

FBI

Date: 1/9/67

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-24016)

FROM: SAC CHICAGO (44-645)

JACK LEON RUBY, AKA;
LEE HARVEY OSWALD - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

Re Bureau airtel to Chicago 1/5/67.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau is the original
and 3 copies of a LHM suitable for dissemination as requested
in referenced airtel.

③ - Bureau (Encls. 4) ENCLOSURE
1 - Chicago

JDP:hjz
(4)

Agency CRD

Date Forw. JAN 11 1967

How Forw 6-91 (G)

By JWH-FHP

1 cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

EX-110

REC-91

44-24016-2139

15 JAN 10 1967

253

61 JAN 17 1967

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Chicago, Illinois

January 9, 1967

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

JACK LEON RUBY, ALSO KNOWN AS;
LEE HARVEY OSWALD - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

During the evening of January 3, 1967, Maxine Gazikas, 1738 West Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois, telephonically contacted the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on three separate occasions. She advised she is a relative of Jack Leon Ruby, had practically raised Ruby and about five or six months ago received a letter from him. She stated Ruby requested that the contents of the letter not be revealed until 1969 but she felt in view of his death on January 3, 1967, she could make the contents of this letter available to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

On January 3, 1967, Gazikas was interviewed by Special Agents of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at which time she denied any relationship with Ruby, however, she provided the following information concerning Ruby and the alleged letter:

She met Ruby through her son, William Gazikas several years ago and Ruby frequently visited at her home. She last saw Ruby in Chicago about two years ago but was unable to provide an accurate description of Ruby particularly with regard to his age, stating he should be about 25 or 26 years old at the present time.

Gazikas' speech was rambling and disjointed and she appeared to have been drinking. She maintained she had received the alleged letter from Ruby but refused to furnish the letter or to divulge its contents.

Gazikas was reinterviewed on January 4, 1967 by Special Agents of the Chicago Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation. During this interview she was even more incoherent than during previous interview and again appeared to be inebriated. She still maintained she had received the letter from Ruby but that it was only a short time ago.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

44-1987-2127

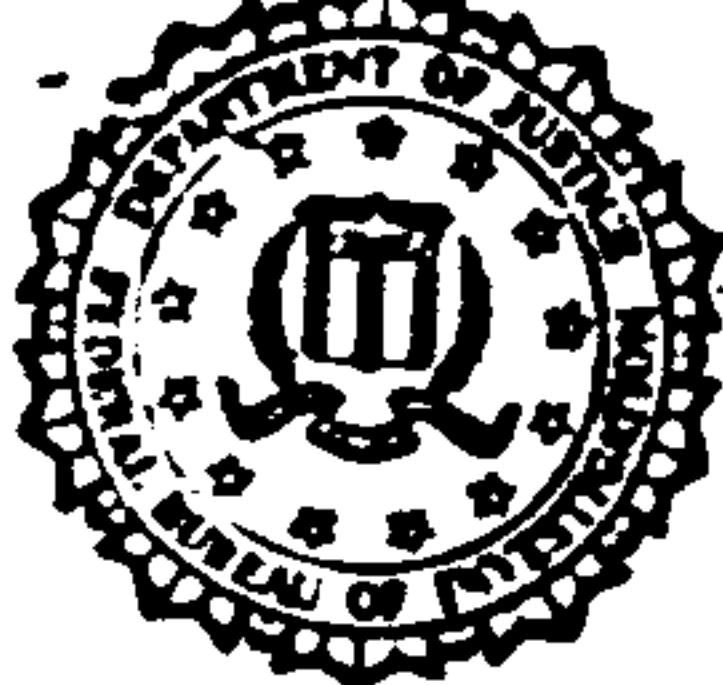
COPIES DESTROYED
21 JAN 4 1971

JACK LEON RUBY, ALSO KNOWN AS;
LEE HARVEY OSWALD - VICTIM

For the first time, she stated she had turned the letter over to her attorney, William Landon, for safekeeping without revealing its contents.

Gazikas' son, William Gazikas, 2659 West Nelson Street, Chicago, Illinois was located and interviewed at his place of employment, 1768 West Armitage, Chicago, Illinois, on January 4, 1967. William Gazikas, who his mother states was responsible for her meeting Ruby, stated he absolutely did not know Ruby nor had he ever had any contact with Ruby whatsoever.

With regard to his mother he stated she is an alcoholic who has been arrested on several occasions by the Chicago Police Department and who has attempted suicide twice. He stated when his mother is drinking she is a chronic troublemaker who apparently enjoys the attention she gets when creating a disturbance. He stated he considers her to have pyro-maniacal tendencies. He advised she has previously "made up stories" but he has never known her to have previously contacted any law enforcement body with her fabrications.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Chicago, Illinois

January 9, 1967

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FBI WASH DC

JAN 5 1967

Handwritten notes and stamps in the top right corner, including a large 'W' and other illegible markings.

15

FBI CHICAGO

658PM URGENT 1-5-67 RMF

TO DIRECTOR /44-24016/ AND DALLAS /44-1639/
FROM CHICAGO /9-4053/

Unknown Subject

U:SUB; HAROLD WEINSTEIN, AKA "HERSHEY" - VICTIM.
EXTORTION.

also known as

Handwritten signatures and notes, including 'McK...' and '11-1-1'.

ORIGINAL FILED IN 9-46130-2

RE DALLAS TELETYPE TO BUREAU AND CHICAGO JANUARY FIVE
INSTANT CAPTIONED "JACK LEON RUBY, AKA; LEE HARVEY OSWALD,
AKA - VICTIM (DECEASED), C.R."

HAROLD WEINSTEIN, AKA "HERSHEY", PRESIDENT AND OWNER
ORIGINAL WEINSTEIN AND SONS, INC., THREE ZERO ONE NINE
WEST PETERSON, CHICAGO, ADVISED THAT BETWEEN TWO AND TWO
THIRTY PM, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY FOUR LAST, HIS SECRETARY,
MRS. JOAN LAWYER, RECEIVED PHONE CALL FOR HIM AND DUE TO
FACT RUBY BURIAL HAS CREATED GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST IN
CHICAGO AREA FROM PRESS, SHE WAS ATTEMPTING TO SCREEN HIS
CALLS. SHE ASKED "WHO IS CALLING" AND FEMALE VOICE REPLIED
"DALLAS IS CALLING." LAWYER BELIEVES THIS VOICE WAS THAT
OF DALLAS OPERATOR. WEINSTEIN PICKED UP PHONE AND MALE
VOICE QUERIED, "DO YOU HAVE SECURITY AROUND THERE?"

END PAGE ONE

80 JAN 1 1967

44-24016-64
NOT RECORDED
199 JAN 16 1967

PAGE TWO

WEINSTEIN REPLIED, "NO, WHAT DO I NEED IT FOR." CALLER STATED, "YOU ARE LIABLE TO HAVE TROUBLE." AT THIS POINT CONVERSATION TERMINATED BUT WEINSTEIN NOT CERTAIN WHETHER HE OR CALLER HUNG UP FIRST. WEINSTEIN NOTIFIED CHICAGO POLICE AND CHICAGO POLICE HAVE PLACED TWO OFFICERS AT FUNERAL HOME FOR PROTECTION PURPOSES. WEINSTEIN STATES HE PUTS NO CREDENCE IN TEXT OF TELEPHONE CALL AND DOES NOT CONSIDER CALL A THREAT. PHONE CALL MADE TO WEINSTEIN FUNERAL HOME, PHONE LO ONE ONE EIGHT NINE ZERO, CHICAGO.

