Giacanna (see page _____), Santos Trafficante (see page _____) and Johnny Rosselli (see page _____). In 1960 Rosselli was in Las Vegas, supervising the Mafia's gambling interests.

Several attempts were made on Fidel's life but all of them failed. The FBI had knowledge of these assassination attempts and was aware that the CIA and the Syndicate were behind them.

The year 1959 was drawing to a close. Jack Ruby's hopes of becoming a big Havana casino owner had not been realized. In fact, with Castro in power, it was unlikely his ambitions would ever be fulfilled. Jack had been double-crossed and there was nothing he could do about it.

The year 1960 was a rather dull year for Jack and there are very few reports available on his activities. McWillie remained in Havana and in May 1960, he left the Tropicana to work at the Capri Casino, a long-time

*See Operation Underworld - page _____).

**Mayheu's clients and acquaintances included John Rosselli, Jimmy Hoffa and Howard Hughes.

Lansky property (see page ____). McWillie feared that Ruby's indiscretion had alerted Castro's secret police to his intentions and he curtailed his anti-Castro activities, at least temporarily.

On January 3, 1961 the United States broke diplomatic relations with the Castro regime. The day before this event occurred, McWillie left Cuba aboard a commercial flight. During the flight, McWillie noticed that there was an old man aboard who was wearing a Fair Play For Cuba button on his lapel. When the aircraft landed, Louie walked up to the gent and 'floored him with one punch.*

Louis J. McWillie was fit to be tied! Castro had double-crossed him and there was nothing he could do about it. He stayed in Miami for a few weeks then flew to Dallas where he conferred with Jack Ruby. Jack told him that "the boys" were pleased with his work in Havana and a job was waiting for him at the Cal Neva Lounge at Lake Tahoe, Nevada.

The Cal-Neva was a long-time property of organized crime. In the late forties it has been owned by Bones Remmar, (see page ____), a gambler and friend of Ruby, linked to the Mob by the Kefauver Committee. In July 1960 Frank Sinatra applied to the Nevada Casino Commission for permission to buy an interest in the Cal-Neva. Sinatra was widely believed to be "fronting points" - laundering money - for the Syndicate. In July, 1963, Sam "Momo" Giancanna (see page ____) visited the Cal-Neva despite the fact that he had been barred from entering any Nevada Casino.

Momo began his career in organized crime as a wheelman for the Capone Mob. By the late 1940's Momo was the chauffeur and body-guard for Chicago rackets boss Tony "the Tuna" Accardo. In 1957 a bullet was fired over Accardo's head as he entered his half million dollar estate. Accardo got the message and stepped down. Momo was the crime overlord of Chicago

*In 1964 McWillie told the FBI that Jack Ruby was also opposed to the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and would have done the same.

when the CIA approached him to kill Castro in 1960.(see page ____). His tentacles reached into the White House itself through Judith Immoor (AKA Judith Campbell Exner), Kennedy's alleged mistress. Ms. Immoor told the press that she had been introduced to Kennedy in Las Vegas by a mutual friend - Frank Sinatra - in February, 1960. Their relationship lasted until late 1962, when the FBI became aware that someone who was in telephonic contact with ^{John} Rosselli made numerous calls to the White House. Immoor was also in close touch with Sam Giancana, who she admits was aware of her relationship with Kennedy. Giancana was going to blackmail the President of the United States.

In October 1963 the Nevada Gaming Commission revoked Sinatra's casino licenses. A few days later Sinatra announced that he was quitting the Gaming business. In 1972 Sinatra would sell his private jet to the Union Insurance Agency of Illinois, which was once owned by the Dorfman family. (see page ____).

When McWillie began work at the Cal-Neva in early 1961 Momo was in the midst of recruiting an assassination squad for use against Castro. McWillie denies having spoken with Momo, or even seeing him on the premises yet logic dictates otherwise. McWillie could have provided Giancana with important information about the situation in Cuba - after all, he and Jack had plotted Castro's demise for almost six months.

By the summer of 1961 Jack was part of an effort to run guns to anti-Castro forces within Cuba. While he was doing this Jack ran a prostitution racket in Dallas. The FBI became aware that Jack was a pimp when he recruited under-age girls from out of state to work for him. In June 1961 Ruby was mentioned in a PCI's report on Prostitution in Dallas.

One particularly sleazy and repulsive prostitute, who was also a heroin addict, was brutally beaten by Ruby when she stepped out of line

at his "nightclub". A few months later (sometime between August and November 1961) Ruby ran into this hooker at a meeting where arms smuggling to Cuba was being discussed; it turned out that the woman's husband had smuggled guns to Franco and was going to pilot a boatload of arms to Cuba, then return with a boatload of Cubans. The prostitute's name was Nancy Perrin, and she furnished a detailed account of these meetings to the FBI and the Warren Commission.

Nancy Perrin was the illegitimate daughter of a Jewish couple in New Hampshire. When she was one year old she was adopted by a family named Mathews, who tried to bring her up in typical middle-class fashion. It did not work; by age 19 Nancy had been married and divorced. In 1956 she attempted suicide and was committed to a mental hospital. Upon release Nancy began to use heroin and by 1959, when she married Robert Perrin, she was an addict and a prostitute. The Perrins moved to Denver, Colorado, where Robert introduced her to his Syndicate connections - "I acted as a "hostess" for men who were in the Syndicate - you know the Mafia - headed by Vito Genovese. I knew a man they called "Young Piggy" Marchese" - he was a Syndicate member from New York who was hiding out in Denver - a big, fat sloppy fellow".

The FBI attempted to ascertain the veracity of Nancy's story by checking their criminal index for "Piggy" Marchese. They discovered, "Las Vegas indices reflect Vincent Marchese AKA quote Piggy Mac Unquote Marchese operates the Opera Lounge, St. Louis, and is reported to be a gambler, bookie, hoodlum, an associate of hoodlums and has served a Federal prison sentence for narcotics". A cousin of Piggy, Joseph Marchese, was part of the "French Connection" narcotics case.

The FBI ignored this report and relied on interviews with everyone named "Marchese" who lived in Denver. Both Michael and Rudy Marchese

said they never used the nickname "Piggy" nor had anyone ever called them that.

In late 1960 Nancy returned to New Hampshire where she was employed as a "lobbyist" for the liquor industry. In 1961 Robert Perrin left Nancy and moved to Dallas. A few months later she was able to locate him through officers J.D. Tippet and Paul Rayburn.* Nancy moved to Dallas where she began working for Jack Ruby.

