

KX 89-27

DL 89-43

JKM/pjw

RE: JACK L. RUBY BEING IN ISLAMORADA, FLORIDA IN JUNE 1958

Mrs. ~~MARY THOMPSON~~ ^{WOODARD} and her daughter ~~DELORES THOMPSON~~, Kalanazoo, Michigan, stated they visited ~~JAMES E. WOODARD~~, brother of Mrs. THOMPSON in Islamorada, Florida, in June, 1958. While there they met an individual known as JACK who resembled press and television photographs of JACK L. RUBY. They advised this person allegedly had a trunk full of guns he was attempting to sell to Cubans. They advised this person's identity would be known to JAMES E. WOODARD.

During December, 1963 and January, 1964, the following persons were interviewed by Special Agents of the Knoxville Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation relative to the whereabouts of JAMES E. WOODARD. These persons all advised they possessed no information as to the present whereabouts of WOODARD:

~~Mrs. CUBERT (NORA) VOILES~~, ^{WOODARD} 2112 Needham Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee, sister of WOODARD;

~~Mr. ED ROUSE~~, 2111 Woodbine Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee, brother-in-law of WOODARD;

~~Mrs. WILLA MAE ROUSE~~, 2111 Woodbine Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee, sister of WOODARD;

~~Mrs. COBA KNIGHT~~, ^{WOODARD} 2111 Woodbine Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee, sister-in-law of WOODARD;

~~Mrs. EDITH KEY~~, 1545 Massachusetts Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee, sister of WOODARD;

~~Mr. FRED G. WOODARD~~, 136 E. Scott Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee, brother of WOODARD;

~~Mrs. ROBERT STEVENS~~, 706 Hickory Street, Knoxville, Tennessee, girl friend of WOODARD;

~~Mr. J. D. WALLACE~~, Office Manager, Tennessee Department of Employment Security, Knoxville, Tennessee;

~~Mr. FRANK SHEARL, Sr.~~, Chief Deputy Sheriff, Knox County Sheriff's Office, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Date April 14, 1964

Captain **FRANK MANNING**, Investigative Division, El Paso County Sheriff's Office, El Paso, Texas, advised that one **EDDIE MOSES**, who has been known to the El Paso County Sheriff's Office for a number of years, furnished to them the following document:

"Gallup: Frank Brown, a former Oklahoma law officer who now lives here says that an incident in 1958 definitely linked an Abe Rubenstein, whom he believes to be Jack Ruby, to gunrunning. The guns and ammunition were being taken to Cuba and points outside the U.S. as far as could be established."

"Brown, who was born and raised in Duncan, Oklahoma, became a member of the Duncan, Okla. police department, and later of the Oklahoma State Crime Bureau. His brother-in-law is presently night chief of police for Duncan and a younger relative is on the Dallas, Tex., police force."

"It was while Brown was with the crime bureau that a local man called 'Smitty', often in trouble with the law, drove a car loaded with guns and ammunition through the town of Duncan. Officers, including Brown, gave chase, but were forced to turn back when the car crossed the Okla-Texas line. However, the car driven by Smitty overturned shortly afterward, between the Red River bridge and the town of Ringold, Texas."

"An investigation by the Texas Department of Public Safety and the FBI revealed involvement of Rubenstein, owner of the Carousel Club in Dallas, in the gunrunning incident, Brown says."

"A memory expert has told authorities he saw Lee Oswald in Rubys' strip palace several days prior to the president's assassination, according to a UPI wire story."

On 4/9/64at EL PASO, TEXAS120

File #

EP 44-274by SA EDWARD JOSEPH MURPHY/rc

Date dictated

4/14/64

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"Brown says the entire incident came back to him while he and his wife were watching televised accounts of the president's assassination last weekend, 'even to the police call and the numbers on the car.' He credits his remembrance to the trained observance he learned as an officer.