~~ASSAULT~~ SAUSA LAWRENCE T. STANNER, CHICAGO, ADVISED THIS DATE PHONE CALL ALLEGEDLY ORIGINATING IN DALLAS JANUARY FOUR LAST CAN APPARENTLY BE TRACED SINCE IT WAS APPARENTLY PLACED THROUGH PHONE OPERATOR. STATES ON BASIS OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE WILL HOLD PROSECUTIVE OPINION IN ABEYANCE PENDING DETERMINATION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT PHONE CALL CAN BE TRACED THROUGH DALLAS PHONE COMPANY AND LOGICAL SUSPECT DEVELOPED AND INTERVIEWED REGARDING PURPOSE OF CALL TO WEINSTEIN.

END PAGE TWO

21

PAGE THREE

DALLAS NOTE INSTANT PHONE CALL MADE BETWEEN TWO AND TWO
THIRTY PM, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY FOUR LAST, TO WEINSTEIN
FUNERAL HOME, THREE ZERO ONE NINE WEST PETERSON, CHICAGO, ILL
PHONE LO ONE ONE EIGHT NINE ZERO. DALLAS HANDLE AND ADVISE
CHICAGO.

SECRET SERVICE ADVISED.

END

RAM

FBI WASH DC

3

FBI WASH DC

FBI DALLAS

752 PM URGENT 1-9-67 CES

TO DIRECTOR (44-1689)

FROM DALLAS (44-1689) 1P

S. J. [unclear]
11-1
9-46130-1

UNSUB; HAROLD WEINSTEIN, AKA "HERSHEY" - VICTIM. EXTORTION.

RE CHICAGO TEL TO BUREAU AND DALLAS, JAN. FIVE INSTANT.

BUREAU AUTHORITY REQUESTED TO MAKE NECESSARY INQUIRY AT TELEPHONE COMPANY, DALLAS, TO ATTEMPT TO TRACE PERTINENT CALL TO VICTIM.

COVE.

END

RAM

FBI WASH DC

RECORDED-20

46130

JAN 9 1967

Handwritten notes and signatures:
SAC, D
C. J. [unclear]
11-2-1-116
RECORDED
JAN 15 1967
[Signature]

RECEIVED IN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 6 1967

TELETYPE

FBI DALLAS

FBI WASH DC

524P URGENT 1-6-67 MXS

TO DALLAS

FROM DIRECTOR 1P

44 24016 -

UNSUB; HAROLD WEINSTEIN, AKA "HERSHEY" - VICTIM. EXTORTION.

REURTEL JANUARY FIVE LAST.

AUTHORITY GRANTED TO MAKE NECESSARY INQUIRY AT TELEPHONE
COMPANY, DALLAS, IN ATTEMPTS TO TRACE PERTINENT CALL MADE TO
VICTIM. INQUIRY SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO
AVOID ANY EMBARRASSMENT TO BUREAU.

END

LMB

FBI DALLAS

80 JAN 17 1967

9-46130-1

ORIGINAL FILED IN

F B I

Date: 1/9/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

[Handwritten signature]

Miss Gandy

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, DALLAS (9-NEW) (C) 11-1

SUBJECT: UNSUB;
HAROLD "HERSHEY" WEINSTEIN - VICTIM
 EXTORTION

OO - Dallas *J. P. [unclear]*

Re Chicago teletype to Dallas dated 1/5/67, regarding telephone call received by victim at undertaking establishment handling body of JACK L. RUBY, killer of presidential assassin, LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

On 1/9/67, a representative of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, Dallas, advised attempting to locate a toll ticket under the circumstances of this case would necessitate examination of perhaps a million toll tickets at the expenditure of an extraordinary amount of time.

On 1/9/67, AUSA PATRICK MULLOY, NDT, Dallas, advised the language used in the telephone call in this case would not support prosecution under the extortion statute. Chicago Office, by teletype 1/7/67, advised office of USA, Chicago, had stated would defer to opinion of USA, NDT which covers point of origin of telephone call. In view of the above, no further action is being taken except confirmatory letter to USA.

9-46130-3 ORIGINAL FILED LN

REC 32

9-46130-3

- 3 - Bureau
- 1 - Chicago (9-4053) (Info)
- 1 - Dallas
- MCC:cc
- (5)

LX-104
 C. C. [unclear]
 44-24016

[Handwritten initials]

NOT RECORDED
 159 JAN 10 1967

JAN 11 1967

Approved: [Signature] 257
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

[Handwritten initials]

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. DeLoach _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Wick _____
 Mr. Casper _____
 Mr. Callahan _____
 Mr. Conrad _____
 Mr. Felt _____
 Mr. Gale _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Sullivan _____
 Mr. Tavel _____
 Mr. Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Miss Holmes _____
 Miss Gandy _____

January 23, 1967

CONGRESSMAN JAMES GROVER
 House Office Bldg.,
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Grover:

I am sure you will recall the photos of President Johnson in his hospital bed the day after his operation, and also the photo of former President Eisenhower the day after his operation.

In view of these I would like to raise the following questions:

1. Why wasn't Jack Ruby photographed in HIS hospital bed when he was supposed to be dying of cancer?
2. Why wasn't a photograph of Jack Ruby taken in death? Certainly in view of all the inferences, innuendoes and accusations should it not be vitally important to the government beyond a shadow of a doubt that this man was dead?
3. His body was reported to have been flown to a Chicago funeral home where, due to some alleged "threats" the public was not permitted to view the body, and five newsmen were reported to have viewed the body. Which five and from what newspapers? No names were mentioned in the press. Why???
4. Has a gigantic hoax been perpetrated on the American public? Why wasn't J. Edgar Hoover called in to verify the death?

I believe this raises some valid pertinent questions which should be answered.

Very truly yours,

EDWARD H. WERNER
 178 West Drive
 No. Massapequa, N. Y.

44-24016-2140

JAN 25 1967

to: J. Edgar Hoover
 New York News
 Senator Jacob Javits
 Senator Robert Kennedy

JAN 27 1967

RESPONDENCE



Executive and General Offices
Capitol Records Inc.
 The Capitol Tower, Hollywood, California 90028. Telephone (213) HO 2-6252

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Wick
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

January 16, 1967

Handwritten signature
 H. J. [unclear]

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
 Director of the Federal Bureau of
 Investigation
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I'm sure that you have taken note of the fact that on December 16, at approximately 4 p.m., I was able to obtain a tape recording of the conversation between Jack Ruby, his attorneys and members of his family in which he was asked questions pertaining to his involvement on December 24, 1963. This recording was done 5 days after Mr. Ruby was told that he was dying of cancer.

I am enclosing a transcript of that entire tape that was given to me by Earl Ruby minutes after its recording for whatever use you may so desire. If you or any members of your office wish to hear the tape, please feel free to call upon me and arrangements will be made immediately.

