

Jack Ruby  
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3 PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION  
4 ON THE  
5 ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY  
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8 Report of Proceedings

9 Held At

10 Dallas, Texas

11 Sunday, June 7, 1964

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44-24016-1890

PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION

ON THE

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Dallas, Texas  
Sunday, June 7, 1964  
11:45 A.M.-2:50 P.M.

The President's Commission met, pursuant to recess,  
at 11:45 A.M. in the interrogation room of the Dallas County  
Jail, Main & Houston Streets, Dallas, Texas.

PRESENT:

Chief Justice Earl Warren

J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel

Congressman Gerald R. Ford, Michigan

Elmer W. Moore, Special Agent, U. S. Secret Service

Joseph A. Ball, Staff Counsel

Arlen Specter, Staff Counsel

Robert G. Storey, Counsel

Leon Jaworski, Counsel

Jim Bowie, Assistant District Attorney

Joe H. Tonahill, Counsel representing Jack Ruby

Sheriff Bill Decker

E. L. Holman, Chief Jailer

Orvill Smith, Deputy Sheriff assigned to Jack Ruby

Helen Laidrich, Reporter

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Testimony  
PROCEEDINGS

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MR. JACK RUBY: Without a lie detector test on my testimony, my verbal statements to you, how do you know if I am telling the truth?

MR. TONAHILL: Don't worry about that, Jack.

MR. RUBY: Just a minute, gentlemen.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: You wanted to ask something, did you, Mr. Ruby?

MR. RUBY: I would like to be able to get a lie detector test or truth serum of what motivated me to do what I did at that particular time, and it seems as you get further into something, even though you know what you did, it operates against you somehow, brain washes you, that you are weak in what you want to tell the truth about and what you want to say which is the truth.

Now Mr. Warren, I don't know if you got any confidence in the lie detector test and the truth serum and so on.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I can't tell you just how much confidence I have in it, because it depends so much on who is taking it and so forth.

But I will say this to you, that if you and your counsel want any kind of test, I will arrange it for you. I would be glad to do that, if you want it.

I wouldn't suggest a lie detector test to testify

1 the truth. We will treat you just the same as we do any  
2 other witness, but if you want such a test, I will arrange  
3 for it.

4 MR. RUBY: I do want it. Will you agree to that,  
5 Joe?

6 MR. TONAHILL: I sure do, Jack.

7 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Any kind of a test you want  
8 to verify what you say, we will be glad to do.

9 MR. RUBY: I want it even if you put me into a  
10 sort of drowsiness so you can question me as to anything  
11 pertaining to my involvement in this particular act.

12 MR. TONAHILL: Jack, you have wanted to do that  
13 from the very beginning, haven't you?

14 MR. RUBY: Yes. And the reason why I am asking  
15 for that is, -- are you limited for time?

16 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No, we have all the time  
17 you want.

18 MR. RUBY: As it started to trial -- I don't know  
19 if you realize my reasoning, how I happened to be involved --  
20 I was carried away tremendously emotionally, and all the  
21 time I tried to ask Mr. Belli, I wanted to get up and say  
22 the truth regarding the steps that led me to do what I  
23 have got involved in, but since I have a spotty background  
24 in the night club business, I should have been the last  
25 person to ever want to do something that I had been involved

1 in.

2 In other words, I was carried away tremendously.

3 You want to ask me questions?

4 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: You tell us what you want,  
5 and then we will ask you some questions.

6 MR. RANKIN: I think he ought to be sworn.

7 MR. RUBY: Am I boring you?

8 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Go ahead. All right, Mr.  
9 Ruby, tell us your story.

10 MR. RUBY: That particular morning -- where is  
11 Mr. Moore -- I had to go down to the News Building, getting  
12 back to this -- I don't want to interrupt.

13 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: What morning do you mean?

14 MR. RUBY: Friday morning, the starting of the  
15 tragedy.

16 Mr. Belli evidently did not go into my case thoroughly  
17 circumstantially. If he had gone into it, he wouldn't  
18 have tried to vindicate me on an insanity plea to relieve  
19 me of all responsibility, because circumstantially everything  
20 looks so bad for me.

21 It can happen -- it happens to many people who happen  
22 to be at the wrong place at the right time.

23 Had Mr. Belli spent more time with me, he would have  
24 realized not to try to get me out completely free; at the  
25 time we are talking, technically, how attorneys operate.

1 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I understand.

2 MR. RUBY: Different things came up, flashed back  
3 into my mind, that it dirtied my background, that Mr. Belli  
4 and I decided -- oh yes, when I went to say that I wanted  
5 to get on the stand and tell the truth what happened that  
6 morning, he said, "Jack, when they get you on the stand,  
7 you are actually speaking of a premeditated crime that you  
8 involved yourself in."

9 But I didn't care, because I wanted to tell the truth.

10 He said, "When the Prosecution gets you on the stand,  
11 they will cut you to ribbons."

12 So naturally, I had to retract, and he fought his  
13 way to try to vindicate me out of this particular crime.

14 You follow that?

15 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, I do indeed.

16 MR. RUBY: I want you to question me and requestion  
17 me on anything you want, plus the fact I do want the tests  
18 when they are available.

19 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes.

20 MR. RUBY: On Friday, the morning parade -- this  
21 goes back to Thursday night, because it has something to  
22 do with it.

23 We were having dinner at the Egyptian Restaurant --

24 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Right now, Mr. Ruby, before  
25 we get started taking your testimony, would you mind being

1 sworn?

2 (Chief Justice Warren and Jack Ruby stand and both  
3 raise their right hand.)

4 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Do you solemnly swear that  
5 the testimony you are about to give before the Commission  
6 will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth,  
7 so help you God?

8 MR. RUBY: I do.

9 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Now will you please state  
10 whether the things you have just told us are true under  
11 your oath?

12 MR. RUBY: I do so state they are the truth.

13 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Now you complete whatever  
14 story you want to tell.

15 MR. RUBY: All right. Thursday night I was  
16 having dinner at the Egyptian Restaurant on Mockingbird  
17 Lane, and a fellow comes over to the table. I was sitting  
18 with a guy by the name of Ralph Paul. He tried to invite  
19 me to the Club a couple of doors down and I refused,  
20 because he had taken a band away from me that had been  
21 engaged for seven years, and I felt it was a lost cause,  
22 that the Club would be failing because of that, and I  
23 of excused myself and I refused to go over to the Club.

24 We finished our dinner, and I went down to the  
25 Club that I operated, the Carousel, and this particula

1 Master of Ceremonies happened to be there at the time  
2 we discussed a few things.

3 And there is a columnist by the name of Tony Zoppi --  
4 and prior to that, I wrote out a full page copy of this build  
5 -- I have the copies -- as an MC, and I brought a picture  
6 and brochure, and Tony said, "I will write a story."

7 This was done two days prior to this Thursday night.

8 So then I went down, so we discussed it and were  
9 very much disgusted with Tony because he only gave us a  
10 build of one or two lines.