"Brown is now employed at the Goodyear Service Store, 2000 East 66 Ave. here in Gallup, N.M.

"Written by Mrs. Wilma Van Doren, member New Mexico Press Assos & The National Federation of Press women."

Captain MANNING stated that he did not know the home address of EDDIE MOSES but knew that MOSES lived in El Paso.

Date April 14, 1964*Eddie Moses*

EDWIN DOUGLAS MOSES, 3812 Cambridge Street, El Paso, Texas, advised that he had obtained the document he furnished to Captain FRANK MANNING of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, from his daughter, Mrs. WILMA VAN DOREN, who is a *Misses* member of the New Mexico Press Association and the National Federation of Press Women. MOSES stated that his daughter obtained the information on an interview with FRANK BROWN, and had told him about this information when she came to El Paso to visit him. He advised that at his urging, she had typed the information from notes which she had scribbled on paper at the time of the interview with BROWN. He stated that this typewritten transcript of her notes was the information which he had made available to Captain FRANK MANNING. *Texas*

MOSES stated that his daughter is *Miss Mrs* married to E. H. VAN DOREN, and they reside at 611 McKee Drive, Gallup, New Mexico, and further advised that VAN DOREN is employed with the Standard Oil Company in Dallas.

MOSES stated that his daughter would be more than happy to corroborate this information if needed.

On 4/10/64

EL PASO, TEXAS

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EP 44-276

by SA EDWARD JOSEPH MURPHY/gc

Date dictated 4/14/64

Date 4/15/64

FRANK WILLIAM BROWN, Box 693, Gallup, New Mexico, advised he was born January 29, 1934, at Duncan, Oklahoma. He advised that he formerly worked on the Duncan, Oklahoma Police Department during about 1958 and then worked for a short period with the Oklahoma Crime Bureau.

His brother-in-law, JOHN T. DUDLEY, is the Night Chief of Police, Duncan, Oklahoma, at the present time. A brother to his brother-in-law, JAMES GARDNER, works on the Dallas, Texas Police Department.

About two weeks after the assassination of President KENNEDY, BROWN had occasion to talk long distance to DUDLEY in Duncan. BROWN stated that the name JACK RUBY sounded familiar to him and he asked his brother-in-law if the name was familiar to him (DUDLEY). DUDLEY answered in the negative. Then there was some discussion concerning a "SMITTY" who lived in Duncan and had been given chase by the Duncan Police Officials several years ago in a car in which some guns were located. BROWN suggested DUDLEY might look up records to see if SMITTY could have been the person with whom BROWN associated the name JACK RUBY.

BROWN said that after this telephone call, he was visited by a news reporter, WILMA VAN DOREN, who approached him stating she understood BROWN had information concerning JACK RUBY's background. BROWN stated that he positively told VAN DOREN he had no such information and related that while the name RUBY sounded familiar to him the only possible connection with which he could place RUBY was the incident concerning SMITTY.

BROWN denied stating that he had heard the name ABE RUBENSTEIN or JACK RUBY in connection with any gun running and denied furnishing any positive information connecting RUBY with SMITTY.

He stated that SMITTY, as he recalled, lived around Fifth and Maple Streets in Duncan.

BROWN said he told VAN DOREN that if she wanted any more information concerning this matter she should contact the

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On 4/14/64 at Gallup, New Mexico File # AQ 44-391by SA JAMES M. SMITH/jvpDate dictated 4/14/64

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Oklahoma Crime Bureau or the FBI. He denied telling VAN DOREN that the FBI had investigated the "SMITTY" incident of gun running.

BROWN advised he has not seen JAMES GARDNER of the Dallas Police Department in at least eight years. He stated he had no information whatsoever concerning any subversive affiliations of RUBY, any association between RUBY and OSWALD, any knowledge of a conspiracy on the part of any person with RUBY to kill OSWALD, any knowledge of close connections between RUBY and the Dallas Police Officers, or any knowledge whatsoever of travels by RUBY in the United States or in foreign countries.