Transcripts of the tape have been presented to the press media and copies of the tape are also in the hands of the press.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Lawrence Schiller
 Lawrence Schiller
 44-24016-2141

REC 102

LS:slg
 Enclosures

JAN 25 1967

62-109060

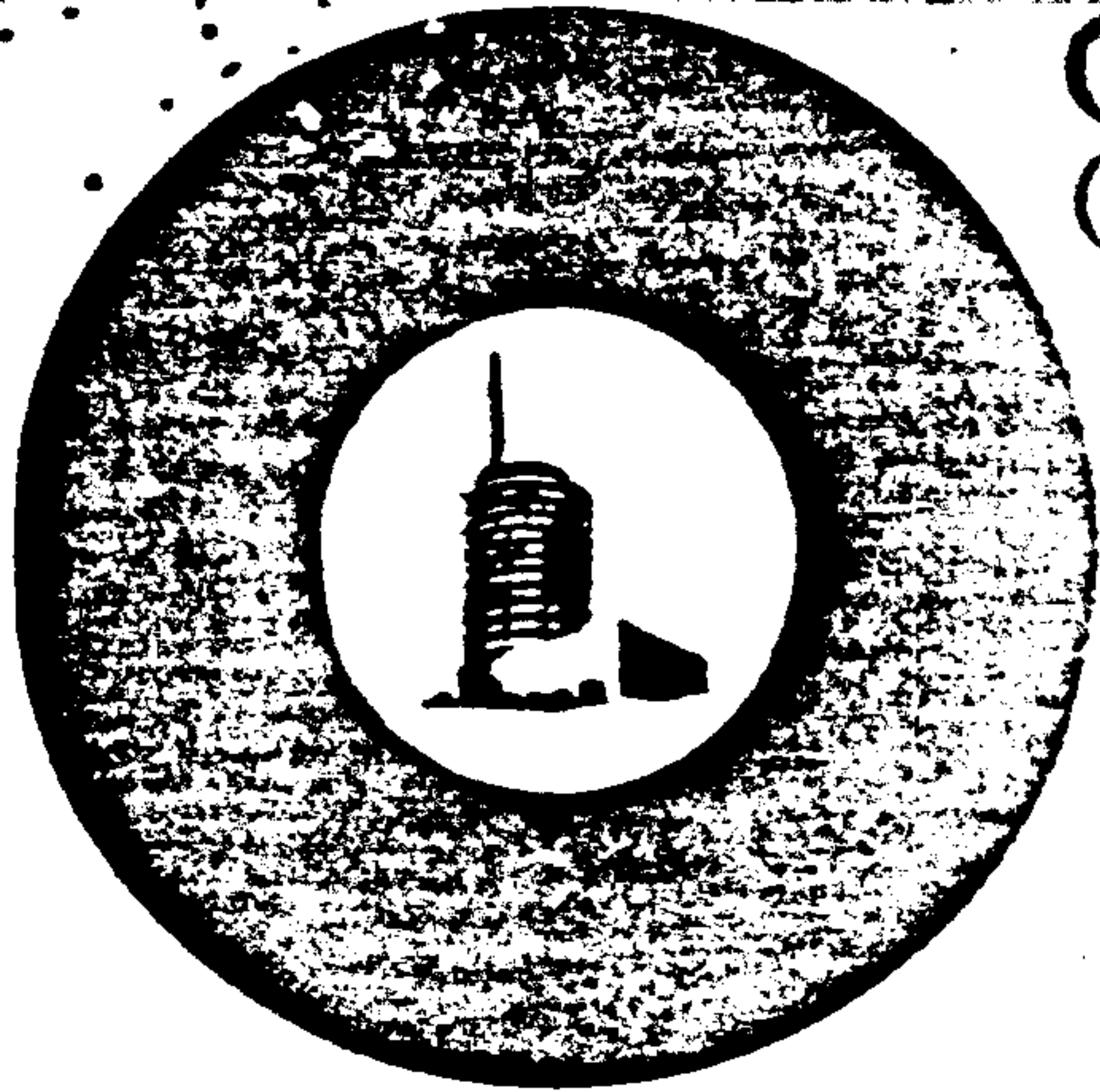
JAN 26 1967

ENCLOSURE

JAN 18 1967

Handwritten notes:
 Rec. at: 1/20/66
 EJm/ajk
 12 copy. 2 into to Crim Div
 6-95 (6)
 1/20/66

Handwritten signature



CAPITOL NEWS

THE JACK RUBY TAPE;

ENTIRE, UN-EDITED VERSION RELEASED

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 12 -- The death of Jack Ruby on Jan. 3, 1967, propelled a Capitol Records' documentary/news album, "~~The Controversy~~," into national prominence and drew particular attention to one small three minute and 55 second segment of that album in which Ruby was interviewed at Parkland Hospital just prior to his death.

The portion of the tape included in the album was part of a 14-minute interview which was conducted with Ruby on Dec. 16, 1966. At the time of Mr. Ruby's death, the entire un-edited tape, which was recorded at Parkland Hospital, could not be released because:

1. it had not been equalized (noise level) for proper listening, a
2. it was in a safe deposit box in California and could not be played publicly without permission of the producer of the album who had solely edited the tape.

At that time Lawrence Schiller, producer of "The Controversy" album chose not to release the un-edited version because he felt it would be improper to make the tape public during the Ruby family's mourning period.

At the end of the mourning period, steps were immediately taken to prepare the quality of tape and transcription for a non-commercial public release on January 12, and arrangements were made for the Ruby family's attorney, Elmer Gertz, to come to Los Angeles from Chicago to represent the family at that time.

ENCLOSURE

###



BACKGROUND NOISE - YIDDISH - Talk into the...here the device mechanical is in here, talk into the case.

A. When I went into the Western Union to try to send the money, and naturally the clerk took my money, and uh, and uh, turned away after he took the money, I turned away and walked out. I walked down the street, just natural strides, and as I

Q. Main Street?

A. No - Yes, Main Street, going west on Main Street, the south side of Main Street, as I walked toward the ramp, I noticed the police squad car at the head of the ramp and an officer leaning over talking to him with his back to me. All I did was walk down there, down to the bottom of the ramp and that's when the incident happened, at the bottom of the ramp - according to the Western Union records - the time stamped on the Western Union records - it's 11:17 the time the incident taking place 11:21, it was 11:21.

Q. Did you walk slowly?

A. I walked my natural pace.

Q. You did not rush?

A. No.

Q. Did you recognize anybody when you reached the bottom of the ramp?

A. No. I recognized the police officer in the car - that was in the car - it was Lt. Sam Pierce, and this other man was just talking to him, and why Sam Pierce had not seen me, I don't know.

Q. Did you try to avoid him or anything?

A. No, I didn't.

Q. When did you finally realize that something had happened, Jack, when did you finally know?

A. Well, it happened in such a blur that - well it happened in such a blur, that before I knew it, I was down on the ground - the officers had me on the ground.

Q. Had you realized you had done anything?

A. Well, really it happened so fast, and anything else I cannot recall what happened from the time I came to the bottom of the ramp until the police officers had me on the ground.

Q. Have no recollection?

A. No. But, I knew they were holding my hand and grabbing for the gun.

Q. Had you ever known Oswald, Jack?

A. No.

Q. Ever know Oswald before?

A. Never had known him or seen him before.

Q. You never met him?

A. Never have, my Clubs were all money that either I borrowed for the family or self-accumulated. I was not obligated to any other source, never had I attempted to ask anybody for anything, so, I owe the government a little money at the time, but we were working out a deal on a compromise, those things over a period of years you pay off.

Q. Had you ever planned anything like this?

A. Had I ever what?

Q. Did you ever plan this. Did you ever think you were going to do this?

A. I don't know how to answer that. I was so emotionally upset for three days. At one particular time I had to have some money and I borrowed some money from Ralph Paul, and I gave him some stock in the Club to show good faith, that sort of collateral, for it.