During her employment at the Carousel Club Nancy ran into "Piggy" Marchese. Piggy, who was there to visit Jack Ruby, suggested that she leave Dallas and get a job with Lou Brindisi at the Silver Slipper in Las Vegas. Brindisi was questioned by the FBI about Nancy's allegations. He advised that he knew no-one in the Denver area who used the name "Piggy" Marchese. The only Marcheses he knew were Rudy and Mike Marchese from Denver. Nancy testified, in a very vague sort of way, that she also saw a member of the Genovese family of New York in Ruby's club. Sometime following the termination of her employment with Ruby, Nancy began working with Dick Cherry** of the University Club. The University Club was owned by Benny Bickers (see page _____) McWillie's old boss. Cherry took her, her husband and another prostitute to a secret meeting. Nancy explained: "It was a meeting for introduction purposes only. The next meeting just my husband and I went alone in our car. The purpose of the gathering was to take Enfield and B.A.R. (Browning Automatic) rifles to Cuba, hop over to another Bay and bring back refugees to Florida. Jack Ruby attended this second meeting. The apartment the meeting was held in was owned by a Colonel in the Army or Air Force".

*The F.B.I. questioned Rayburn on December 6, 1963. He admitted having a "close personal" relationship with Nancy, who he described as a "psychopathic liar". Rayburn had known Ruby for about ten years.

**Cherry told the FBI that Nancy was a deadbeat who had been barred from University Club. He described her as mentally deranged and incoherent in her speech.

Robert Perrin died in August 28, 1963 of arsenic poisoning. He had allegedly been working for Jack Dragna, one of the most notorious gangsters on the West Coast. Dragna was frequently referred to as the Capone of Los Angeles and was closely associated with Benny Binnon, John Rosselli and Mickey Cohen.

Nancy Perrin's story was discounted by the Warren Commission and the FBI even though she did not fail a lie detector test (the results were inconclusive "based on Perrin's past medical history and use of drugs"). Nancy had furnished reliable information to local Police Departments in the past and was about as reliable as junkie-hooker informers come. Nancy embellished her story for her own self serving ends - for example she says that Ruby was pro-communist and was smuggling arms to Castro - but all in all, she was telling the truth; for instance Nancy stated that Ruby was smuggling Browning automatic rifles. In April 1964, the Dallas Police Department checked the personnel at the garages and service stations patronized by Jack Ruby. The Dallas Police discovered that a station attendant who serviced Ruby's car had been arrested on November 18, 1963 for possession of two Browning automatic rifles which been taken during a burglary of the National Guard Headquarters at Terrell, Texas.

Nancy referred to a man named "Youngblood". Jack Youngblood was a Cuban gun smuggler who operated out of Miami. Researcher William S. Malone writes - "Another name she mentioned was transcribed by the Warren Commission first as "Ed Brunner" and then as "Eddie Brawner" from Miami. This has lead some to suspect she was referring to Eddie Browder, ^(see page 4) who was from Miami and was in Texas at the time of the meeting".

In September 1961 Ruby had a meeting with Teamster officials Dick Kavner and Frank Chavez. Kavner, a St. Louis teamster agent, was a close associate of Hoffa strong-arm man Barney Baker and Paul Dorfman (see page _____) while Chavez, the

Head of Teamster Local 901, had a record for carrying a concealed weapon and attempted murder. When Attorney General Robert Kennedy indicted Chavez, Frank Ragano (see page _____) was hired to represent the Puerto-Rican Teamster Head. Chavez became a staunch Kennedy hater. On November 22, 1963 he told one of his subordinates - "We've taken care of President Kennedy". A year later he wrote a threatening letter to Robert Kennedy which contained a reference to the Kennedy assassination. When Chavez traveled to Washington in March, 1964, the Kennedy family was given 24 hour police protection. Chavez, who was too violent and unpredictable for a permanent place in the Teamster hierarchy, was killed by his body-guard in early 1965.

In early 1962 Jack had a conversation with Robert Lee Shorman, a musician in one of the bands that played at the Carousel Club. He told Shorman he was originally from Chicago where he had made a living by running a floating crap game and that he had to leave Chicago when things got "too hot".

Shorman observed numerous police officers, uniformed and plain clothes, on duty and off, in the Carousel Club and Shorman never saw any of them pay for a drink. The only police officer Shorman knew by name was Will Fritz, Head of Dallas' Homicide Squad.

In all, Shorman saw 150 - 200 police officers go in and out of Jack's place in the month he worked for him.

On April 1, 1962 Jack Ruby's brother sent a telegram of an undisclosed nature to Havana, Cuba. The National Security Agency (NSA) routinely monitored all cable traffic between Cuba and the United States and obtained a copy of the "April Fools Day" telegram. When the National Security Agency refused to send me a copy of their copy I took them to Federal Court. On June 18, 1978 a United States Court of Appeals Judge ruled that the NSA was virtually immune from Freedom of Information Act suits.

In mid-1962 Ruby was working with Frank Ferrara. (See page ____). As previously stated, Ferrara was closely involved with Eddie Browder and Normie Rothman. In September of 1962, Jose Aleman, (see page ____) a States witness against Browder*, was approached by Don Santos Trafficante, who offered to arrange a one-million dollar loan from the Teamsters Union Pension Fund. Trafficante told Aleman: "Have you seen how Bobby Kennedy is hitting Hoffa.....He doesn't know that kind of encounter is very delicate. Mark my words, this man John Kennedy is in trouble and he will get what is coming to him....He is going to be hit".

*Aleman was asked if he had any knowledge of an arms deal where Browder had been paid in stocks and bonds by the July 26 Movement. Aleman, who met Browder in 1951 when both men were involved in smuggling arms to Castro, answered that he did not.

BOOK TWO

The Syndicate And The Death of John F. Kennedy

By early 1963 Castro was firmly entrenched in Cuba. All the casinos had been closed and Castro was now dependent on Soviet aid instead of gambling revenues. Kennedy's feeble attempt to unseat Castro - the Bay of Pigs invasion - had ended in failure. Kennedy did bring America to the brink of nuclear war over the issue of Soviet missiles in Cuba, but in the end he arranged an understanding with the Russians. In return for removing the missiles Kennedy agreed to stop trying to overthrow Castro. This resulted in a crack-down on exile groups - some of which were supported by the Mob. In addition to all this, Attorney General Robert Kennedy was running the Justice Department and the heat was on high for the National Crime Syndicate.

The CIA and the Mob had worked together in Operation Underworld (see page _____) and in the CIA/Mafia plot to kill Castro. Now they would join forces to kill the President of the United States of America.

Eugene R. De La Parra, a horse trainer for Vincent Marcello (one of Don Carlos' brothers) (see page _____) provided evidence of the early stages of the conspiracy: "I was in Traegel's bar, a horse book on Airline Highway, in New Orleans. Ben Traegel, his friend Norman La Blanc and a bookie called 'The Professor' were looking at an ad in a detective magazine about a foreign-made rifle which sold for \$12.98. Traegel remarked - 'this would be a nice rifle to buy to get the President. There is a price on the

*There was a scandal in Nevada when Lansky's ownership of the Thunderbird was exposed in 1958.

President's head. Somebody will kill the nigger-lover when he comes down South. This guy Traegel, he's a close friend of Vinnie Marcello, Marcello owns his book, Vincent Marcello, the racketeer".