11 Well, I retired that night after closing the Club.

12 Then I knew I wanted to go back to the Morning News Building  
13 to get the brochure I left, and also this complete page of  
14 longhand writing describing the various talents of this  
15 Bill DeMarr.

16 I picked up the brochure that Friday morning, and  
17 I also had business at the News Building on Friday because  
18 that is the start of the weekend, which is very lucrative,  
19 the weekend.

20 I have ways of making my ads of where they have a  
21 way of selling the product I am producing or putting on  
22 on the show.

23 So I went down there Friday morning to Tony Zoppi's  
24 office, and they said he went to New Orleans for a couple  
25 of days.

1 I picked up the brochure. I believe I got downtown  
2 there at 10:30 or 11:00 o'clock that morning. And I took  
3 the brochure and then went into the main room where we compose  
4 our ads. That is the sales room where we placed our ads.

5 And I remained there for a while. I started to write  
6 the copy of my ad.

7 Now I go back to the same fellow that wanted me to  
8 come over to the Club when we were having our dinner on  
9 Mockingbird at the Egyptian Lounge.

10 I came to the desk and I wanted to apologize and  
11 explain why I didn't accept his invitation last night. I  
12 wanted to explain, and that took about twenty or twenty-five  
13 minutes. All this is pertaining to everything prior to the  
14 terrible tragedy that happened.

15 I started to explain to him why I didn't want to go  
16 there, because this fellow mentioned -- Tony, I think -- I  
17 can't think of his last name -- of me having his band so many  
18 years, and I felt at the moment I didn't want to go over to  
19 the Club because I didn't care to meet this fellow.

20 And he started to apologize, "Jack, I am sorry, I did  
21 work for the fellow and we have been advertising him for that  
22 Club, and I am putting out a night club book."

23 I remained with him for twenty or twenty-five minutes  
24 talking there. I don't know whether my ad was completed or  
25 not. It was an ad on the Vegas and the Carousel.

1 My ads were completed, I believe, and after finishing  
2 my conversation with him, he left.

3 Suddenly the man that completes my ads for me, that  
4 helps me with it on occasion -- but I usually make it up  
5 myself -- but the person that takes the money for the ads --  
6 this is the reason it is so hard for me to meet a deadline  
7 when I get downtown to the News Building. And as a rule,  
8 I have to pay cash for my ads.

9 When you are in debt, it is necessary, and they will  
10 not put it in unless you pay cash.

11 And consequently, the weekend, I had been to town on  
12 that particular day. All this adds up later on, as I will  
13 state why I didn't go to the parade.

14 In the first place, I don't want to go where there is  
15 big crowds. I can't explain it to you. If I was interested  
16 I would have seen it on television, our beloved President  
17 and all the parade that transpired.

18 But all that adds up why it is important for me to be  
19 in the News Building.

20 I owe the government quite a bit of money, and it is  
21 doing business out of your pocket, supposedly, in the slang  
22 expression.

23 Well, John Newman comes in, and evidently he took it  
24 for granted I finished my ad, and I don't recall if he paid  
25 for his ad, and suddenly there is some milling around. I

1 think it was 12:00 or fifteen minutes after 12:00, I don't  
2 recall what, but John Newman said someone had been shot.

3 And I am sorry, I got carried away. It is the first  
4 time I got carried away, because I had been under pressure.

5 And someone else came running over and he said a  
6 Secret Service man was shot, or something to that effect.

7 And I am there in the middle with John Newman, because  
8 Newman isn't paying any attention to anyone else, and there  
9 is a lot of going back and forth.

10 So someone must have made a statement that Governor  
11 Connally was shot. I don't recall what was said. And I  
12 was in a state of hysteria, I mean.

13 You say, "Oh my God, it can't happen." You carry on  
14 crazy sayings.

15 There was a little television set in one office not  
16 far away from where I had been sitting at the desk. I ran  
17 over there and noticed a little boy and a little sister say,  
18 "I was standing right there when it happened." I mean,  
19 different things you hear on the television.

20 Then the phone started ringing off the desk and I  
21 heard John Newman say people were complaining about the ad,  
22 why they accepted this ad.

23 (A tray of water and glasses was brought in.)

24 Thank you.

25 Has every witness been this hesitant in trying to

1 explain the story?

2 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: You are doing very well. I  
3 can understand why you have to reflect upon a story of that  
4 length.

5 MR. RUBY: The phones were ringing off the desk  
6 calling various ads, and they were having a turmoil in that  
7 News Building because of a person by the name of Bernard  
8 Weisman placing that particular ad, a full page ad.

9 I am sure you are familiar with the ad.

10 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, I am.

11 MR. RUBY: Criticizing a lot of things about our  
12 beloved President. Then John Newman and I and another  
13 gentleman walked over to another part of the room, and I  
14 heard John Newman say, "I told him not to take that ad."  
15 Something to that effect.

16 Then he said, "Well, you have seen him pay part cash  
17 and come back and pay the balance."

18 Now everything is very vague to me as to when this  
19 transpired; after they heard the President had been shot,  
20 or prior to that.

21 You know it's been a long time, and I am under a very  
22 bad mental strain here.

23 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes.

24 MR. RUBY: From the time that we were told that the  
25 President was shot, thirty-five minutes later they said he

1 had passed away. In the meantime, I became very emotional.  
2 I called my sister at home. She was carried away terribly  
3 bad. And John Newman happened to be there, and I know it  
4 is a funny reaction you have, you want other people to feel  
5 that you feel emotionally disturbed the same way as other  
6 people, so I let John listen to the phone that my sister was  
7 crying hysterically.

8 And I said to John, I said, "John, I will have to  
9 leave Dallas." I don't know why I said that, but it is a  
10 funny reaction that you feel, the City is terribly let down  
11 by the tragedy that happened.

12 And I said, "John, I am not opening up tonight."

13 And I don't know what else transpired there. I know  
14 people were just heartbroken.

15 I left the room. I may have left out a few things.  
16 Mr. Moore remembers probably more, but you come back and  
17 question me and maybe I can answer those questions.

18 I left the building and I went down and I got my car,  
19 and I couldn't stop crying, because naturally when I pulled  
20 up to a Stop light and other people would be adjacent to me,  
21 I wouldn't want them to see me crying, because it looked kind  
22 of artificial.

23 And I went to the Club and I came up, and I may have  
24 made a couple of calls from there. I could have called my  
25 colored boy, Andy, down at the Club. I could have -- I don't

1 know who else I would have called, but I could have, because  
2 it is so long now since my mind is very much warped now.

3 You think that literally?

4 I went up to the Club, and I told Andy, I said, "Call  
5 everyone and tell them we are not opening."

6 We have a little girl in Fort Worth I wanted to make  
7 sure he called her.

8 And a fellow by the name of Bell called and wanted to  
9 know if we were open.

10 And ~~Kathy~~ Kay called, and I said, "Definitely not."

11 And I called Ralph Paul, that owns the Bull Pen. He  
12 said, "Jack, being as everyone else is open" -- because he  
13 knows I was pressed for money -- and I said, "No, Ralph, I  
14 can't open."