Q. You did not try to sneak in the place, did you?

A. No, I didn't.

- Q. Was there anybody at Western Union ahead of you?
- A. Yes, one customer, one customer.
- Q. Did you try to hurry up the people at Western Union?
- A. No, I didn't.
- Q. Were there other people at Western Union while you were there, Jack?
- A. No, I didn't recall, I noticed only this one customer.
- Q. Did you think that Oswald was already taken over by the Sheriff by the time you went to Western Union?
- A. Uh, I don't know how to answer that, I don't know one way or the other
- Q. Do you remember when you drove by Dealy Plaza and saw those wreaths what you thought at that time?
- A. What I saw?
- Q. Yeah, what you thought?
- A. The same thing I had gone through for the other two days, the letdown and remorse.
- Q. Were you planning after Kennedy was shot to leave Dallas for a few days, Jack?
- A. Yes, it came to my mind momentarily when I called my sister in Chicago I said "Jean, now I ought to come home for a few days", so the first thing she said was "who is going to look after Eve?", meaning my sister Eve just got out of the hospital, so she felt that she was convalescing somebody should be with her.
- Q. Otherwise you would have gone home?
- A. Well, there was a chance that I could of if Eileen would have talked me into it, you know.
- Q. Is there any truth at all to the stories that Oswald had been in your Club?

- A. None whatsoever, it's just a fabrication - in one particular incident that has never been enlightened to the public, I believe, is that a friend of mine, Mr. McWhillie who invited me down to Havana, Cuba. I didn't come down, but he finally sent me plane tickets to come down as a good friendly gesture. So I accepted the invitation. I stayed with him for eight days, and then I left, and I had lived constantly with him the eight days, but then right after that he called me from Havana, Cuba and said "Jack, I want you to call Ray Brantley at Ray's Hardware store in Singleton Avenue and tell him to send me four Cobras" - a Cobra is a little revolver. So, I did call him and gave him the address. When I called him he answered and said, "Oh, I know Mr. McWhillie very well" so that left it out of my hands. All I had to do was relay the message, but that is the only extent I ever had of any association with anything business dealings outside of the United States and that was only a message to relay.
- Q. Normally you carried a gun with you didn't you, Jack?
- A. Yes, I did.
- Q. This was nothing unusual you had with you that day?
- A. No. I always carried a gun because of various altercations I had in my Club then I carried pretty large sums of money at times.
- Q. You had your dog with you, Sheba?
- A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Will you tell about Sheba, Jack?
- A. Well, I was very fond of Sheba. She brought me a very large litter and I raised the litter by myself in my apartment, and I distributed the dogs to certain friends, but I kept Sheba and another dog called Clipper. Sheba was wherever I were go, leave the house, she jumped the door ready to go with me.
- Q. She was with you that day?
- A. Yes, I left her in the car. The ironic part of this is had not I made an illegal turn behind the bus to the parking lot, had I gone the way I was supposed to go straight down Main Street, I would have never met this fate because the difference in meeting this fate was 30 seconds one way or the other.

Q. When you were down there you didn't try to hide or conceal?

A. No, I didn't because if you checked the walking distance from the Western Union to the bottom of the ramp, you know it would have to be synchronized so perfect to the second, and to plan something you had in your mind premeditatedly. In that sense I didn't even allow myself one second of interval time. I never accepted a call at the Western Union. I presume there was a public phone. I never accepted a call for somebody to let me know what is happening.

Q. Did you know when Oswald was going to be moved, Jack?

A. I'll be honest with you, No.

Q. You had no idea?

A. Later on I found out he was supposed to be moved at 10:00.

Q. You were never told by anybody he was going to be moved?

A. No.

Q. Is there anything else you think I ought to know, Jack? Are you uncomfortable?

A. My rectum, I am bedridden, you know.

Q. You got sores, eh?

A. No, it's not sores - it's the pain.

Q. Jack, when you left the Western Union office what made you walk toward the jail house?

A. Because when I drove by I saw some people down at the ramp and the curiosity had aroused me because of the flash in my mind seeing the people there because before I went to Western Union as I drove by on Main Street.

Q. Is there anything else you can think of, Jack, anything else when you were walking by or going down there?

A. I don't know what to think - happened.

- Q. Well, you are doing very well - just think a minute. Do you remember anything when you reached the bottom of the ramp?
- A. Yeah, I did, like I said, a flash came to me from the point at the bottom of ramp at the time that I was grappling with the police officers for the gun. Actually, what had happened I don't know at that time.

HOLLYWOOD & VINE P. O. BOX 2391 HOLLYWOOD 28, CALIF.

COMPANY	DEPT.
CRI	B 96-78

Schiller



AIR MAIL

TO: The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the Federal Bureau of
Investigation
Washington, D. C.

AIR MAIL

DIRECTOR
JAN 18 1957

FORM 1760-2-57

REC 102

44-21016-2141

January 20, 1967

1 - Mr. Hines

Mr. Lawrence Schiller
Executive and General Offices
Capitol Records Inc.
The Capitol Tower
Hollywood, California 90028

Dear Mr. Schiller:

Your letter dated January 16, 1967, and its enclosures have been received.

The interest which prompted you to write and the offer contained in your letter are appreciated. However, since you have made a transcript of the tape available, it does not appear necessary that arrangements be made through you for the tape to be listened to by representatives of this Bureau.

Copies of the enclosures to your letter have been furnished to Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. 20530.

Any further information you may desire to furnish to this Bureau concerning matters coming within our jurisdiction will be acted upon appropriately.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

EJM:sjk
(3)

SEE NOTE - PAGE TWO

MAILED 6
JAN 20 1967
COMM-FBI

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

JAN 20 10 51 AM '67

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

44-21016-2141

Handwritten notes:
Bureau
Refined
M...
090601-29

Handwritten: L...
JAN 26 1967

- Nelson
- Loach
- Mohr
- Wick
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Rm.
- Holmes
- Gandy

57 FEB 8 1967

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Mr. Lawrence Schiller

NOTE: Bureau is in receipt of a letter from Lawrence Schiller of Capitol Records, who taped an interview with Jack Ruby on 12/16/66 just prior to Ruby's death. Schiller enclosed a transcript of the tape and offered to make the tape available for Bureau representatives to listen to. Transcript does not contain any pertinent information not already known to the Bureau. Ruby restates his continually maintained position that he acted on impulse and there was no conspiracy.

Capitol Records has released contents of the tape in a record called "The Controversy," which is available for public purchase. It is not felt necessary that Agents listen to the tape as a result of arrangements to be made by Schiller as it may be used by him purely as a publicity stunt to give greater weight and authenticity to the record.

Bufiles contain no information identifiable with Schiller which would preclude responding to his letter in the above manner. Copies of enclosures to Schiller's letter being forwarded to Criminal Division via 6-94 (G-for information).

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

DATE: 2-1-67

Classified by 2040
 Exempt from GDS, Category 2-3
 Date of Declassification Indefinite

TO : Mr. Wick

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: MILTON VIORST

BACKGROUND:

CONFIDENTIAL

Jack Ruby

The Director is in receipt of the February, 1967, issue of "the Washingtonian," which was mailed from the Washington, D. C. headquarters office of that publication. It contains (pp 60-61 & 81) an article by Milton Viorst entitled "There Was Nothing Else They Could Do." Stapled to this article was a note: "Compliments of the editor. Your comments are invited."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
 OTHERWISE

The Director has inquired "What do we know of Milton Viorst?"