De La Parra reported this incident to special agent Reed Jensen in March, 1963 when he was in contact with the FBI regarding "Area Gambling Activities". The information he provided the FBI on gambling was considered to be "reliable", yet no action was taken to investigate this threat on the President of the United States; nor was the Secret Service alerted. After the Kennedy assassination De La Parra furnished the FBI with the information once again - this time he added that Vincent Marcello owned a nightclub in Dallas* and flew there by private plane on many occasions. Special Agent Jensen interviewed Le Blanc about De La Parra's statements. He told Jensen the incident never occurred and that "when we heard the news on November 22, at Traegel's book, we were all upset". Traegel assured Jensen "I would never stoop to violence of any kind against anyone. I am a patriotic American and I'm appalled at anyone who would kill an officer of the government, particularly the President of the country". On November 30, 1963 Jensen closed the De La Parra file with the notation - "Records of New Orleans Office contain no information Traegel, Le Blanc or Marcello involved in hate group activity".

Evidence of the early stages of a CIA/Mafia plot to kill John Kennedy was also revealed by a man named Sumner, a successful businessman from Darien, Georgia. After the Kennedy assassination, Mr. Sumner furnished the local Police Department with the following data: Around April 14, 1963 Sumner left Darien and traveled to New Orleans with a business acquaintance named Ernest Insalmo. In New Orleans, Insalmo met some of his associates in the "seafood and construction" business, then took Sumner to the Town and Country Restaurant which was owned by Don Carlos Marcello. Sumner was

*The Egyptian Lounge - (see page _____).

introduced to the restaurant's legal "owner", Albert Poretto, and given a good table, in the main dining room, where there were only two other couples. Sumner told the FBI - "I saw a young couple enter the dining room. They sat down about two tables from where I was sitting. I saw Poretto remove a wad of bills from his pocket and pass them under the table, to the man who just came in. Well, sir, a few minutes later the couple left without ordering. On November 22, 1963, I realized the man who picked up the wad from Poretto was Lee Harvey Oswald".

On December 2, 1963 the FBI showed Sumner pictures of Oswald and he said he was sure he was identical with the man he saw in the Town and Country Restaurant.

In 1964 the FBI sent agent Reed W. Jensen to the Town and Country to interview Poretto. Predictably, Poretto, who had been read his rights, and advised of the agent's name before the interview, said he had never seen or known Lee Harvey Oswald or Jack Ruby prior to the assassination of John F. Kennedy. He added that he had never heard of Jack Ruby by reputation prior to the assassination either. He had never had dealing with anyone who even resembled Oswald enough for a mistaken identity. Jensen then questioned Anthony Marcello, Manager of the Town and Country Motel who gave him the same story and allowed him to examine the Town and Country's registration records. He found that neither Oswald nor Ruby had ever registered under their real names. Finally, Jensen questioned the Day cashier - Oswald was reportedly there at 10:00 P.M. She didn't see Oswald either.

Poretto wasn't Oswald's only link to Don Carlos - Lee had spent much of his childhood in New Orleans and his uncle Dutz Murret, was a bookmaker employed by the five foot two inch Marcello. Oswald's anti-communist comrade-in-arms, William David Ferrie, had strong ties to Marcello. Oswald had known Ferrie back in 1955; Lee's childhood friend, Edward Voebel, told

the FBI - "After I was in the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) for about six months, David William Ferrie took over command of my unit and I began to lose interest. I persuaded Lee to join CAP and he attended several meetings..." Other 1955 CAP Cadets backed him up. Frederick O'Sullivan, Detective, Vice Squad, New Orleans Police Department reported - "Ferrie assumed control at Moisant Airport at about the same time Oswald joined". The FBI confirmed the Oswald-Ferrie relationship with the Commander of the Louisiana Wing of CAP who produced a record that indicated Oswald had enrolled as a CAP Cadet on July 27, 1955, when Ferrie was Commandant. Ferrie was a right wing fanatic and professional anti-communist.

In October of 1955 a girl scout troop leader informed the FBI that David Ferrie advised his cadets that he could "see no reason to salute the American flag". The FBI investigated Ferrie and found he had been critical of the Roosevelt and Truman administration because "they were trying to drive us into communism".

In the late 1950's Ferrie was engaged in smuggling guns to Fidel Castro and raising funds for his July 26 Movement. By 1960 he was training pilots at the Bay of Pigs invasion training camp in Guatamala.

After the invasion failed because Kennedy refused to authorize air support, Ferrie gave a speech in which he said that JFK should be shot for this "double-cross". Ferrie had been introduced as a pilot who took part in the invasion but could not land due to heavy ground fire.

In 1962 Ferrie began to fly air-strikes and underground supply missions into Cuba. Recently de-classified State Department documents reveal that David Ferrie was working for Rolando Masferrer, one of Batista's most feared henchmen who was known as "El Tigre". Ferrie's closest associate at this time was Eladio DelValle, a recruiter for Masferrer. DelValle was a smuggler and narcotics trafficker in pre-revolutionary Cuba who worked

under Don Santos Trafficante.

In early 1962 Ferrie, began working as a private investigator for Marcello. While he was in New Orleans, Oswald met with Ferrie and his associates on a regular basis.

In early May 1963 the first evidence of Jack Ruby's involvement in a plot to kill John Kennedy came to light. The evidence is derived from a careful study of Jack Ruby's telephone records from May, 1963 to November 24, 1963.

On May 7, 1963 Jack Ruby placed a three minute call to New Orleans, Louisiana. The number he dialed (523-9468) connected him to the Sho-Bar on Bourbon Street. The Sho-Bar was a strip joint whose corporate structure had been set-up by former State Senator Salvador Anselmo, for Don Carlos' brother, Peter Marcello. On May 12, 1963, Jack called McWillie* - then called the Dream Lounge, in Cicero, Illinois, an alleged "gambling joint" controlled by Sam Giancana (see page ____). Two days later Ruby would journey to New Orleans, where he met with Harold Tannenbaum. Tannenbaum was a "frontman" for Marcello who was the owner of record of a Bourbon Street strip joint known as "The Old French Opera House". Tannenbaum and his wife lived at the Tropical Tourist Courts Trailer Park, which was owned by the Marcello family. Mrs. Tannenbaum had been a cashier at the Sho-Bar, another Marcello property. Ruby was not in New Orleans to "talk shop" with Tannenbaum, he was there to meet with Don Carlos Marcello. Ruby was made aware of the fact that Kennedy was going to be hit by the CIA and the Mob was going to take-out the "patsey". The patsey, Lee Harvey Oswald, was in New Orleans at the time, but was going back to Dallas in

*In early 1963 McWillie began working at the Thunderbird Casino, a long-time Lansky, National Crime Syndicate holding.

the Fall. That was where Jack fit into the conspiracy - it was his job to hire someone - preferably a police officer - to blast Oswald before the authorities arrested him. Ruby would be the Syndicate's "key man" in Dallas. Normally, Ruby was in close touch with the Marcello family through its representative in Dallas - Ralph Paul and Joe Campisi - now he would be in close touch with Marcello himself.