15 He said, "Okay, if that is why, that is the way it's  
16 got to be."

17 So in the meantime, I had gone with Alice Nichols for  
18 sometime, and I called her on the phone but she wasn't there,  
19 but I left the number on the pay phone for her to return the  
20 call, because I didn't want to keep the business phone tied  
21 up. And I hadn't spoken to her in maybe nine months or a  
22 year. I don't know what I said to her, not many words, but  
23 just what happened.

24 I still remained around the Club there. I am sure I  
25 was crying pretty bad. I think I made a long distance call

1 to California. This fellow had just visited me, and I had  
2 known him in the days back in Chicago when we were very young,  
3 in the real tough part of Chicago. His name is Al Gruber.

4 He was a bad kid in those days, but he is quite  
5 reformed. He is married and has a family, and I am sure  
6 he makes a very legitimate livelihood at this time.

7 He happened to come through a couple of nights prior  
8 to that to try to interest me, or four or five days prior to  
9 that, to interest me in a new kind -- you follow the story  
10 as I tell it?

11 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes.

12 MR. RUBY: It is important, very important. It is  
13 on a new kind of machine that washes cars. You pay with  
14 tokens. It is a new thing. I don't know if it faded out  
15 or not. He tried to interest my brother, Sammy, because  
16 Sammy sold his Washateria.

17 And my sister was in the hospital when he first came.  
18 I am going back a little bit. Sammy didn't go to the  
19 hospital, and we needed to sell Sammy about this particular  
20 thing, and that is the reason Al Gruber came into the picture,  
21 because he came to try to interest my brother Sammy in this  
22 new Washateria deal to wash cars.

23 He left and went to California, but before he went  
24 to California I promised him my Dachshund dog.

25 When this thing happened, I called him. He said, "Yes,

1 we are just watching on television." And I couldn't carry  
2 on more conversation. I said, "Al, I have to hang up."

3 Then I must have called my sister, Eileen, in Chicago.

4 Then a fellow came over to deliver some merchandise  
5 I had ordered over the phone, or Andy ordered. And we said,  
6 "What is the use of purchasing any merchandise of any kind,  
7 we are not interested in business." And I don't recall what  
8 I said, but I told him whatever money he received, to keep  
9 the change. I am not a philanthropist, but nothing bothered  
10 me at the time. I wasn't interested in anything.

11 Then I kept calling my sister, Eva, because she wanted  
12 me to come be with her.

13 Eva and I have a very complex personality. Very  
14 rarely can I be with her, but on this particular occasion,  
15 since she was carrying on so, I felt that I wanted to be with  
16 someone that meant something to me. I wanted to be with her.

17 And I kept calling her back, "I will be there." And  
18 so on. But I never did get there until a couple of hours  
19 later.

20 I finally left the Club. I am sure you gentlemen can  
21 brief in all the things that happened before. A kid by the  
22 name of Larry up there, I think I told him to send the dog  
23 they crated, to find out about the price -- very impulsive  
24 about everything.

25 Then I left the Club. And I had been dieting, but

1 I felt I wanted some food. I can't explain it. It would  
2 be like getting intoxicated at that particular time. It is  
3 amusing, but it is true.

4 I went over to the Ritz Delicatessen a block and a  
5 half away. Must have bought out the store, for about ten  
6 dollars' worth of delicacies and so on. Went out to my  
7 sister's and stayed at her apartment.

8 Oh, I called from the apartment -- my sister knew more  
9 of my calls than I did. I remember I think I called -- I  
10 can't think of who I called.

11 Anyway, I am sure I made some calls of what had happened  
12 there. Somebody will have to piece me together from the  
13 time I got to my sister's apartment where I had partaken of  
14 the food.

15 Oh yes, I called Andy. This Andy<sup>T</sup> Armstrong called  
16 me and said, "Don~~/~~ Safran wants you to call him."

17 This is rare for this gentleman, because he is a  
18 columnist for the Dallas Times Herald, because he never could  
19 get out any copy for my Club. / And he said, "Don Safran  
20 wants me to call him."

21 I called him, and he said, "Jack, are you going to be  
22 closed tonight?"

23 I said, "Yes."

24 He said, "Well, the Cabana and the Adolphus, the Century  
25 Room, are going to be closed."

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1 I said, "Don, I am not asking you about any Clubs that  
2 are going to be closed. I know I am going to be closed."

3 And he said, "Jack, that is what I want to know."

4 And I said, "You don't have to prompt me about who  
5 else is going to be closed."

6 I put the receiver down and talked to my sister, and  
7 I said, "Eva, what shall we do?"

8 And she said, "Jack, let's close for the three days.  
9 She said, "We don't have anything anyway, but we owe it to  
10 (chokes up).

11 So I called Don Safran back immediately and I said,  
12 "Don, we decided to close for Friday, Saturday and Sunday."

13 And he said, "Okay."

14 Then I called the Morning News and I wanted to  
15 definitely make sure to change a copy of my ad to "Closed  
16 Friday, Saturday and Sunday", something to that effect.

17 And it was a little late in the afternoon, but he said  
18 "We will try to get the copy in."

19 Then I called Don back again but couldn't get him, and  
20 I spoke to one of his assistants, and I said, I forget what  
21 I told him. Anyway, that is one of the calls I had that  
22 had transpired.

23 I lie down and take a nap. I wake about 7:00 or  
24 7:30. In the meantime, I think I called -- the reason this  
25 comes back to me, I know I was going to go to the Synagogue.

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1 I called Coleman Jacobson and asked him what time  
2 services are tonight, and he said he didn't know.

3 And I said, "Are there going to be any special service

4 And he said he didn't know of any.

5 And I called the Congregation Shearith Israel and asked  
6 the girl, and she said, "Regular services at 8:00 o'clock."

7 And I said, "Aren't there going to be earlier services  
8 like 5:30 or 6:00?"

9 And about 7:30 I went to my apartment. I don't know  
10 if I went downtown to the Club. I know I went to my apart-  
11 ment -- either to the Club or to the apartment.

12 And I changed, showered and shaved, and I think I  
13 drove -- and as I drove down, there is a certain Thornton  
14 Freeway, and I saw the Clubs were still open going full blast  
15 a couple of clubs there.

16 Anyway, I went out to the Synagogue and I went through  
17 the line and I spoke to Rabbi Silverman, and I thanked him  
18 for going to visit my sister at the hospital. She was in a  
19 week prior and had just gotten out. I don't remember the  
20 date.

21 Then he had a Confirmation -- this is the night prior  
22 to the Confirmation. They serve little delicacies. So in  
23 spite of the fact of the mood I was in, I strolled into the  
24 place, and I think I had a little glass of punch. Nothing  
25 intoxicating, just a little punch they serve there. I did

1 speak to anyone. One girl, Leona, said "Hello, Jack", and  
2 I wasn't in a conversational mood whatsoever.