This article calls for a new investigation into the assassination of former President John F. Kennedy, claiming that the findings of the Warren Commission are not compelling and are losing public confidence. The Commission, argues Viorst, was trapped by pervading influences that sought a solution to the assassination which would serve the National interest rather than the truth. The article characterizes the Director and the FBI as part of these insidious influences that destroyed the Commission's "capacity to function as a free agency," and "drove it ineluctably to accept" Lee Oswald as the unassisted assassin.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

According to "Contemporary Authors" (copyrighted 1964), Viorst was born 2-18-30, at Paterson, New Jersey. He is married, the father of two children, and resides at 1725 Q Street, Washington, D. C. Receiving B. D., M. A., and M. S. degrees, respectively, at Rutgers, Harvard and Columbia Universities prior to 1955, Viorst took postgraduate study at the University of Lyon. He served with U. S. Air Force Intelligence, 1952-54, and since 1961 has been a Washington correspondent

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

44-21016-
 NOT RECORDED
 19 FEB 15 1967

FEB 9 1967

CONTINUED - OVER

CONFIDENTIAL

CRLE R/AN/CB

JHC:djr

(9)

FEB 24 1967

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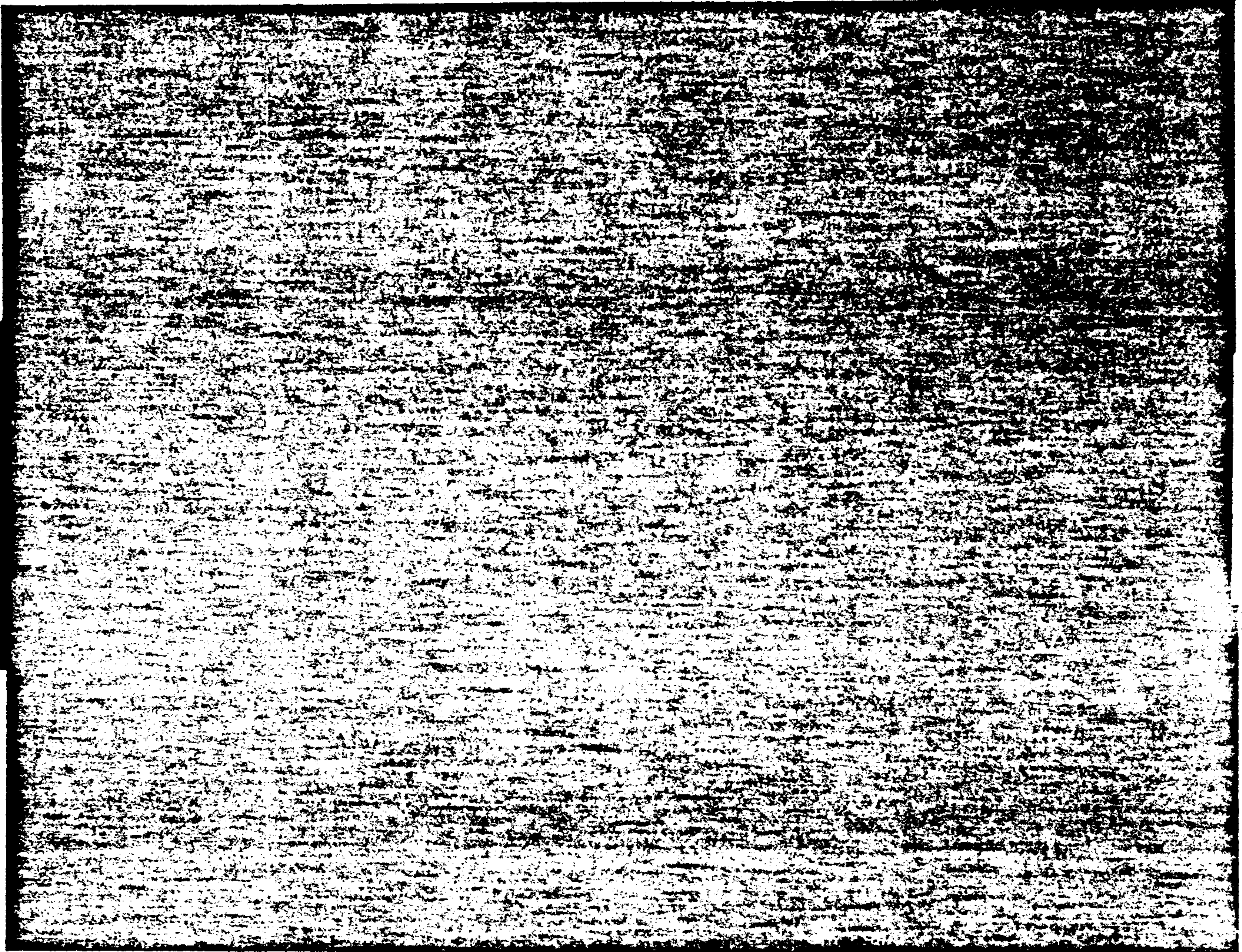
ORIGINAL FILED IN

M. A. Jones to Wick memo
RE: Milton Viorst

for the "New York Post." He reportedly has written several books on political and historical matters, and has done free-lance writing for several national periodicals.

INFORMATION IN BUFILES:

CONFIDENTIAL



10)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. For the Director's information concerning Viorst.

2. That the invitation to comment on the Viorst article be ignored.

X

Right
TEB

CONFIDENTIAL
ds
N

ARTICLE
A Visit with Jack Ruby
Feb. 1967 issue of Washingtonian

DOJ
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

January 31, 1967

The attached February, 1967, issue of "the Washingtonian" was sent to the Director from 1218 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C. 20036. The attached note was clipped to page 61.

Mention is made to the Director on Page 61, and to the FBI on Pages 45, 61 and 81.

- MR. TOLSON
- MR. DELOACH
- MR. MOHR
- MR. WICK
- MR. CASPER
- MR. CALLAHAN
- MR. CONRAD
- MR. FELT
- MR. GALE
- MR. ROSEN
- MR. SULLIVAN
- MR. TAVEL
- MR. TROTTER
- MR. JONES
- TELE. ROOM
- MISS HOLMES
- MRS. METCALF
- MISS GANDY

mjm
ENCLOSURE
Name to write
m
file

What do we know of Milton Fiorat?
Compliments of the editors.
Your comments are invited.