Ruby returned to Dallas on May 20, 1963. On June 5, 1963 Tannenbaum called Jack from the Old French Opera House. Ruby returned his call and spoke with him for 24 minutes. The next day Ruby returned to New Orleans. The Warren Commission found no identifying records to show that Ruby was in a hotel or anywhere else between the nights of June 5th and June 8, 1963. In all likelihood Ruby was staying at Churchill Downs, the multi-million dollar estate where Don Carlos lived.

By June 9, 1963 Ruby was back in Dallas. On June 11, 1963 he placed another call to the Sho-Bar and on June 14th, 19th and 21st, 1963 Ruby called the Old French Opera House. Eugene R. De La Parra (see page _____) reported that - "On June 22, 1963 I was in Benny Traegel's Bookie Joint when Tony Marcello came in to service the pinball machine. Tony was Vince's and Carlos' brother. Tony says to Benny -- the word is out to get the Kennedy family".

In late June Tannenbaum visited Jack in Dallas. On July 6, 1963 Jack called the Opera House and on July 24, 1963 he called it again and was told that Tannenbaum was not there. Ruby dialed his personal telephone number (242-3401) and spoke with someone for 31 minutes.

On August 2, 1963 Ruby called McWillie at the Thunderbird. Two days later he called him again, just before he left for New York City, where Ruby would secretly meet with McWillie's boss, Meyer Lansky. On November 22, 1963, one of Lansky's closest associates in the Mafia, Vincent "Jimmy

Blue Eyes" Alo, told shoeshine boy, Jimmy Comer - "They should have gotten the whole family including Robert Kennedy".

On August 4, 1963 Jack Ruby checked into the New York Hilton Hotel. As soon as he got to his room he called the Old French Opera House in New Orleans. After Jack got off the phone with Tannenbaum, Don Carlos, (or who-ever was on the other end of the line), he called a man named Michael Shore in Los Angeles. Shore worked for Reprise Records, which, at the time, was regarded by many journalists as a "Syndicate front". Frank Sinatra owned Reprise Records, and he owned it at the same time he owned the Cal-Neva. He sold Reprise to Warner Brothers around the same time he gave up his interest in the Cal-Neva. (see page ____).

The Los Angeles field office of the FBI had an informant at Reprise Records who reported that the daughter of a Syndicate jewel thief worked there as a secretary and that Reprise employees were "calling all over the country and placing large bets". In 1963 the FBI interviewed Shore about the conviction of his friend, Marvin R. Cole, on Obstruction of Justice charges. Shore told them that Cole was "Doc Stacher's boy" (see page ____). Joseph "Doc" Stacher was described by the FBI as a "hoodlum", and associate of "top hoodlums", who knew most of the important criminals in the United States and Europe. Stacher was listed as an associate of Frank Costello, Frank Erickson and Meyer Lansky and was alleged to have an undisclosed financial interest in several Las Vegas casinos. Shore went on to tell the FBI that he had been responsible for starting Cole out in business and had loaned money to Cole so that Cole might buy points in the Fremont Casino in Las Vegas.

A check of the Fremont's licensees revealed that Marvin Cole owned 9% of the Fremont Casino. The largest point-holder was Ed Levinson, a well-known

Frontman for Meyer Lansky.

Shore had been investigated by the FBI at least three times. The FBI is still withholding important information about him, some of which has been classified "Secret".

On November 27, 1963 the FBI questioned Shore about his relationship with Jack Ruby. Shore stated that he had never met Jack Ruby, but did know his brother Earl, in Chicago, in the 1930's when they were growing up together. Shore's association with Earl lasted until 1954 - when Earl moved to Detroit. The two men knew each other for 24 years without Earl introducing Shore to his brother Jack. Not a likely story. Shore was also connected to Ruby through Irwin Weiner, who was a close friend of both men.

Shore claimed that Ruby called him about some "labor trouble" he was having and he referred him to the President of the Associated Booking Corporation.

On August 5, 1963 Jack visited Joe Glaser, President of Associated Booking. In 1962 Glaser had assigned all of the "voting rights, dominion and control" of his majority stock in the concern, to Sidney Korshak.

Korshak was born in 1907 in Chicago's West Side, the son of Jewish immigrants. Soon after his graduation from Law School, Korshak began defending members of the Capone Mob. In the late 1930's he was associated with Paul Dorfman (see page _____) and in 1943 he was named in a case involving Johnny Rosselli. In the years following World War II, documents from the McCléllan Committee listed him as one of "three key figures in bookmaking" in downtown Chicago during that period. The New York Times reported that by the early 1950's "Mr. Korshak often drove to week-end business meetings with Sam Giancana and Tony Accardo." In the late 1950's Korshak testified before a Federal Grand Jury about a contract involving

Accardo. In 1968 a Justice Department report described him as perhaps - "the most significant link in the relationship between the Crime Syndicate, politics, labor and management".

The FBI never questioned Korshak about Jack Ruby, despite Jack's close association with Associated Booking in Dallas and his visit to their offices in New York City. They concluded that Joe Glaser "is believed to be the sole stockholder in this corporation".

When Ruby returned to his hotel room he called Shore once again. On August 6, 1963 Jack flew back to Dallas. A day later he called an unidentified number in Chicago and spoke with someone for 34 minutes. On August 19th, 20th and 22nd Ruby called McWillie at the Thunderbird.

In early September, 1963 Tannenbaum visited Ruby in Dallas. Oswald would leave New Orleans in less than one month and "arrangements" had to be made for him.

A meeting was held at the Cabana Motel which was located near the Trademart in Dallas. The Cabana was built in the mid-1950's with Teamster Union Funds. Ruby had commented about the connection between Jimmy Hoffa and the Cabana to his bookkeeper, and his night club shared several employees with the Cabana. He frequented the motel since its construction and probably used it as a "safe-house" for criminal operations.

Jack was meeting with two men and a woman that day. Mrs. Howard Summers of Odessa, Texas, saw the four conspirators, as did R.E. Lee of Seattle, Washington. Mrs. Summers told the FBI - "I heard them talking - talking about a meeting that they were gonna hold. At the time I was sure the meeting had something to do with Jimmy Hoffa, who I understand owns the Cabana. We happened to be sitting at an adjoining table and happened to overhear their rather loud conversation".

In early September 1963 Jack flew to Miami, where, according to the findings of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, he had at least two meetings with Johnny Rosselli. (see page ____).

On September 6, 1963, while Tannenbaum was still in Dallas, Ruby called Russell Douglas Matthews (see page ____) in Shreveport, Louisiana. Matthews was adept at making "arrangements" for people like Oswald.