Date 4/14/64

MANUEL GONZALES, (NA), Gallup, New Mexico Police Department, advised that he is well acquainted with **FRANK WILLIAM BROWN**, who works at the Goodyear Station in Gallup.

He advised that **BROWN** was formerly on the Gallup Police Department, having been fired in about 1960 or 1961 when he was involved in an incident wherein he took a girl out on the mesa and had an affair with her. This was subsequently reported to the police department. **BROWN** denied same, but Chief **GONZALES** pursued the facts to his satisfaction which resulted in **BROWN**'s firing. **GONZALES** advised that **BROWN** is most untrustworthy, will fabricate stories, and make himself feel or look important to the person with whom he is talking.

GONZALES advised he would put no faith whatsoever in anything reported by **BROWN**.

On 4/14/64 at Gallup, New Mexico File # AQ 44-391

by SA JAMES M. SMITH/jvp

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Date dictated 4/14/64

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MCC:vm
DL 44-1639

The investigation which follows was conducted on the basis of allegations of BLANEY MACK JOHNSON, Atlanta, Georgia, that JACK RUBENSTEIN, whom he believed identical with JACK L. RUBY, was engaged in gun running activities to Cuba in the early 1950's. Information supplied by JOHNSON on November 29-30, 1963, was attributed to AT T-2 when first reported. As indicated hereinafter, JOHNSON advised in reinterview he now has no objection to his identity being disclosed for official purposes.

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Date April 14, 1964

File

Dec. 1960

BLANEY MACK JOHNSON, 531 Holderness Street, S.W., Atlanta, Ga. After being advised that any statement taken from him would be taken as part of an official investigation, furnished the following information:

He stated that all information heretofore furnished by him concerning alleged smuggling of weapons to pro-CASTRO forces in the early 1950's in which one JACK RUBENSTEIN was allegedly involved is true and accurate. He stated that he has no objection to his identity being disclosed to officials interested in this inquiry.

JOHNSON further advised that it is his belief that LESLIE LEWIS, JOE MARRS and CLIPTON T. BOWES have, to serve their own interests, lied concerning their knowledge of or participation in weapons smuggling together with RUBENSTEIN's involvement therein.

On 4/11/64 at Atlanta, Georgia 127 File # Atlanta 44-1559
Dallas 44-1630
by Special Agent DANIEL D. DOYLE:ghb Date dictated 4/14/64

Date April 14, 1964

BLANEY MACK JOHNSON, 531 Holderness Street, S.W., was reinterviewed and stated that he believes from pictures he saw of JACK RUBY and RUBY's appearances on television that the person he knew in Miami, Florida, in the early 1950's named JACK RUBENSTEIN is identical to JACK L. RUBY. Mr. JOHNSON stated that he could be mistaken but still believes he is right. He stated the individual he knew as JACK RUBENSTEIN is described as follows:

Height	5'9" - 5'10"
Weight	160-165 pounds
Hair	Black, full head of hair, hairline not receding
Age	Middle 40's
Build	Athletic
Residence	Racket Club, Miami, Florida
Occupation	Had part interest in Colonial Inn
Hobbies	Golfing

JOHNSON stated that BOB VOLLMER of the Records Bureau, Miami Police Department, and BILL BOULD, owner of the Playboy Club in Miami, are individuals that should know JACK RUBENSTEIN and also have knowledge of smuggling guns to Cuba in the early 1950's. *P-1a*

JOHNSON was shown a photograph of EDDIE BROWDER, former inmate of the U. S. Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia, and he stated that this individual is not identical to DONALD EDWARD BROWDER who was allegedly associated with RUBENSTEIN in the arms smuggling operation in Florida. *He*

JOHNSON stated he could not give an exact time when he knew RUBENSTEIN in Florida but stated this occurred about the time of the KEPAUER investigation into organized crime. He stated it was possible it was during the years 1952 to 1953, but he had no way of verifying it since he lived in Miami many years..