Jack Ruby

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

REC 37

114-24016-2142

NOT RECORDED
199 FEB 15 1967

11 FEB 9 1967

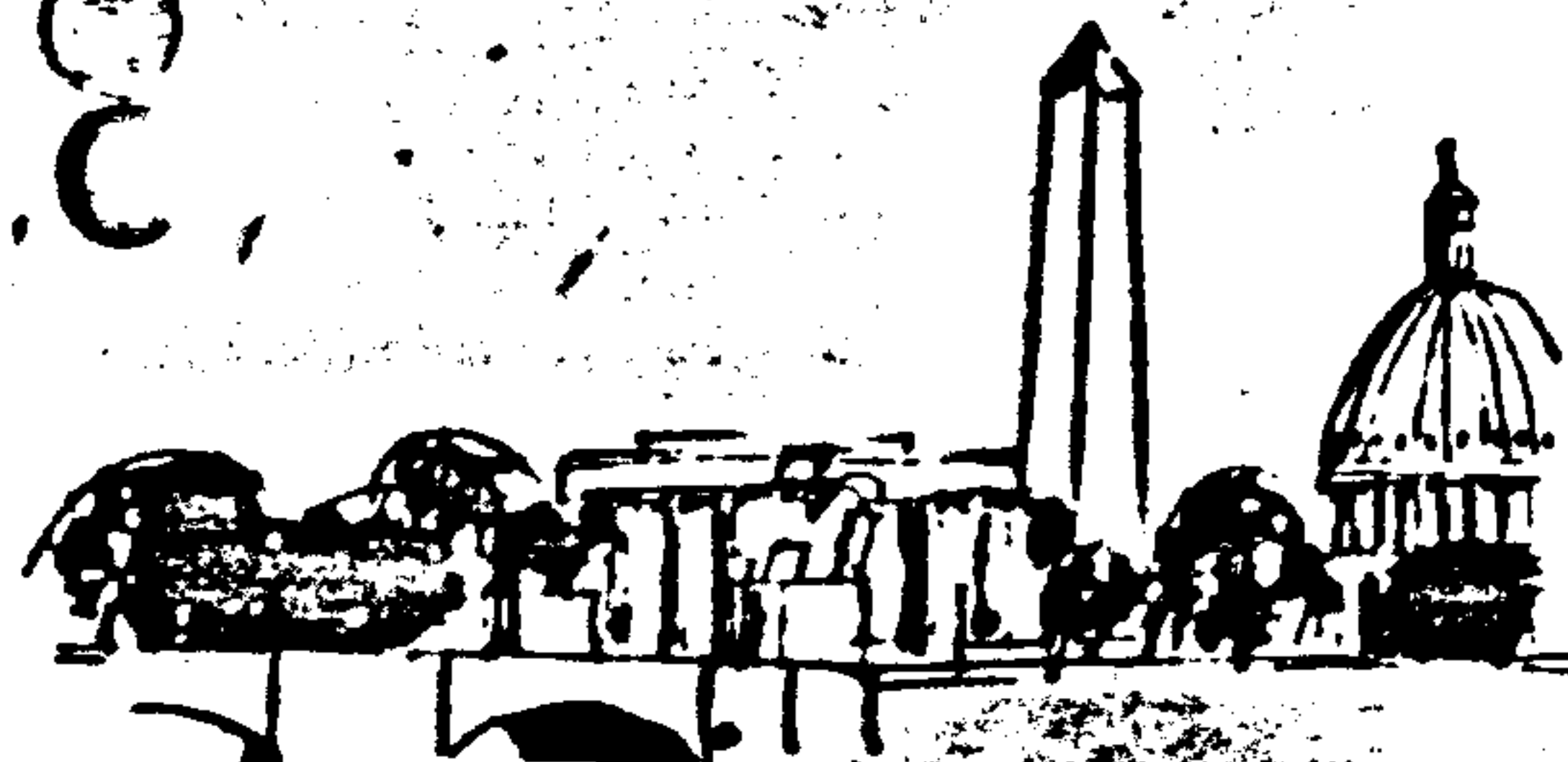
CORRESPONDENCE

see DLM
11/7/64
PS3-44-24016
re Ruby

FEB 24 1967

ORIGINAL FILED IN: 62-109090-570

Capital Comment



A Visit with Jack Ruby

Ukie Sherin, a comedian who frequently appears at the Shoreham, was a close friend of Jack Ruby's and visited him, in fact, in jail. He's also a friend of Morrie Siegel, the sportswriter, so we asked Morrie to take down what Sherin said, next time they talked. Here's what he said:

I knew Jack Ruby about—I imagine around ten years—and I got to know him a little better breaking in a club right across the street from Jack Ruby's. In between shows I'd come over to Ruby's club sometimes to help him out when his MC was sick. As a matter of fact, he offered me a job quite a few times, but I didn't want to go backwards to working back in burlesque again. He was a very avid Kennedy fan. He kept saying to me, Kennedy is even bigger than Roosevelt.

I don't know whether you knew this or not, but Dallas was really anti-Kennedy and anti-Johnson. They felt that Johnson had double-crossed them by going for the Vice Presidency. He was supposed to oppose Kennedy all the way and run for President, and then on the second ballot suddenly he decided to run for Vice President. So any joke anti-Johnson became a very big popular thing in Dallas.

But getting back to Ruby, who was still a big Kennedy man, in the club one night somebody was saying something anti-Kennedy and they threw him out bodily.

But the joke I used to do, which got me in a lot of difficulty, was about Lyndon Johnson. I said, you know, I said, "If you notice that Kennedy is arriving here next week into town to make a few speeches, you'll take note that there'll be no bodyguards, there'll be no secret-service men. He can come to Texas without worrying about a thing. Because the people in Texas are smart. Nobody's going to shoot him, because if you shoot him, Lyndon Johnson becomes President." And this became a big thing. I used to get almost a standing ovation—that's how much they hated Johnson. So naturally, after this thing had happened, I don't think it was a half-hour after the thing had happened, maybe an hour, sometime in the afternoon, anyway, they found me—first time I was in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and questioned me about the joke that I was doing.

Who's they?

This is the FBI. They said we'd like to know did you make this joke up, or did somebody give you the joke, or what made you—? And I told them that the joke had been used from Lincoln. Even with Eisenhower. It was the same joke that you keep switching. I explained that to them, but they still wanted to check out every little detail.

They asked me for about two hours questions about Jack Ruby. Is he a Communist? And what sort of a guy is he? I said he was a loner, and I even gave them my version of what I really think happened.

What is it?

Well, I mean I felt that Jack Ruby just wanted a little publicity. I don't think the guy wanted to shoot him—I mean kill him. I saw Jack with the hand up in the air and all that bit and I thought it was another one of his stunts.

He always wanted to do nice things, always wanted to get publicity. He called me many times to say, you know, "How can I get in the newspaper?" You know, get a little thing—how can I do something nice. If you saw him with five or six people, you knew he was picking up the tab. He said, "Do you think if I made a big stink about those . . . impeach Earl Warren things, would

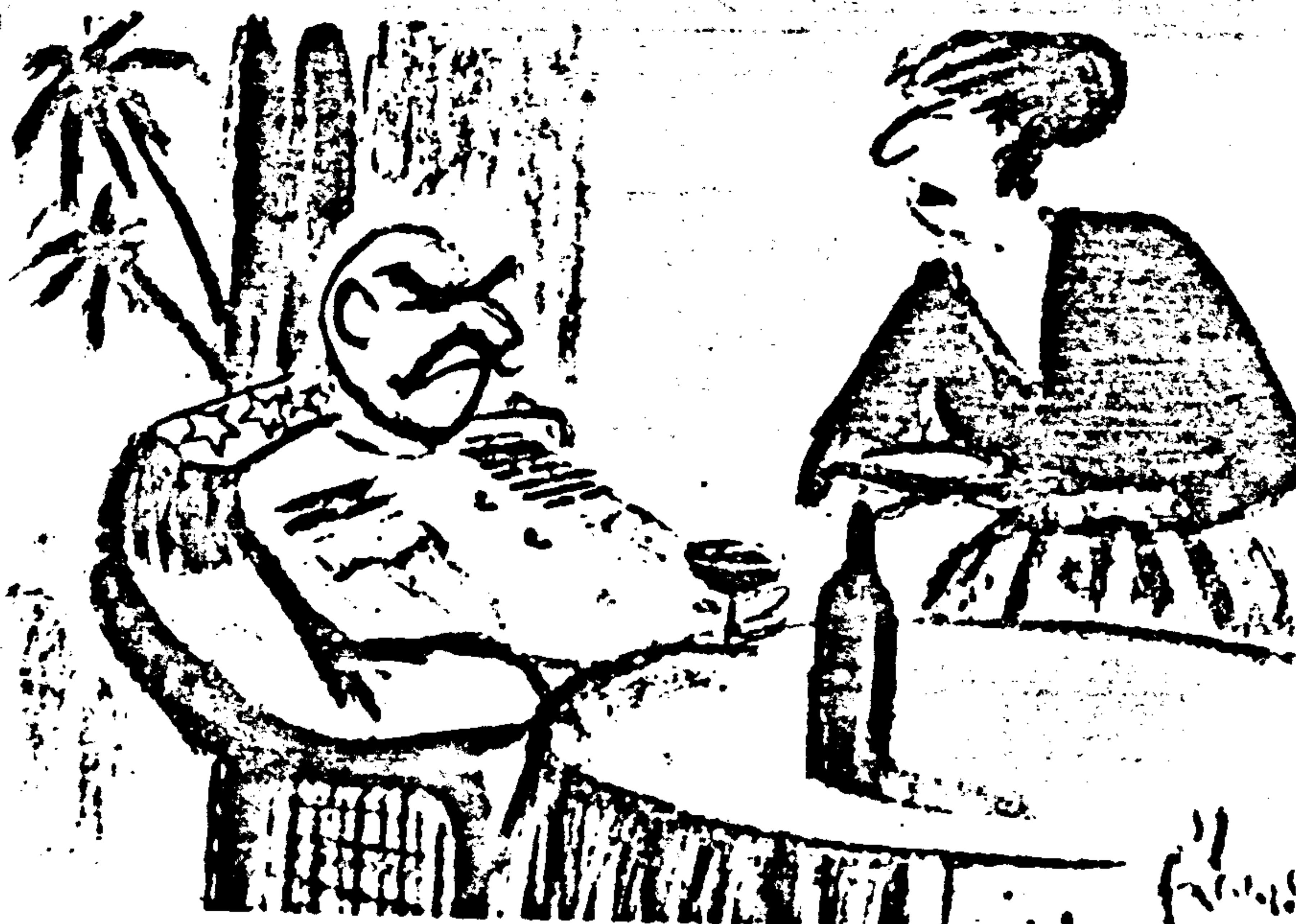
that get me any publicity?"