In mid-September 1963, Edwin Becker, a Los Angeles licensed Private Investigator who served as an informant for local and Federal police agencies, was spying on Don Carlos in connection with the Billie Sol Estes case. Becker told the FBI that on September 11, 1963 he was at a meeting at Marcello's home. Marcello said that "in order to get Bobby Kennedy they would have to get the President, as they could not kill Bobby because the President would use the Army and Marines to get them". This report was not discovered until Ed Reid, the author of many important books on organized crime, de-briefed the informant in 1967 then called the FBI to confirm the story. The FBI admitted that two of their agents had talked with Becker, but in November 1962, not September 1963. According to the FBI, during this interview, which concerned the Estes affair, Marcello's name was mentioned, but not in connection with a possible Presidential assassination. This information was ascertained through a review of the Billie Sol Estes file rather than by an interview with the Special Agents involved. The agents may have considered Marcello's alleged statement as bravado, and not included it in the report. Or the FBI may have suppressed the report altogether due to J. Edgar Hoover's insistence that there was no such thing as a "National Crime Syndicate" in America. The FBI concluded that Reid was an "irresponsible newspaper-man guilty of dishonest reporting" and began to closely monitor Reid's work. (62-109060-5589).

Ruby called Matthews again on October 3, 1963 and spoke with him for 13 minutes. On October 16, 1963 Jack called Harold Tannenbaum at his father's residence in Miami and spoke with him for almost fifteen minutes. On October 19, 1963 Jack called an unidentified telephone number in Beverly Hills, California and spoke with someone for thirty-two minutes. The FBI investigated three other long-distance calls Ruby made that day but never investigated this one.

On October 22, 1963 Ruby received a call from Tannenbaum who was back in New Orleans. Tannenbaum called Ruby collect from a pay telephone somewhere in New Orleans rather than dialing Jack directly from his home phone. He would follow this procedure through November 1963. He may have been afraid his telephone was tapped. The next day Jack called Michael Shore at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City. Three days later Ruby called Shore at his home in California. Two hours later Jack called Irwin Weiner (see page _____) who the FBI described as "an associate of numerous low and high caliber notorious Chicago hoodlums". When the FBI questioned Weiner about this call he refused comment. No further attempts were made to interview him.

On October 30, 1963 Ruby called New Orleans once again. This time he called CH-2-5431. This telephone number was listed under the name of Nofio Pecora. Pecora and his partner, Joseph Poretto (see page _____) ran a restaurant and lounge at the Town and Country Motel during the 1950's. Pecora was an ex-convict with an extensive past history in heroin trafficking. From the Town and Country he directed a call-girl ring and in the late 1950's Pecora took over operation of the Tropical Tourist Court and Trailer Camp.

One hour after Jack and Nofio exchanged words Tannenbaum called Jack collect and spoke with him for 21 minutes.

One day after Jack dialed Pecora's telephone number he called Mike Shore in Beverly Hills, California. Four days later (November 4, 1963) Jack spoke with Tannenbaum for the last time. As usual Tannenbaum called collect. On November 7, 1963 Jack called Barney Baker (see page ____) in Chicago. Baker called him back from a pay phone and spoke with him for seven minutes. Baker had the reputation of being Jimmy Hoffa's roving Ambassador of Violence. An ex-convict (jailed three times in the 1930's), the 325 pound Baker was a former professional boxer, longshoreman and bouncer before joining the Teamsters. In 1936 Baker was shot during a Manhattan gang war - he had been the strongarm man for a bunch of hoods who controlled the piers. From there he went to the Colonial Inn in Hallandale, Florida, where he served as doorman and bouncer. At the Colonial Inn Baker became associated with Joe Adonis, Meyer Lansky, Vincent "Jimmy Blue-Eyes" Alo and Vincent "Piggy Mac" Marchesi (see page ____). Baker formally joined the Teamsters Union in the early 1950's. According to the testimony of Baker's wife, just before an opponent of Hoffa's was killed in Indianapolis in the mid-1950's, he had told her that he had to go to Indianapolis "to take care of a shyster lawyer for Jimmy Hoffa". In the early 1960's Baker was sent to prison for labor racketeering and was released on parole in June, 1963. The content of Jack's conversation with Baker in November, 1963 is a matter of conjecture. I believe Jack told him Kennedy was going to be hit because he wanted Baker to get a message to Jimmy Hoffa about the up-coming assassination. Jack knew his old friend Jimmy would be pleased and impressed. Baker probably told Ruby that he could talk to Jimmy himself at the Eden Roc Hotel*, if he called there the next day. A recently

*In 1950 Morris Landsburgh of Miami Beach formed a holding company that owned the Eden Roc Hotel. In 1973 Landsburgh's longtime association with Lansky was finally confirmed when he pleaded guilty to conspiring with Lansky to defraud the Internal Revenue Service.

released FBI document revealed that throughout November, 1963, Syndicate-linked Teamster Officials were meeting at the Eden Roc. Jimmy, himself, was there, as was Murray W. Miller, better known as "Dusty" Miller, a Vice President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and Director of the Southern Conference of Teamsters. Miller was the Number Three man in the Teamsters Union - only Jimmy and Dorfman preceded him.

On November 8, 1963 Ruby called Dusty Miller's suite at the Eden Roc. He may have told Jimmy himself that Kennedy was going to get blasted.

On November 11, 1963 Ruby called Barney Baker once again. A few minutes later Baker called Ruby from his office telephone. It is my guess that Jack filled him in on the details of the assassination. The two men may have decided it would be advantageous to have a representative of the Syndicate monitor the actual hit itself.

On November 12, 1963 Jack tried to reach his ex-employer, Frank Goldstein, by telephone. Jack had not spoken with Frank in years judging from the fact he called another Frank Goldstein before he reached the one he wanted. The nature of Jack's conversation with Frank is a matter of speculation - maybe, he wanted Frank to relay a message to his associates in Las Vegas or perhaps he had called his ex-employer to tell him that in a few weeks he would be a point-holder in a big Las Vegas casino and might be hiring him as a pitboss. Later that day Jack had a meeting with Paul R. Jones. Jones told the FBI he just happened to be in Dallas and decided to meet with his old friend.

In June 1964, Charles Woods, the President of a television station in Dotman, Alabama, visited FBI Headquarters in Birmingham and relayed some information to them that would throw some light on the Ruby/Jones meeting in Dallas.

Woods, a former member of the Alabama Board of Corrections, had been

in contact with Jones' bondsman. Jones had told the bondsman that his visit to Dallas was connected with his position in "Murder Incorporated", an "organization that murders for a price".

During November 1963 Jack generally made at least 3 or 4 long distance calls each day. On November 14, 1963 he only made one - to Ralph Paul in Arlington, Texas at 1:13 P.M.