3 I left the Club -- I left the Synagogue and I drove by  
4 the Bali-Hai Restaurant. I noticed they were open. I took  
5 recognition of that.

6 I drove by another Club called the Gay Nineties, and  
7 they were closed.

8 And I made it my business to drive down Preston Road.  
9 In my mind suddenly it mulled over me that the Police Depart-  
10 ment was working overtime. And this is the craziest thing  
11 that ever happened in a person's life. I have always been  
12 very close to the Police Department, I don't know why.

13 I felt I have always abided by the law -- a few little  
14 infractions, but not serious -- and I felt we have one of  
15 the greatest Police forces in the world here, and I have  
16 always been close to them, and I visited in the office.

17 And over the radio I heard they were working overtime.

18 I stopped at the delicatessen called Phil's on Oak  
19 Lawn Avenue, and suddenly I decided -- I told the clerk there  
20 I wanted him to make me some real good sandwiches, about ten  
21 or twelve, and he had already started on the sandwiches and  
22 I got on the phone.

23 I called an officer by the name of Sims and I said,  
24 "Sims, I hear you guys are working," and so on. I said,  
25 "I want to bring some sandwiches."

1           And he said, "Jack, we wound up our work already. We  
2 wound up what we were doing. We are finished what we were  
3 doing. I will tell the boys about your thoughtfulness, and  
4 I will thank them for you."

5           In the meantime, there is a fellow in town that has  
6 been very good to me named Gordon McLendon. Do you know him,  
7 Mr. Warren?

8           CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I think I do not.

9           MR. RUBY: He had been giving me a lot of free plugs.  
10 And all the while listening to the radio, I heard about a  
11 certain disk jockey, Joe Long, that is down at the station,  
12 giving firsthand information -- I want to describe him --  
13 of Oswald.

14           Very rarely do I use the name Oswald. I don't know  
15 why. I don't know how to explain it -- of the person that  
16 committed the act. (Pause to compose self)

17           So before going down to the Police Station, I try  
18 to call KLIF but can't get their number. --

19           I wanted to bring the sandwiches to KLIF so they would  
20 have the sandwiches, since they already started to make them  
21 up.

22           And I remember Russ Knight, a disk jockey -- these  
23 names aren't familiar to you, but I have to mention them in  
24 order to refresh my memory.

25           -- His name was Moore, or something, and I tried to

1 get information on the telephone, but they couldn't give me  
2 the phone number of his home.

3 I probably thought I could get the phone number, but  
4 after 6:00 p.m. you cannot get into the premises unless you  
5 have a "hot" number that is right to the disk jockey room.

6 So I couldn't get a hold of that.

7 But in the meantime, I called Gordon McLendon's home,  
8 because I know he lives near the Synagogue out there, and I  
9 got a little girl on the phone, and I knew they had children,  
10 and I asked for the number for KLIF.

11 I said, "Anyone home?"

12 She said, "No."

13 I said, "Is your Daddy or Mommy home?" I forget what  
14 transpired. I said, "I would like to get the number of the  
15 station so I can get in the building at this time."

16 She said she would go and see, and gave me a Riverside  
17 exchange.

18 Mind you, this is six or seven months back, gentlemen.

19 And I asked her name. Her name was Christine, I think.

20 I said, "I wanted to bring some sandwiches."

21 She said, "My Mother already brought sandwiches."

22 And I said I wanted to go there too. And that was  
23 the end of this little girl's conversation with myself.

24 I called that number, as I am repeating myself. There  
25 was no such number. It was an obsolete number.

1 I go down to the -- I drive by -- I leave the  
2 delicatessen -- the clerk helped me with the sandwiches out  
3 to my car, and I thanked him. I told him, "These were going  
4 to KLIF, and I want you to make them real good."

5 He helped me with the sandwiches in the car. I got  
6 in the car and drove down toward town. I imagine it is  
7 about four or five miles to the downtown section from this  
8 delicatessen.

9 But prior to going into the station, I drove up  
10 McKinney Avenue to look over a couple of Clubs to see if they  
11 were activating. -- I knew the Club across from the Phil's  
12 Delicatessen and I knew the B & B Restaurant was open. That  
13 is a restaurant and I know the necessity for food, but I  
14 can't understand some of the Clubs remaining open. It  
15 struck me funny at such a tragic time as that happening.

16 I drove down to Commerce and Harwood and parked my  
17 car with my dog. -- incidentally, I always have my dog with me  
18 -- on the lot there, left the sandwiches in the car, went  
19 into the building of the Police Station, took the elevator  
20 up to the second floor, and there was a police officer there.

21 This is the first time I ever entered the building,  
22 gentlemen. The first time of that Friday. This time it  
23 must have been about -- I mean the time, the time of my  
24 entering the building, I guess, was approximately 11:15 p.m.

25 The officer was there, and I said, "Where is Joe Long

1 I said, "Can I go and look for him?"

2 Evidently I took a little domineering part about me,  
3 and I was able to be admitted. I asked different reporters  
4 and various personalities there, "Are you Joe Long?", and I  
5 couldn't locate him.

6 I even had a police officer try to page him and he  
7 couldn't locate him.

8 I recognized a couple of police officers, Cal Jones  
9 and a few others, and I said "hello" to them.

10 And I am still looking for Joe Long, but I am carried  
11 away with the excitement of history.

12 And one fellow then -- I am in the hallway there --  
13 there is a narrow hallway, and I don't recall if Captain  
14 Fritz or Chief Curry brings the prisoner out, and I am  
15 standing about two or three feet away from him, and there  
16 is some reporters that didn't know the various police officers  
17 and I don't know whether they asked me or I volunteered to  
18 tell them, because I knew they were looking to find out who  
19 that was, and I said, "That was Chief Curry" or "That is  
20 Captain Fritz", or whoever it was.

21 I don't recall Henry Wade coming out in the hallway.  
22 He probably did. I don't recall what happened.

23 (To Joe Tonahill) Is that for me, Joe?

24 Then suddenly someone asked, either the Chief or  
25 Captain Fritz, "Isn't there a larger room we can go into?"

1           They said, "Well, let's go down to the Assembly Room  
2 downstairs."

3           I don't know what transpired in between from the time  
4 that I had the officer page Joe Long up to the time I was  
5 standing about three feet away from Oswald. All the things  
6 -- I don't recall if I am telling you everything that happened  
7 from that time, from the time I entered the building to the  
8 time I went down to the Assembly Room.

9           I went down to the Assembly Room down in the basement.  
10 I felt perfectly free walking in there. No one asked me  
11 or anything. I got up on a little table there where I knew  
12 I wasn't blocking anyone's view, because there was an  
13 abutment sticking out, and I had my back to the abutment,  
14 and I was standing there.

15           Then they brought the prisoner out and various  
16 questions were being shouted.

17           I noticed there was a chief County or Judge Davidson,  
18 I can't think of his name, one of these Precinct Court Judges,  
19 and they brought the prisoner out.