He was very kind to the police—he ran out of his way to get them sandwiches and things and invite them up to the club. He was not a—what do you call them?—a hustler for the broads, a solicitor.

What were the circumstances which prompted your visit to Ruby in the Dallas jail?

Well, I was playing in Palm Springs and I got a call from one of his lawyers who told me Jack had been asking about me because we had known each other for a long time. He said Jack kept saying that Yuke knows me and would believe me when I say I didn't do the thing on purpose.

So I did go back. It was during the Texas-Oklahoma weekend, back in October 1964. On my second night the sheriff came in and he said, "Hi, nice to have you back, and incidentally, Jack Ruby would like to see you." And I was flabbergasted because I didn't think he had any visitors. I had written to him quite a few times, but never got any answer. The sheriff said, "You can see him, but you can't bring your wife—no newspapermen, but you can see him. You'll have to talk to him through iron bars, but he asked for you. As a matter of fact, he said you're the only guy in



"I guarantee you they'll never write a book called 'The Wit of El Presidente!'"

town that can make him smile. He hasn't smiled in a year."

And so I went up and visited with him, and it did make him smile. It was a sick kind of a smile, because you know me, Morrie, anything to get a smile. So I said to him, "Jack, you remember a year ago—you used to call me and say get me a plug in the paper? You don't need me anymore, you got all the publicity you want."

And he smiled, but he didn't seem to want to smile. He kept saying I wish we could turn back the clock and forget the whole incident. And that's what he would say every time I'd get back and say, "Gee, what possessed you to . . ." He would change the subject and say, "It's something that I want to forget—it's a whole big mistake." And sometimes he would laugh and start talking Jewish. Sometimes he spoke so fast that I couldn't understand what he was trying to say.

I can remember him almost whispering and telling me in Yiddish to be careful what I said and who I talked to because they are out to get all Jews. I asked him what they meant by "they" and he said I would find out.

Finally he wound up saying, "What time is it?" And I said it's about four-thirty. In Dallas they really impound your car on Commerce Street if you leave it there between four and six, and he was more concerned about me getting my car than he was about . . . Here was a guy facing the electric chair, but he was concerned about the police impounding my car . . .

Carpool..Consensus

A carpool which daily makes the commuter run from Maryland to the District has developed what it refers to as the Rosenthal Theory of Increased Government Employee Efficiency. It is named after the member of the pool who originally propounded it, but it has been modified and polished by all members, three of whom are Government employees. We present it here, without editorial comment:

(1) Reduce all federal salaries across the board (including President Johnson's) by 25 percent.

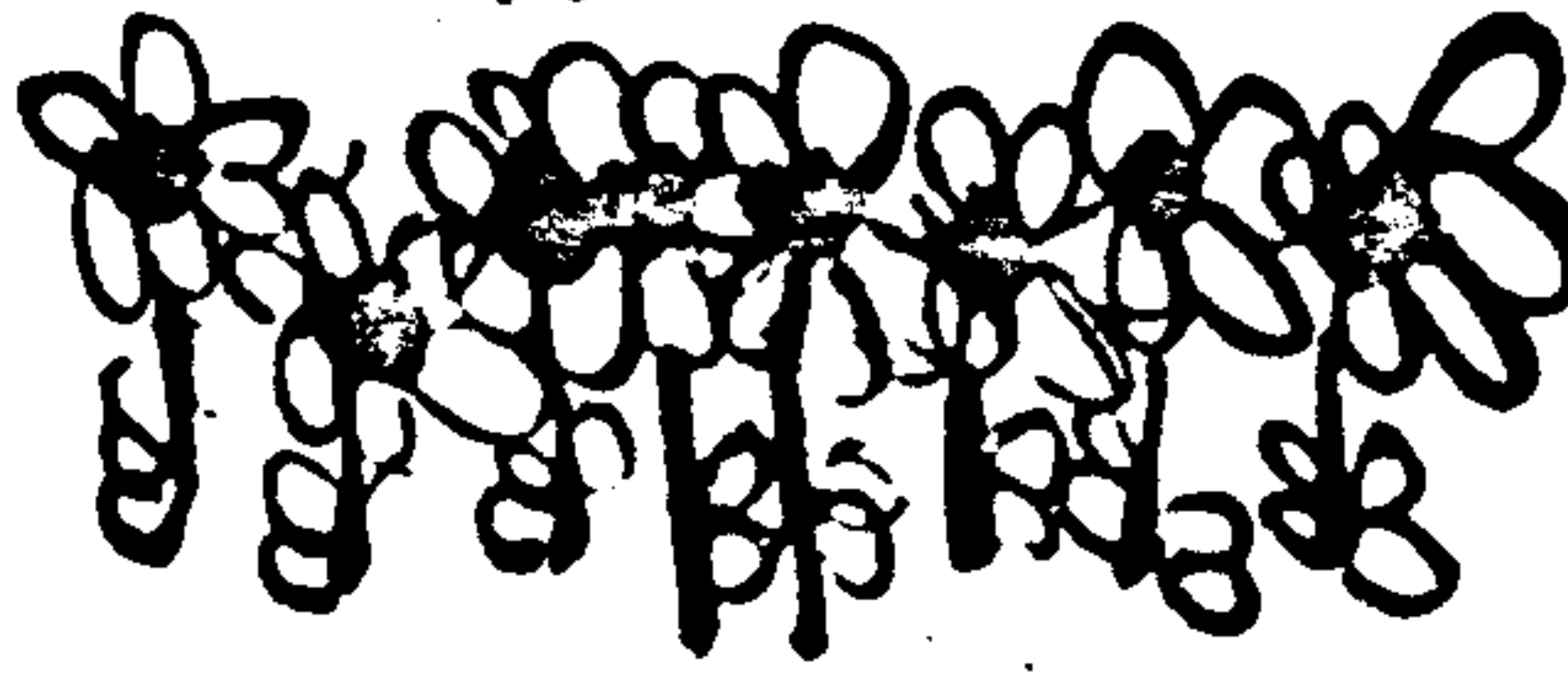
(2) This will cause the 25 percent of federal employees who really work hard and do a good job to quit in disgust because they were already being underpaid to begin with and were staying only because of dedication and loyalty.

(3) The remaining 75 percent are the ones who are just feeding at the public trough and will stay on for any wage as long as they don't have to work or assume responsibility.