Later that afternoon Jack was seen at a small motel in Morgan City, Louisiana. Morgan City's major industry was gambling - wide-open and controlled by Marcello. Jack told cashier Corinne Burgess that he was an old friend of the Motel's owner, Pete Guarisco, and had come all the way from Dallas to see him. When Ms. Burgess told Jack that Pete was not on the premises, he asked her if Vick Guarisco was there and added, "I'm a friend of Carlos Marcello".

Ms. Burgess came forward with some of her information on November 27, 1963, when, at her own request, she was interviewed by the FBI in the presence of Pete Guarisco. In 1967 Ms. Burgess contacted the FBI once again - this time she told them about Ruby asking for Guarisco and mentioned Marcello. The ex-cashier explained that she had not furnished the FBI with all her information in 1963 because "Guarisco told me to shut-up".

On November 16, 1963 Jack flew to Las Vegas, Nevada. In return for his part in the Kennedy conspiracy Jack was going to be made a point-holder in two big profitable Las Vegas casinos.

Evidence of Ruby's trip to Las Vegas during the week-end prior to the assassination reached Las Vegas Sheriff Ralph Lamb when a confidential informant, who was rated as being "a very reliable source" told him - "Ruby was at the Tropicana Hotel the week-end before Kennedy was shot and killed....his host was Preston Fineberg, a point-holder in the Tropicana. Fineberg let him use his Rolls-Royce".

On the same day Lamb received his report, the FBI was furnished with similar information by one of their PCI's, who happened to be the cashier at the Tropicana Hotel: "A 'Jack Ruby' stayed at the Tropicana Hotel about November 16, 1963 and made several long-distance calls. After the President was shot I tried to locate the records of these calls and his hotel registration. I couldn't find them, which really shook-me-up, because I personally checked-out his telephone account from the front office when he checked-out".

The FBI checked-out this report with another PCI and were told - "Jack Ruby was a good friend of Preston Feinberg - Ruby came to Vegas a lot - he always visited Feinberg, who he knew from the old days in Chicago. On November 17, the Saturday before the assassination Jack played golf with Feinberg".

Before the FBI received any of preceding informants' reports, Benny "The Cowboy" Binnion, told them, one day after Ruby shot Oswald:

"Ruby was at the Tropicana recently"

While Jack was in Las Vegas, George Senator, his enigmatic room-mate, ran the Carousel Club with the help of Ralph Paul.

Jack returned to Dallas on Sunday, November 17, 1963. That evening he paid a visit to the assassination squad, who were staying at the Cabana Motel. Marita Lorenz recalled the incident in her sworn testimony in the E. Howard Hunt vs. A.J. Weberman lawsuit now pending in Federal Court in Miami - "When we were in Dallas, in the motel room, he came to the door of the motel. We were sitting on the floor. He came to the door to talk to Frank* and he said "Who the hell is she?" Frank says - "Don't worry, she's with me". So Ruby says - "She's got to go." They flew me back to Miami the next day".

*Frank Fiorini Sturgis

On Monday, November 18, 1963, Jack went back to the Cabana Motel and had another meeting with the CIA's assassination squad.* Ruby was spotted by a whole-sale jeweler who was having a snack at the Cabana Coffee Shop. The squad wanted to be sure that Jack's part of this delicate operation went smoothly. He assured them that he had put out numerous contracts in the past and all of them had been successful. Jack's plan to kill Oswald was simple - after the Kennedy assassination, Lee's landlady would divulge his location to a Dallas Police Officer who was working for Jack. The policeman would shoot Oswald down for "resisting arrest".** Not only would the Police Officer make a lot of money, he would become a National Hero. Jack's plan had all the ingredients of a typical gangland slaying - the "finger" and the "hitman".

All available evidence points to the Bogle sisters as the fingers in Jack's scenario. Earline and Bertha Bogle ran the roominghouse at 1026 Beckley Avenue where Oswald lived.***Bertha Bogle knew Jack Ruby since

*The squad was composed of CIA-contract employees, Cuban exiles and CIA Agents, all trained by the Agency in assassination.

**A University of Washington study of 1500 instances where civilians were killed by cops during the 1960's revealed that only three cases resulted in criminal prosecution.

***Oswald was intent on living at this location. In early October, 1963, he came to 1026 North Beckley and inquired about a room. There was no vacancy so he took one somewhere else. A week later Oswald was back at 1026 North Beckley. This time the landlady was able to rent a single room to him.

1948 and had been approached by him about making an investment in one of his "nightclubs".

In the Spring of 1959, when Jack was involved in plotting against Fidel, Earline Bogle rented a room to two Cuban males. One of them claimed to be a watchmaker and called Havana, twice a week from a pay telephone in the boarding house. The second Cuban claimed to be buying gas or oil refinery parts in Dallas. The first Cuban stayed about seven weeks and the second stayed for four weeks. Earline and Bertha did not come forward with this information - a former employee did. Earline had no recollection of the Cubans and Bertha initially recalled having rented to them, then stated she had no recollection whatsoever of any Cubans.

During the late afternoon of November 18, 1963, Bertha Bogle had a meeting with Jack Ruby in the Carousel Club. At this meeting, which lasted for several hours, Ruby gave Bertha her final instructions, which she was to relay to her sister. When questioned by the Warren Commission Bertha claimed the meeting concerned the possibility of financially backing Ruby in a new nightclub which he planned to open.

On Tuesday, November 19, 1963, Jack held a clandestine meeting with the Dallas Police Officer he was counting on to blow Oswald to "Kingdom Come". In all likelihood, that man was officer J.D. Tippet (see page ____). Patrolman J.D. Tippet was a former paratrooper and father of three, who joined the Dallas Police Department in July 1952. In his eleven years on the force, his name never came up for promotion. He was described by Chief Curry (see page ____) as having the reputation of being "a very fine dedicated officer". During the Warren Commission Hearings, Allen Dulles allegedly remarked that Tippet may have been involved, in some unspecified

manner with narcotics.* Travis Kirk, an attorney who had practiced law for 23 years in Dallas told the FBI that he was personally acquainted with Officer Tippet - "A lady once came to my office about Tippet - she wanted to press charges against him - he had apparently raped her during one of his investigations". Kirk was also a friend of Jack Ruby!**

During Ruby and Tippet's November 19th meeting, Ruby told the police officer that Lee Oswald, the man he was supposed to kill shortly after Kennedy was assassinated, would be at the Dobbs House restaurant, which was located across the street from 1026 North Beckley, at 8:00 A.M. the next morning. Jack wanted Officer Tippet to get a good look at Oswald so there would be no slip-ups on November 22, 1963.

On the morning of November 20, 1963, Tippet spotted Oswald eating breakfast, and gave him a dirty look. Tippet continued to "eyeball" Oswald as he ate, making the seasoned spy somewhat suspicious of him.

Mary Ada Dowling and Delores Harrison, two waitresses at the Dobbs House, remembered the prophetic confrontation and told the FBI about it.