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On 4/13/64 at Atlanta, Georgia
by Special Agents CHARLES S. HARDING
and DANIEL D. DOYLE:ghb

File # Atlanta 44-1559
DRILLS 44-1639

Date dictated 4/14/64

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AT 44-1559

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JOHNSON advised that until suffering from a heart attack several years ago, he was a private pilot and at one time had part interest in the Playbook Club in Miami, Florida, in the early 1950's. He stated that as a pilot he made numerous flights to Cuba from Miami carrying legitimate cargo, but never participated in the smuggling of arms.

JOHNSON stated in connection with some of his night club activity in Florida if he discussed it thoroughly it may tend to incriminate him, and he did not want to say anything that would incriminate him; however, he indicated that the Playbook Club in which he had part interest had a gambling casino, which casino was closed as a result of the KEFAUVER investigation. He also indicated that the Colonial Club in which JACK RUBENSTEIN had an interest was a place where counterfeit money was handled.

The following description of JOHNSON was obtained from observation and interrogation:

Name	<u>MISS</u> BLANEY MACK JOHNSON
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	64
Born	1900
Height	5'10"
Weight	150 pounds
Hair	Gray
Eyes	Brown
Build	Medium
Occupation	Retired, does some door-to-door sales work
Residence	<u>831 Holderness Street, S.W.,</u> <u>Atlanta, Georgia</u>
Marital status	Married

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AT 44-1559

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CSH:ghb

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On April 13, 1964, Miss ~~JO~~^X PRESSLEY, Atlanta, Georgia, Police Department, advised SA DANIEL D. DOYLE that no record could be located for BLANEY MACK JOHNSON.

On April 13, 1964, PAT ~~HOWARD~~^X ^{Howe}, Credit Bureau of Atlanta, advised a file was established for JOHNSON in August, 1961, and the file contained no derogatory information. The file indicated he resided at 521 Southwest Sixth Street, Miami, Florida, for 17 years prior to July, 1961.

On April 13, 1964, Mrs. BLANEY MACK JOHNSON advised SA's DANIEL D. DOYLE and CHARLES S. HARDING that she believed that her husband was mistaken in identifying a person named JACK RUBENSTEIN he knew in Miami, Florida, as being identical with JACK L. RUBY, but is reluctant to admit it. She stated that of her own knowledge she had never met this RUBENSTEIN.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/30/63

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 JOE MARRS, Lake Placid, Florida, advised he was a pilot for Eastern Airlines during World War II. Just after the war he engaged in selling airplanes and airplane parts in Miami, Florida. He never flew for hire or transported any goods by air to Cuba. He had never heard of JACK RUEY and as far as he knows never saw him prior to RUEY's appearance on television during the past weekend. He said he knew DONALD EDWARD BROWDER as an ex-ROAF ferry command pilot who came to Miami about 1945. He described BROWDER as an individual he avoided due to BROWDER being a "shady promoter and blowhard who was all conversation and no money." MARRS said BROWDER spoke of plans to set up an air transport service to South American countries, but to MARRS' knowledge did not succeed in doing so. MARRS has read of BROWDER's alleged escapades of smuggling, but has no knowledge of them and does not know BROWDER's current whereabouts.

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 Concerning the Colonial Inn, Hallandale, Florida, MARRS recalled that HARRY RICHMOND, who flew the Atlantic with DICK MERRILL, had an interest in it as well as a woman whose name he does not recall. He noted that the Colonial Inn closed in the early 1940's.

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On 11/30/63 at Lake Placid, Florida File # Miami 44-1412by SA HAROLD K. PARSON:skj Date dictated 11/30/63

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/30/63

Leslie Lewis

LES T. LEWIS, 261 East 37th Street, Hialeah, Florida, was interviewed and stated he was Chief of the Hialeah Police Department from May, 1947, to September, 1947. He advised he never heard of JACK RUBY or RUBENSTEIN and has no knowledge whatsoever of persons flying weapons to Cuba. He stated he does not know a DONALD EDWARD BROWDER nor a JOE MARRS.