20           I don't recall if Chief Fritz, Captain Fritz was there,  
21 or Chief Curry. I know Henry Wade was there. And they  
22 started shouting questions and he said, "Is he the one?"  
23 And the question about the gun.

24           And they questioned Henry Wade, "What organization did  
25 he belong to", or something. And if I recall, I think

1 Henry Wade answered, "Free Cuba".

2 And I corrected Henry Wade, because listening to the  
3 radio or KLIF, it stood out in my mind that it was "Fair Play  
4 Cuba". There was a difference.

5 So he said, "Oh yes, Fair Play Cuba", and he corrected  
6 that.

7 I don't know how long we remained there. There was  
8 lot of questions thrown back and forth, and this District  
9 Attorney Henry Wade was answering them to the best he could.

10 From the way he stated, he let the reporters know  
11 that this was the guilty one that committed the crime.

12 He specifically stated that in that room, that he was  
13 the one.

14 It didn't have any effect in my mind, because whether  
15 the person had come out, whether he come out openly and  
16 publicly stated didn't have any bearing in my mind, because  
17 I wasn't interested in anything. All I knew, they had the  
18 prisoner. But the reporters like to know where they stand.  
19 "is he the one?"

20 We left out in the hallway, and I saw Henry Wade  
21 standing there, and I went over to him and said, "Henry,  
22 I want you to know I was the one that corrected you." I  
23 think it is a childish thing, but I met Henry Wade sometime  
24 back, and I knew he would recognize me.

25 "By the way, it was Fair Play Cuba", or something to

1 that effect.

2 In the meantime, as I leave Henry Wade, two gentlemen  
3 pass by and I said, "Are you Joe Long?" He said, "No, why  
4 do you want Joe Long?"

5 And I said, "I got to get into KLIF. I have got some  
6 sandwiches."

7 And he said, "What about us?"

8 And I said, "Some other time."

9 And it so happened I found out Jerry Gunkle and Sam  
10 Pease, I found out they were the names, so I did get the  
11 number, because these fellows work for a rival radio station,  
12 and he gave me the number of KLIF.

13 And in the testimony of John Rutledge, if I recall  
14 now -- this is the only time I had ever seen this person.  
15 When I went out the railing where the phone was at, people  
16 felt free to walk in.

17 In other words, I felt that I was deputized as a  
18 reporter momentarily, you might say.

19 So I called one of the boys at KLIF and I said to  
20 them, "I have sandwiches for you. I want to get over there."  
21 I said, "By the way, I see Henry Wade talking on the phone  
22 to someone. Do you want me to get him over here?"

23 And he said, "Yes, do that."

24 That is when everyone was beckoning Henry Wade, and  
25 I called him over and he talked on the phone to this boy.

1           And after he finished; I didn't even tell him what  
2 station it was.     I said, "Here is somebody that wants to  
3 talk to you."     And I felt he wouldn't turn it down.

4           And this fellow was very much elated that I brought  
5 him over there.

6           And I said, "Now, will you let me in?"

7           He said, "I will only leave the door open for five  
8 minutes."     That was after the conversation was finished  
9 with Henry Wade.

10           I got ready to leave the building and I got up to the  
11 next floor and there was another disk jockey at KLIF, Russ  
12 Knight.     He said, "Jack, where is everything happening?"  
13 And he had a tape recorder.

14           And I said, "Come on downstairs", and led him down-  
15 stairs.     And there was Henry Wade sitting there.     And I  
16 said, "Henry, this is Russ Knight."     And I left him there  
17 with Henry Wade, and I went to my car and drove over to KLIF,  
18 which is a block away from there.

19           And it was a little chilly that night, as I recall,  
20 but by bringing Russ Knight over to Henry Wade, I delayed  
21 too long to get to KLIF, and I had to wait fifteen minutes  
22 until Russ Knight came from finishing his interview with  
23 Henry Wade.

24           I had the sandwiches with me and some soda pop and  
25 various things, and Russ Knight opened the door and we went

helen  
laidrich

1 upstairs.

2 (Mr. Arlen Specter, a Staff Counsel, entered the ro  
3 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: This is another man on my  
4 staff, Mr. Specter. Would you mind if he came in?

5 (Chief Justice Warren introduced the men around the  
6 room.)

7 MR. RUBY: Is there any way to get me to Washington

8 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I beg your pardon?

9 MR. RUBY: Is there any way of you getting me to  
10 Washington?

11 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I don't know of any. I wil  
12 be glad to talk to your counsel about what the situation is,  
13 Mr. Ruby, when we get an opportunity to talk.

14 MR. RUBY: I don't think I will get a fair repre-  
15 sentation with my counsel, Joe Tonahill. I don't think so  
16 I would like to request that I go to Washington and you take  
17 all the tests that I have to take. It is very important.

18 MR. TONAHILL: Jack, will you tell him why you  
19 don't think you will get a fair representation?

20 MR. RUBY: Because I have been over this for the  
21 longest time to get the lie detector test. Somebody has  
22 been holding it back from me.

23 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Mr. Ruby, I might say to you  
24 that the lateness of this thing is not due to your counsel.  
25 He wrote me, I think, close to two months ago and told me

1 that you would be glad to testify and take, I believe he said,  
2 any test. I am sure of that, but would be glad to testify  
3 before the Commission.

4 And I thanked him for the letter. But we have been  
5 so busy that this is the first time we have had an opportunity  
6 to do it.

7 But there has been no delay, as far as I know, on the  
8 part of Mr. Tonahill in bringing about this meeting. It was  
9 our own delay due to the pressures we had on us at the time.

10 MR. RUBY: What State are you from, Congressman?

11 CONGRESSMAN FORD: Michigan. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

12 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I will be glad to talk that  
13 over, if we can. You might go right ahead, if you wish,  
14 with the rest of your statement.

15 MR. RUBY: All right. I remained at KLIF from that  
16 moment on, from the time I got into the building, with Russ  
17 Knight. We talked about various things. I brought out  
18 the thought of this ad that Bernard Weisman had placed in the  
19 newspaper, and I also told Russ the one I admired by Gordon  
20 McLendon.

21 He came out with an editorial about the incident with  
22 Adlai Stevenson and all those things. He is one person  
23 that will immediately go to bat if anything is wrong. He  
24 will clarify it.

25 And I told Russ Knight there were some other things

1 that were occurring at the time, So I remained there until  
2 about 2:00 a.m. in the morning and we all partook of the  
3 sandwiches and had a feast there.

4 And they spliced the various comments they got back  
5 and forth of Henry Wade, of Russ Knight's copy of Russ Knight's  
6 items of Henry Wade.

7 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Mr. Ruby, this is the young  
8 man, Mr. Specter. He is a member of our staff, and he comes  
9 from Philadelphia.

10 (Ruby shakes hands with Mr. Specter.)

11 MR. RUBY: I am at a disadvantage, gentlemen, telling  
12 my story.

13 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: You were right at the point  
14 where you had it about 2:00 o'clock in the morning and you  
15 had had your feast, as you mentioned, and had talked to these  
16 men, and so forth. That was the last that you had told us.