*This information was probably based on a report that originated in the San Antonio Office of the FBI. The report quoted a confidential informant who had been given the designation SA-T1. SA-T1 overheard Dwight Amos Featherston link Tippet with narcotics traffic. In July, 1959 Featherston was arrested in Guatemala City in connection with a plot to assassinate President Ydigoras. In the early 1960's Featherston lived in British Honduras where he was engaged in clandestine activities. At one point he had been employed by the Los Angeles Police Department.

**Ray Brantley was another Tippet-Ruby link since he also knew both men.

On the morning of November 21, 1963 Jack received information that a full-page, black-bordered advertisement was scheduled to be published in The Dallas Morning News on November 22, 1963. This ad, which criticized Kennedy from a rightwing perspective, was signed by "Bernard Weis\$man".

Ruby sensed a double-cross. If Kennedy was killed on the day this advertisement was published, his murder would be associated with the Jews - since "Bernard Weisman" was a typically Jewish name, and a black border was symbolic of an obituary.

Jack was wise enough to know that if a cause in Dallas was well-funded, rightwing and anti-semitic, H.L. Hunt, the well-known Texas oil millionaire, was probably behind it. Jack had an interest in the Hunt family ever since he fleeced one of them back in the early 1950's.

In the recent past, Jack had become convinced that the Dallas Chapter of the John Birch Society was an appendage of the Hunt family. Interestingly enough, Officer Tippet worked for a local Bircher on weekends and Jack's brother, Earl, had worked out a deal where he indirectly supplied the Welch Candy Company, which was owned by the Head of the Birch Society, with premiums for their "Sugar Daddy" candies. When Jack was arrested for shooting Oswald, the Dallas police found transcripts of H.L. Hunt's "Lifeline" Radio Broadcasts in the trunk of his car.

On the morning of November 21, 1963, at about 11:00 A.M., Jack called Connie Trammel, a former University student who admitted she knew Jack, but claimed she had never worked for him. A half hour later Connie and Jack drove to Lamar Hunt's office - Connie had called Hunt at his unlisted home telephone number; at which time the maid gave her the telephone number of a "straight line" into Lamar Hunt's office.

On July 10, 1964, Connie Trammel told the FBI that Ruby expressed an interest in meeting Lamar Hunt and accompanied her to the elevator in Hunt's office building, but did not accompany her upstairs. Miss Trammel was "interviewed" by Hunt, allegedly about a job in a "teenage club". All very innocent sounding if you discount the fact that Jack Ruby was a notorious pimp.

Why did Jack change his mind at the last minute? Had he accompanied Connie, he at least had a chance to confront Lamar Hunt and perhaps even H.L. Hunt, who had an office upstairs. He could make them an offer they could not refuse.

Jack must have realized that he was acting in desperation - there was no way that he was going to be able to get to see either of the Hunts - with or without Connie Trammel.

In the early evening of November 21, 1963, Jack had a meeting with Don Carlos' Dallas representatives, Sam Campisi and Ralph Paul. When the meeting was over Jack went back to his nightclub where he was joined by Lawrence V. "Larry" Meyers and Jean Aase, both of Chicago, Illinois. Meyers was a salesman for the Ero Manufacturing Company* and had known Jack at least five or six years. Jack would set-up "dates" with prostitutes for Meyers. In October 1963 he told one of Jack's "strippers" that he had business interests in Las Vegas and Minneapolis. Interestingly enough, the FBI seems to be withholding traces on Meyers' activities in Minneapolis.

Miss Aase has been described as a "dumb broad" from Chicago who was obviously being used by Meyers for sexual gratification during their trip to Dallas. Meyers may have also used her in Chicago to receive

*When the FBI studied the toll records of this company they found calls to corporations that had been investigated for illegal arms shipments to Israel.

telephone calls from William David Ferrie (see page ____). When New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison subpoenaed David Ferrie's toll records he discovered that on September 24, 1963, the day Oswald left New Orleans, Ferrie called WH-4-4970 in Chicago - Miss Aase's number.

At about 11:00 P.M., Jack, Larry and Jean went over to the Cabana Motel for a late dinner. In the Cabana's Bon Vivant Room the three were joined by Edward Meyers, Larry's brother.

Ed Meyers was President of the Queens Beverage Company, headquartered at the Pepsicola Bottling Plant in Brooklyn, New York, and was in Dallas ostensibly to attend a Convention of the American Bottlers of Carbonated Beverages. Meyers was a member of the Pepsicola delegation as was former Vice-President Richard M. Nixon, who handled the Pepsico account for the law firm of Nixon, Mudge, Rose, Guthrie and Alexander. Meyers and his wife had just visited Mexico City and were staying at the Hotel Adolphus, which was located across the street from the Carousel Club.

Jack had a cup of coffee and at about 11:15 he left the Bon Vivant room. He went to one of the rooms where the squad was staying, for a last minute briefing. Ruby also paid a visit to the man Barney Baker had chosen to monitor the assassination (see page ____). Following Jack's conversation with Baker, numerous telephone calls were placed from telephones available to Baker to various offices of the Earl Scheib Company, a national automobile re-painting firm. At least one of these calls was placed to Scheib's main office in Los Angeles, which was being investigated by the FBI in a case titled - "James Riddle Hoffa; Earl Scheib Auto Paint Shops; Et al, Miscellaneous Information Concerning".

Earl Scheib's west coast office was headed by Victor Emanuel Pereira. Pereira was originally from El Paso, Texas. In the early 1950's Pereira and his partner-in-crime, Eugene Hale Brading (AKA Jim Braden) were

convicted of defrauding Pereira's wife. Each was sentenced to 12 years in prison. While out on Appeal Bond Pereira married another lonely widow and the three-some moved to Dallas, Texas. In a matter of months the Dallas Sheriff's office began receiving complaints about Brading. Instead of arresting Brading, Sheriff Decker told him to get out of town. Pereira and his wife left with Brading. By 1953 the trio had moved to Beverly Hills, California where they became associated with Arthur Lewis Clark, one of the leaders of the old "Purple Gang" from Detroit. (The Purple Gang had become part of Lansky's National Crime Syndicate in the 1930's).

In April 1954 the United States Supreme Court reversed Pereira's conviction but upheld Brading's. In March, Brading was sent to prison where he remained until his release on parole in February, 1959. In 1960 Brading married Mildred Bollman, the wealthy widow of Bernard Bollman, the former Secretary-Treasurer of Teamster's Local 786 in McHenry County, Illinois. In 1932 Bernard had been indicted for labor racketeering. In 1958 he "accidentally" shot himself twice in the stomach with a .45 caliber handgun. Brading and his new bride moved to Palm Springs, California, where they became charter members of the La Costa Country Club, built with Teamster Union Pension Funds. Other charter members of La Costa

*In the early 1970's Presidential Aide Murray Chotiner frequented La Costa and in 1973 several members of the Nixon Administration met there to get their Watergate cover-up stories synchronized. In 1975 four members of La Costa sued Penthouse Magazine for exposing their alleged ties to the National Crime Syndicate. Louis Nizer, an attorney, who wrote a semi-official introduction to the Warren Report, is representing the plaintiffs.

included Frank Sinatra (see page ____) and John "Jake the Barber" Factor, a relic of Al Capone's days in Chicago. Brading became involved in the "oil business" and in this connection worked out of an office in Room 1701 of the Pere Marquette Building in New Orleans. Don Carlos' attorney, C. Wray Gil, had an office down the hall from Room 1701 which was frequented by members of the Marcello family and by David Ferrie, who worked as an "investigator" for Gil.