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On 11/30/63

at Hialeah, Florida

File # 44-1412

by SA ROBERT K. LEWIS:SKJ

Date dictated 11/30/63

Date 12/1/63

CLIFTON T. BOWES, JR., 1190 NE 87th Street, advised he has been a National Airlines pilot for the past 20 years. He said he is positive he never heard of JACK RUBENSTEIN or RUBY and is certain he has never met him. He stated he first heard of RUBY during the recent television publicity and he has no information concerning anyone sending arms to Cuba. He said he recalls the Colonial Inn as a gambling joint which closed some 20 years ago. He has no knowledge of its owners or operators and does not know a DONALD EDWARD BROWDER. BOWES stated he formerly knew a MACK JOHNSON as an independent pilot in Miami. He related he was never closely acquainted with JOHNSON, but understood JOHNSON was ill and hospitalized for some unknown reason several years ago. He said he last saw JOHNSON about three years ago and he described him as rational, but "highly imaginative, a story-teller and inclined to identify himself with unusual situations." He said JOHNSON is particularly imaginative when drinking.

On 12/1/63at Miami, Florida

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File # Miami 44-1412by SA ROBERT K. LEWIS:SKJDate dictated 12/1/63

Date 4/13/64

Miami 714

ROBERT VOLLMER, 2261 SW 19th Terrace, advised he was acquainted with MACK JOHNSON, a former Miami resident for many years. He said he knew JOHNSON as a tire salesman and also as a pilot. VOLLMER said he has had little contact with JOHNSON for the past several years and understood that JOHNSON has become an increasingly heavy drinker. VOLLMER said he has never known JACK RUBY by that name or any other name and, in fact, never heard of RUBY until the weekend of November 22, 1963. He said he has no information as to RUBY or anyone else ever flying weapons to Cuba and has no information as to ownership of the old Colonial Inn. He said that he feels if JOHNSON has attributed such knowledge to him then JOHNSON must be "off the beam."

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On 4/13/64 at Miami, Florida File # Miami 44-1412

by SA ROBERT K. LEWIS: jks Date dictated 4/13/64

DL 44-1639
MCC:vm

On April 14, 1964, IC CLIFFORD M. WERNER, Miami Office, determined there are no records of arrest for LES T. LEWIS, CLIFTON T. BOWES, Jr., or JOE MARRS at Dade County Sheriff's Office, Miami Police Department, Miami Municipal Court, or Miami Beach Police Department. Records of Lake Placid Police Department reflect no record for JOE MARRS.

On April 14, 1964, IC RONALD G. THIXTON determined from records of Miami Credit Bureau that records concerning MARRS, LEWIS, and BOWES include no derogatory information and that the Credit Bureau considers these persons of good reputation and to have good credit ratings.

IC THIXTON determined that records of the Miami Credit Bureau and Dun and Bradstreet include no information concerning a "Playbook" or "Playbrook" club. Files of the Miami Office indicate Colonial Inn, Hallandale, Florida, was opened about 1941 and operated intermittently thereafter, at times as a legitimate nightclub, and at times as a gambling club. On February 12, 1948, the club was closed by an injunction of the Broward County Court. Miami Office files do not reflect Colonial Inn ever reopened thereafter. The Miami Herald newspaper on February 15, 1948, reported Colonial Inn was the sole property of a "national mob" headed by FRANK COSTELLO, FRANK ERICKSON, and JOE ADONIS.

On April 14, 1964, RICHARD ANCONA, General Manager, Playboy Club, 7701 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, advised SA VINCENT R. ANTLE that there is not now and never has been any BILL GOULD associated with this club.

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