17 MR. RUBY: Well, lots of things occurred up to that.  
18 They talked pro and con about the tragedy.

19 At 2:00 a.m. I left the building. I drove -- I was  
20 going to go toward the Times Herald Building, because as a  
21 result -- I very rarely go there for my weekend ad, because  
22 once I get the ad into the Morning News, which is the earlier  
23 issue, all I have to do is call the newspaper and they  
24 transpire the same ad that I had into the newspaper -- into  
25 the Morning News.

1           And I promised one of the boys working in the Times  
2 Herald Building there -- I was in the act, in the business of  
3 a twist board deal I was promoting as a sales item by  
4 advertisement and mail order, and I had been evading him,  
5 or didn't have time to go out there because it was very late  
6 when I left the Club, and I didn't want to stop, but because  
7 this was an early morning, I thought this would be the right  
8 time to go over there, plus the fact of changing my ad I had  
9 in the Morning News to the closing of three days, that I  
10 would go over there and maybe add a little more effectiveness  
11 to it in the way I wanted the ad placed.

12           As I was driving toward the Times Herald with the  
13 intention of doing these things, I heard someone honk a horn  
14 very loudly, and I stopped. There was a police officer  
15 sitting in a car. He was sitting with this young lady that  
16 works in my Club, Kathy Kay, and they were very much carried  
17 away.

18           And I was carried away; and he had a few beers, and  
19 it is so bad about those places open, and I was a great guy  
20 to close; and I remained with them -- did I tell you this  
21 part of it?

22           MR. MOORE: I don't recall this part, no.

23           MR. RUBY: I didn't tell you this part because at  
24 the time I thought a lot of Harry ~~Carlson~~ as a police officer,  
25 and either it slipped my mind in telling this, or it was

1 more or less a reason for leaving it out, because I felt I  
2 didn't want to involve them in anything, because it was  
3 supposed to be a secret that he was going with this young lady.  
4 He had marital problems.

5 I don't know if that is why I didn't tell you that.  
6 Anyway, I did leave it out. His name is Harry Carlson. Her  
7 name is Kathy Kay.

8 And they talked and they carried on, and they thought  
9 I was the greatest guy in the world, and he stated they should  
10 cut this guy inch by inch into ribbons, and so on.

11 And she said, "Well, if he was in England, they would  
12 drag him through the streets and would have hung him." I  
13 forget what she said.

14 I left them after a long delay. They kept me from  
15 leaving. They were constantly talking and were in a pretty  
16 dramatic mood. They were crying and carrying on.

17 I went to the building of the Times Herald. I went  
18 to the Times Herald -- may I read that, Joe? May I please?

19 (Joe Tonahill hands paper to Jack Ruby.)

20 MR. TONAHILL: Sam ever get your glasses?

21 MR. RUBY: Not yet. (Reading) "This is the girl  
22 that" -- what? -- "that started Jack off." What is this  
23 other word?

24 MR. TONAHILL: Culminated?

25 MR. RUBY: That is untrue. That is what I wanted

1 to read. (Throwing pad on table)

2 Gentlemen, unless you get me to Washington, you can't  
3 get a fair shake out of me.

4 If you understand my way of talking, you have got to  
5 bring me to Washington to get the tests.

6 Do I sound dramatic? Off the beam?

7 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No, you are speaking very,  
8 very rational, and I am really surprised that you can remember  
9 as much as you have remembered up to the present time.

10 You have given it to us in detail.

11 MR. RUBY: Unless you can get me to Washington, and  
12 I am not a crackpot, I have all my senses -- I don't want  
13 to evade any crime I am guilty of. But Mr. Moore, have I  
14 spoken this way when we have talked?

15 MR. MOORE: Yes.

16 MR. RUBY: Unless you get me to Washington immedi-  
17 ately, I am afraid after what Mr. Tonahill has written there,  
18 which is unfair to me regarding my testimony here, -- you all  
19 want to hear what he wrote?

20 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, you might read it. If  
21 you need glasses again, try mine this time (handing glasses  
22 to Mr. Ruby).

23 MR. RUBY: (Putting on glasses) "This is the girl"

24 MR. TONAHILL: "thing", isn't it?

25 MR. RUBY: "This is the thing that started Jack in

1 the shooting.

2 MR. TONAHILL: Kathy Kay was talking about Oswald.

3 MR. RUBY: You are lying, Joe Tonahill. You are  
4 lying.

5 MR. TONAHILL: No, I am not.

6 MR. RUBY: You are lying, because you know what  
7 motivated me. You want to make it that it was a premeditation

8 MR. TONAHILL: No.

9 MR. RUBY: Yes, you do.

10 MR. TONAHILL: I don't think there was any pre-  
11 meditation, but you go ahead and tell it your way. That is  
12 what we want you to do. That is what the Chief Justice  
13 wants.

14 MR. RUBY: Not when you specify this.

15 You are Senator Rankin?

16 MR. RANKIN: No, I am the General Counsel for our  
17 Commission, Mr. Ruby.

18 MR. TONAHILL: You go on and keep telling it down  
19 to Caroline and the truth.

20 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Mr. Ruby, may I suggest this,  
21 that if we are to have any tests, either a lie detector or,  
22 as you suggest, maybe a truth serum, I don't know anything  
23 about truth serum, but if we are to have it, we have to have  
24 something to check against, and we would like to have the  
25 rest of your story as you started to tell us, because you are

1 now getting down to the crucial part of it, and it wouldn't  
2 be fair to you to have this much of it and then not have the  
3 rest.

4 MR. RUBY: Because the reason why, Joe knows from the  
5 time that I told Attorney Belli, and the story I wanted to  
6 tell on the stand, and Mr. Tonahill knows this isn't the  
7 time. The thought never entered my mind. He knows it.

8 MR. TONAHILL: I didn't say the thought entered your  
9 mind. I didn't say that.

10 MR. RUBY: You are inferring that.

11 MR. TONAHILL: Unconsciously, maybe, is what I mean  
12 to say.

13 MR. RUBY: Why go back to Friday, Joe?

14 MR. TONAHILL: You are going to come right down --

15 MR. RUBY: Why go back to Friday? That set me off.

16 Then it is a greater premeditation than you know  
17 is true.

18 MR. TONAHILL: I don't say it is premeditation.  
19 never have. I don't think it is.

20 MR. RUBY: Because it never entered my mind when  
21 they talked about, the officer, cutting him into bits.  
22 would like to have built it up for my defense, but that is  
23 not it. I am here to tell the truth.

24 MR. TONAHILL: The psychiatrist said that to me.

25 MR. RUBY: You want to put that into my thoughts,

1 but it never happened. I took it with a grain of salt what  
2 he said at that particular time.

3 Well, it is too bad, Chief Warren, that you didn't get  
4 me to your headquarters six months ago.

5 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Well, Mr. Ruby, I will tell  
6 you why we didn't. Because you were then about to be tried  
7 and I didn't want to do anything that would prejudice you in  
8 your trial. And for that reason, I wouldn't even consider  
9 asking you to testify until your trial was over. That is  
10 the only reason that we didn't talk to you sooner.