In November 1963 Brading informed his parole officer that he wanted to fly to Dallas, Texas on "oil business". He was granted permission to leave Los Angeles for Dallas on November 18, 1963. According to the plan presented at the parole office, Brading would remain in Dallas until November 21, 1963. On November 20, 1963, Brading, accompanied by Morgan H. Brown, a convicted stock swindler, had checked into the Cabana Motel in Dallas.

Jack was pleased with the results of his meetings and allegedly telephoned Baker. Baker called Jack back from a pay phone and told him that he would relay his message to "the Boys" meeting on Miami Beach. Baker went home and called Dave Yaras, a Teamster-connected, alleged Mob hitman who lived in Miami. Baker called Yaras from his home telephone, which was probably tapped, because he believed Yaras' home telephone was also tapped, and so it didn't make any difference where he called him from. Baker allegedly told Yaras, in a subtle fashion, that everything was set for November 22, 1963.

Yaras had known Jack Ruby for 16 years and had once been indicted with Lenny Patrick, a boyhood friend of Jack Ruby, for the murder of a race-track wire service operator who tried to buck the Mob. Author Seth Kantor reports that Robert Kennedy, in his role as counsel on the Senate Rackets Sub-committee, charged Yaras with helping set-up a corrupt Teamsters Local in Miami, and with muscling in on gambling activities in

Cuba in 1959. A recently released FBI teletype reveals that Yaras had attended the "hoodlum meeting" at the Eden Roc Hotel in November of 1963 and was possibly tied in with Ruby in connection with "shylocking and girls". There was more: The Warren Commission received reports linking Ruby to a nationwide betting network of which Yaras was a part and in 1966, Ruby's close friend, Lou Kopple, was arrested for running a betting center for Yaras. In the mid-60's Yaras' son was slain in a gangland episode in Miami.

At 2:30 A.M. Ruby telephoned an employee at the Carousel Club and said he was still at the Cabana Motel. At about 3:00 A.M. Jack was seen eating at a restaurant near the Vegas Club.

On the morning of November 22, 1963 Jack awoke at approximately 11:00 A.M. and drove to the Dallas Morning News building, which overlooked Dealy Plaza. He arrived there at about 11:30 A.M. and spoke with advertising employee Don Campbell from about noon until 12:25 P.M., when Campbell left his office. When Campbell's secretary returned from lunch she noticed that Jack Ruby was sitting in a chair directly in front of her desk - "I am not sure which way he was looking but I have the impression that he was looking out at the scene where President Kennedy was assassinated. You see, sitting in the chair Ruby was sitting in, you can see the Texas School Book Depository, and the very window Oswald fired from!".

Ruby's first re-action to the Kennedy assassination concerned the "Weisman" advertisement. Jack opened The Dallas Morning News to the pages that contained the advertisement. "Who is this Weisman?" Ruby asked.

Shortly afterward confusion reigned in The Dallas Morning News office as advertisers telephoned to cancel advertising they had placed for the week-end. Ruby opined that some of these cancellations were motivated by the Weisman advertisement. Ten minutes later Jack called his sister,

then called Andrew Armstrong at the Carousel Club and told him - "If the President dies we will close the club". This was Ruby's next concern - that John Kennedy had actually been "snuffed" and was not just wounded. Jack left the Dallas Morning News building at about 1:20 P.M. and drove to Parkland Hospital where he was observed by newspaperman Seth Kantor. It did not take Jack long to get word that the President was dead - an official statement had been issued at about 1:25 P.M. At 1:40 P.M. Jack was back at the Carousel Club and at 1:51 he called Ralph Paul and spoke with him for three minutes, while a radio at the Carousel played in the background. At about 1:55 P.M. the first news came over the air about the death of Officer J.D. Tippet. Curtis La Verne Crawford, a Carousel employee, recalls the scene - "Ruby said he knew Tippet and Ruby referred to him by his first name or a nickname, neither of which I can remember now. He said he knew him quite well. He was definitely referring to J.D. Tippet, the Dallas Police Officer who was shot on the day of the assassination". Andrew Armstrong heard Ruby say the same thing.

After he was arrested for shooting Oswald, Jack denied that he had known Officer J.D. Tippet - "I knew another Tippet - in the Special Service Bureau". Evidence to the contrary was supplied by Eva Grant, who told reporters - "Jack^K knew J.D. Tippet - I knew him too. He used to come into both the Vegas Club and the Carousel Club many times. He was a fine man". Stella Coffman, who had been employed by Jack as a head waitress from 1948 to 1953, told the FBI - "Officer Tippet had patrolled the area of the Silver Spur, which Jack used to own,* he made numerous visits to the club and was a close friend of Jack's".

It did not take long for the significance of the radio broadcast to register in Ruby's mind. Tippet had failed. The job of killing Oswald (*see page _____).

had become incumbent upon Jack.

Tippet had failed because of two factors Ruby had not accounted for - one was Oswald's superior intelligence, the other was "bad luck".

Tippet and Ruby's "bad luck" began seconds after the fatal shots rang-out in Dealey Plaza, when Officer Baker, a motorcycle cop assigned to the motorcade, noticed a flock of pigeons fly off the Texas School Book Depository roof. Baker dismounted and ran into the Book Depository, up the stairs and into a room where Lee Harvey Oswald was having a Coke. Baker sensed that there was something suspicious about Oswald and stuck the barrel of his revolver into Oswald's ribs. A few seconds later Lee's boss identified him, and Baker continued his search.

Oswald, who knew the assassination was going to take place but did not know where, had been taken by surprise by the shots. He knew that if the killing occurred in his vicinity, his background as a "leftist extremist" would make him a prime suspect. Then, only seconds later, a Dallas Police Officer was on his case. Oswald got out of the Book Depository Building as soon as he could and boarded a bus at 12:40 P.M. The bus he got on was the first one that came along, not the one that stopped in front of his rooming house, and as soon as he was clear of the Book Depository area he got off and took a taxi to the five hundred block of North Beckley, five blocks south of his rooming-house. Oswald got out of the taxi-cab at 12:54 P.M., made sure no one was following him, then began walking to his rooming-house at a rather brisk pace. By one P.M. Oswald was a block away from his rooming-house, when suddenly, he stopped dead in his tracks. Oswald had spotted the same cop who was "eyeballing" him in the Dobbs House Restaurant driving slowly past the entrance to 1026 North Beckley.