11 And I wish we had gotten here a little sooner after  
12 your trial was over, but I know you had other things on your  
13 mind, and we had other work, and it got to this late date.

14 But I assure you, there is no desire on our part to  
15 let this matter go to any late date for any ulterior purpose.  
16 I assure you that.

17 And as I told you at the beginning, if you want a test  
18 of some kind made, I will undertake to see that it is done.

19 MR. RUBY: You have power to do it, even though the  
20 District Attorney objects to me getting the tests?

21 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, I do.

22 MR. RUBY: How soon can it be done?

23 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Well, I am not familiar with  
24 those things, but we will try to do it expeditiously, you  
25 may be sure, because we are trying to wind up the work of

1 this Commission. And I assure you we won't delay it.

2 MR. RUBY: Are you staying overnight here, Chief  
3 Warren?

4 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No, I have to be back, because  
5 we have an early session of the court tomorrow morning.

6 MR. RUBY: Is there any way of getting a polygraph  
7 here?

8 SHERIFF DECKER: May I make a suggestion?

9 Jack, listen, you and I have had a lot of dealings.  
10 Do you want my officers removed from the room while you talk  
11 to this Commission?

12 MR. RUBY: That wouldn't prove any truth.

13 SHERIFF DECKER: These people came several thousand  
14 miles to interview you. You have wanted to tell me your  
15 story and I have refused to let you tell me. Now be a man  
16 with a bunch of men that have come a long way to give you an  
17 opportunity to.

18 You asked me for permission to tell your story, and  
19 I told you "No."

20 This is a supreme investigating committee at this  
21 particular time. Now give them your story and be a man,  
22 if you want them to deal with you and deal fairly with you.

23 MR. RUBY: It is unfair to me unless I get all the  
24 facilities to back up what I say.

25 SHERIFF DECKER: You tell him your, story. Nobody

1 is denying it. You tell this man. He has come a thousand  
2 or more miles to listen to you. Now be a man about it.

3 MR. MOORE: What I suggest: Jack, at one time I  
4 was a polygraph operator, and you would not be able to go  
5 through the entire story the way you have here.

6 So seriously, you should tell the story and the things  
7 you want checked, you can be asked directly. Because you  
8 can only answer yes or no on the polygraph examination. So  
9 I think in view of what you want, you should tell your story  
10 first, and then the points that you want verified, you can  
11 be questioned on.

12 As the Sheriff mentioned, the Commission has come a  
13 long way to have the opportunity to listen to your story,  
14 and I am sure that they know you are telling the truth, in  
15 any case.

16 MR. RUBY: I wish the President were right here now.  
17 It is a terrible ordeal, I tell you that.

18 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I am sure it is an ordeal  
19 for you, and we want to make it just as easy as we can.  
20 That is the reason that we have let you tell your story in  
21 your own way without being interrupted.

22 If you will just proceed with the rest of your  
23 statement, I think it would make it a lot easier for us to  
24 verify it in the way that you want it to be done.

25 MR. RUBY: I don't know how to answer you.

1 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Well, you have told us most  
2 of what happened up to the time of the incident, and you  
3 are almost within, you are just within a few hours of it  
4 now.

5 MR. RUBY: There is a Saturday.

6 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Beg your pardon?

7 MR. RUBY: There is a Saturday night. There is a  
8 Friday night. This is still only Friday night, Chief.

9 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, that is true.

10 MR. RUBY: Well, I will go into a certain point,  
11 and if I stop, you will have to understand if I stop to get  
12 my bearings together.

13 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes.

14 MR. RUBY: I am in the Times Herald Building. I  
15 go upstairs, naturally.

16 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: This is about what time?

17 MR. RUBY: This, I imagine, is -- I left the KLIF  
18 at 2:00 a.m., and I spent an hour with the officer and his  
19 girl friend, so it must have been about 3:15 approximately.  
20 No, it wasn't. When you are not concerned with time, it  
21 could have been 4:00 o'clock.

22 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: It doesn't make any difference

23 MR. RUBY: Forty-five minutes difference.

24 I am up there in the composing room talking to a guy  
25 by the name of Pat Gayloesch. He was so elated that I

1 brought him this twist board, and I had it sealed in a  
2 polyethylene bag, but he wanted to see how it is demonstrated,  
3 how it was worked.

4 It is a board that is on a pivot, a ball bearing, and  
5 it has a tendency to give you certain exercises in twisting  
6 your body. So not that I wanted to get in with the hilarity  
7 of frolicking, but he asked me to show him, and the other  
8 men gathered around.

9 When you get into the movement of a ball bearing disk,  
10 your body is free to move. I know you look like you are  
11 having a gay time, because naturally if your body is so  
12 free of moving, it is going to look that way.

13 I am stating this in that even with my emotional  
14 feeling for our beloved President, even to demonstrate the  
15 twist board, I did it because someone asked me to.

16 You follow me, gentlemen, as I describe it?

17 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, I do.

18 MR. RUBY: Then we placed the ad in, and if I  
19 recall, I requested from Pat to put a black border around  
20 to show that the ad was in mourning, or something, because  
21 we were, everything was in mourning.

22 Bill, will you do that for me that you asked a minute  
23 ago? You said you wanted to leave the room.

24 SHERIFF DECKER: I will have everyone leave the  
25 room, including myself, if you want to talk about it. You

1 name it, and out we will go.

2 MR. RUBY: All right.

3 SHERIFF DECKER: You want all of us outside?

4 MR. RUBY: Yes.

5 SHERIFF DECKER: I will leave Tonahill and Moore.

6 I am not going to have Joe leave.

7 MR. RUBY: If you are not going to have Joe leave --

8 SHERIFF DECKER: Moore, his body is responsible to  
9 you. His body is responsible to you.

10 MR. RUBY: Bill, I am not accomplishing anything if  
11 they are here, and Joe Tonahill is here. You asked me  
12 anybody I wanted out.

13 SHERIFF DECKER: Jack, this is your attorney. That  
14 is your lawyer.

15 MR. RUBY: He is not my lawyer.  
16 (Sheriff Decker and law enforcement officers left room.  
17 Gentlemen, if you want to hear any further testimony,  
18 you will have to get me to Washington soon, because it has  
19 something to do with you, Chief Warren.

19 Do I sound sober enough to tell you this?

20 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, go right ahead.

21 MR. RUBY: I want to tell the truth, and I can't  
22 tell it here. I can't tell it here. Does that make sense  
23 to you?

24 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Well, let's don't talk about  
25 sense. But I really can't see why you can't tell this

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Commission.

MR. RUBY: What is your name?

MR. BALL: Joe Ball.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Mr. Joe Ball. He is an attorney from Los Angeles who has been working for me.

MR. RUBY: Do you know Belli too?

MR. BALL: I know of him.

MR. RUBY: Ball was working with him. He knows. Be  
You know Melvin Belli?

MR. BALL: I am not acquainted with him.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No association of any kind.

MR. BALL: We practice in different cities.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Five hundred miles away.

Mr. Ball practices in Long Beach, and Mr. Belli practices in San Francisco. There is positively no connection between anybody in this room, as far as I know, with Mr. Belli. I can assure you of that.

MR. RUBY: Where do you stand, Moore?

MR. MOORE: Well, I am assigned to the Commission,  
Jack.

MR. RUBY: The President assigned you?

MR. MOORE: No, my Chief did. And I am not involved in the investigation. I am more of a security officer.

MR. RUBY: Boys, I am in a tough spot, I tell you

1 that.

2 MR. MOORE: You recall when I talked to you, there  
3 were certain things I asked you not to tell me at the time,  
4 for certain reasons, that you were probably going to trial  
5 at that time, and I respected your position on that and  
6 asked you not to tell me certain things.

7 MR. RUBY: But this isn't the place for me to tell  
8 what I want to tell.

9 MR. MOORE: The Commission is looking into the entire  
10 matter, and you are part of it, should be.

11 MR. RUBY: Chief Warren, your life is in danger in  
12 this City, do you know that?

13 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No, I don't know that. If  
14 that is the thing that you don't want to talk about, you can  
15 tell me, if you wish, when this is all over, just between  
16 you and me.

17 MR. RUBY: No, I would like to talk to you in private

18 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: You may do that when you  
19 finish your story. You may tell me that phase of it.

20 MR. RUBY: I bet you haven't had a witness like me  
21 in your whole investigation, is that correct?

22 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: There are many witnesses  
23 whose memory has not been as good as yours. I tell you  
24 that honestly.

25 MR. RUBY: My reluctance to talk -- you haven't had

1 any witness in telling the story, if finding so many problems?

2 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: You have a greater problem  
3 than any witness we have had.

4 MR. RUBY: I have a lot of reasons for having those  
5 problems.

6 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I know that, and we want to  
7 respect your rights, whatever they may be. And I only want  
8 to hear what you are willing to tell us, because I realize  
9 that you still have a great problem before you, and I am not  
10 trying to press you.

11 I came here because I thought you wanted to tell us  
12 the story, and I think the story should be told for the  
13 public, and it will eventually be made public. If you want  
14 to do that, you are entitled to do that, and if you want  
15 to have it verified as the thing can be verified by a  
16 polygraph test, you may have that too.

17 I will undertake to do that for you, but at all  
18 events we must first have the story that we are going to  
19 check it against.

20 MR. RUBY: When are you going back to Washington?

21 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I am going back very shortly  
22 after we finish this hearing. I am going to have some lun

23 MR. RUBY: Can I make a statement?

24 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes.

25 MR. RUBY: If you request me to go back to Washing

1 with you right now, that couldn't be done, could it?

2 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No, it could not be done.

3 It could not be done. There are a good many things involve  
4 in that, Mr. Ruby.

5 MR. RUBY: What are they?

6 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Well, the public attention  
7 that it would attract, and the people who would be around.  
8 We have no place there for you to be safe when we take you  
9 out, and we are not law enforcement officers, and it isn't  
10 our responsibility to go into anything of that kind.

11 And certainly it couldn't be done on a moment's  
12 notice this way.

13 MR. RUBY: Well, from what I read in the paper,  
14 they made certain precautions for you coming here, but you  
15 got here.

16 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: There are no precautions  
17 taken at all.

18 MR. RUBY: There were some remarks in the paper  
19 about some crackpots.

20 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I don't believe everything  
21 I read in the paper.

22 MR. MOORE: In that respect, the Chief Justice is  
23 in public life. People in public life are well aware they  
24 don't please everyone, and they get these threats.

25 Incidentally, if it is the part about George Senator

1 talking about the Earl Warren Society, the Chief Justice is  
2 aware of that phase, and I am sure he would like to hear  
3 anything that you have to say if it affects the security.

4 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Before you finish the rest  
5 of your statement, may I ask you this question, and this is  
6 one of the questions we came here to ask you.

7 Did you know Lee Harvey Oswald prior to this shooting?

8 MR. RUBY: That is why I want to take the lie  
9 detector test. Just saying no isn't sufficient.

10 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I will afford you that  
11 opportunity.

12 MR. RUBY: All right.

13 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I will afford you that  
14 opportunity. You can't do both of them at one time.

15 MR. RUBY: Gentlemen, my life is in danger here.  
16 Not with my guilty plea of execution.

17 Do I sound sober enough to you as I say this?

18 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: You do. You sound entirely  
19 sober.

20 MR. RUBY: From the moment I started my testimony,  
21 have I sounded as though, with the exception of becoming  
22 emotional, have I sounded as though I made sense, what I  
23 was speaking about?

24 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: You have indeed. I under-  
25 stood everything you have said. If I haven't, it is my

1 fault.

2 MR. RUBY: Then I follow this up. I may not live  
3 tomorrow to give any further testimony. The reason why I  
4 add this to this, since you assure me that I have been  
5 speaking sense by then, I might be speaking sense by following  
6 what I have said, and the only thing I want to get out to  
7 the public, and I can't say it here, is with authenticity,  
8 with sincerity of the truth of everything and why my act  
9 was committed, but it can't be said here.

10 It can be said, it's got to be said amongst people  
11 of the highest authority that would give me the benefit of  
12 doubt. And following that, immediately give me the lie  
13 detector test after I do make the statement.

14 Chairman Warren, if you felt that your life was in  
15 danger at the moment, how would you feel? Wouldn't you be  
16 reluctant to go on speaking, even though you request me to  
17 do so?

18 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I think I might have some  
19 reluctance if I was in your position, yes, I think I would.  
20 I think I would figure it out very carefully to whether it  
21 would endanger me or not.

22 If you think that anything that I am doing or anything  
23 that I am asking you is endangering you in any way, shape  
24 or form, I want you to feel absolutely free to say that the  
25 interview is over.

1 MR. RUBY: What happens then? I didn't accomplish  
2 anything.

3 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No, nothing has been accomplish

4 MR. RUBY: Well, then you won't follow up with  
5 anything further?

6 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: There wouldn't be anything  
7 to follow up if you hadn't completed your statement.

8 MR. RUBY: You said you have the power to do what  
9 you want to do, is that correct?

10 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Exactly.

11 MR. RUBY: Without any limitations?

12 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Within the purview of our  
13 Executive Order which established the Commission. We have  
14 the right to take testimony of anyone we want in this whole  
15 situation, and we have the right, if we so choose to do it,  
16 to verify that statement in any way that we wish to do it.

17 MR. RUBY: But you don't have a right to take a  
18 prisoner back with you when you want to?

19 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No. We have the power to  
20 subpoena witnesses to Washington if we want to do it, but  
21 we have taken the testimony of two or three hundred people,  
22 I would imagine, here in Dallas without going to Washington.

23 MR. RUBY: Yes, but those people aren't Jack Ruby.

24 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No, they weren't.

25 MR. RUBY: They weren't.