(4) Fire that remaining 75 percent who by their actions have marked themselves unfit.

(5) Hire back the 25 percent who quit and give them a 50 percent wage increase.

The results will be a smaller, better paid, and more efficient work force in the Federal Service. It is the feeling of the carpool that should the President be one of those who stays on, he should not be fired because the Vice-President will have quit.



They Should Have Listened

"The graves are filled with the wisdom of afterthought. . . ." So goes an old Italian proverb. However, many people in Italy and elsewhere are still wondering whether the catastrophic floods of last November could possibly have been avoided. The many *ifs* do not replace what has been lost, Cimabue's Christ, the frescoes, the old manuscripts, the properties of so many Florentines. But one more *if* should not pass unnoticed, although it reaches so far back that it might appear presumptuous to try to establish a connection between today's tragedy and yesterday's unheeded genius. And yet, Leonardo da Vinci, this giant of mankind's scientific and artistic evolution, had devised a complete flood control plan for the Arno River valley shortly after 1500. If implemented, the project would have prevented the natural disasters of centuries. Leonardo planned to connect the major cities of Tuscany—Florence, Pisa, and Pistoia—by means of an network of canals which would have made the Arno navigable. They would have provided water during the dry summer months, while a system of dams and locks would have kept the level under the danger point during the winter. Leonardo had gone even one step further: He had visualized full economic exploitation of waterways and dams; in other words, the principle of having the flood control works pay for themselves. He even built a mill, on his father's land near Vinci, to grind herbs. The mill operated until 1905, according to one of the foremost students of Leonardo, Dr. Raymond Stites, Assistant to the Director of Educational Services in Washington's National Gallery of Art. Italy's loss was our gain, though. Dr. Stites told Arthur Morgan, the designer of the TVA flood control and power system, about Leonardo's plans, and some of his innovations are in use today. Unfortunately, the Arno did not benefit.

\$0.00 (Tax Deductible)

We see no reason why we shouldn't believe everything the National Geographic Society tells us. If ever there was a stickler for exact information, the Society is the stickliest.

For example, signs in the Society's im-

pressive Explorers Hall at Sixteenth: "I inform everybody that the earth revolves around the sun in 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46½ seconds that the deepest dive ever made was 3,028 feet (by Dr. Beebe)—that the highest balloon ascension ever made was to 72,395 feet (U.S. Army)—et cetera"

On a recent stroll through Explorers Hall we were therefore touchingly full of trust as we looked at a sumptuous model of "The Nation's Planetarium." A sign on the model proclaimed that it would be "the world's largest planetarium, built on the banks of the Potomac"

Then suddenly the Society put its touch on us. "Contributions (tax deductible)," the sign continued, "can be sent to The Washington Planetarium and Space Center, c/o the Riggs National Bank."

We were about to reach for our checkbook when we noted a sort of P.S. which read as follows:

"Funds required for construction: \$100,000."

Relieved and elated, we resumed our stroll through Explorers Hall, humming the tune of "Stardust," at peace with ourselves and with our pocketbook. After all—and we had the National Geographic's word for it—we had just contributed the full sum required for construction of the world's largest planetarium.

You don't get to do that every day

Intelligence

There is a sign beside a pathway in front of the CIA's Langley Headquarters which reads:

SLIPPERY WHEN ICY

"Banned Books"

Do those big, brash, foot-high letters spelling out BANNED BOOKS in the show window of the Discount Book Shop, 1342 Connecticut Avenue, give you a feeling of *déjà vu*? If so, it's not surprising, for the sign was there for a few weeks last August, bugling its provocative come-on, or come-in, message.

The unusual display created quite a stir in the midst of the American Legion Convention in August—and that was exactly what it was intended to do.

This January, the two Bobs who run the shop—Bob Bialek, the owner, and Bob Ball, the manager—decided to do some impartial cold-weather needling of the general public. They gathered together the same carefully selected books they had displayed in August—every one of which had been banned at one time or another—and put them back in their window, along with cards explaining the banishment history of each one.

Unsurprisingly, the books included—and include now on the re-run—*Ulysses*, *God's Little Acre*, *Slaughter-*

FBI

Date: 2/23/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (89-75) (RUC)
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,
11/22/63, DALLAS, TEXAS
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

On 2/20/67, Mr. NORMAN ORRMINS, Inspector, IIS, Los Angeles, appeared at the Los Angeles Office and stated that he was furnishing the following information for whatever we feel it is worth.

ORRMINS said a fellow IIS Inspector, J. B. AMERSON, was assigned and working in the Dallas, Texas, area when President KENNEDY was assassinated and that AMERSON is well acquainted with the Dallas area. He indicated it was significant to note that when LEE HARVEY OSWALD was picked up, he was headed in the direction of the Red Bird Airport in Dallas and had almost reached that airport. ORRMINS said that AMERSON had a subject he was working on in Dallas prior to the assassination, and the name of this subject not recalled by ORRMINS but can be determined from AMERSON, who is now working out of the Los Angeles IIS Office. He advised that JACK RUBY was well acquainted with AMERSON's subject, who is or was an airplane pilot and was mixed up in smuggling.

The above is made available for information of the Bureau and the Dallas Office, and no contact will be made with AMERSON re the above unless instructed by the Bureau or Dallas.

- 3 - Bureau
 - 1 - Dallas (89-34) (Info.) (Aid)
 - 1 - Los Angeles
- ERS:elc
(5)

44-211
NOT RECORDED
FEB 28 1967

FEB 25 1967

61 MAR 6 1967

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-109060-4530

FBI WASH DC

202PM URGENT 2-25-67 KBG

TO DIRECTOR (62-109060)

FROM NEW ORLEANS 89-69

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT

JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,

DALLAS, TEXAS,

NOVEMBER TWENTYTWO, NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE

RE NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE DATED FEBRUARY TWENTYFOUR,
NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN.

FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED ON FEBRUARY TWENTYFOUR, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN,
THAT HE RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT THE INDIVIDUAL USING
THE NAME CLAY BERTRAND IS ACTUALLY CLAY SHAW. INFORMANT
STATED HE CALLED LOUIS IVON, INVESTIGATOR FOR GARRISON,
AND TOLD IVON THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT CLAY SHAW AND CLAY
BERTRAND WERE ONE AND THE SAME, AND ALTHOUGH IVON WOULD
NOT CONFIRM THIS INFORMATION, APPEARED VERY UPSET AND
WANTED TO KNOW WHERE INFORMANT DEVELOPED THIS INFORMATION.

AARON KOHN, MANAGING DIRECTOR, METROPOLITAN CRIME
COMMISSION, ADVISED FEBRUARY TWENTYFOUR, HE HAD RECEIVED
INFORMATION THAT CLAY BERTRAND AND CLAY SHAW WERE ONE AND THE
SAME. KOHN ADVISED HE PICKED THIS INFORMATION UP FROM ONE
OF EIGHTYNINE NEWS SOURCES THAT CONTACTED HIM ON FEBRUARY

51 MAR 10 1967

MAR 6 1967

NOT RECORDED
199 MAR 7 1967

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-109060-4584

Dr
W
B

Handwritten signatures and initials

Handwritten signature

Handwritten initials

cc w c Sullivan
cc [unclear]

PAGE TWO

TWENTYFOUR, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN.

KOHN ADVISED THAT HE ALSO RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT THERE IS A MAN NAMED CLAY BERTRAND LIVING IN LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA, A REAL ESTATE BROKER THAT LIVED IN NEW ORLEANS ABOUT THE TIME OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY. KOHN UNABLE TO SUPPLY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RE CLAY BERTRAND OF LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA.

BOTH [REDACTED] AND AARON KORN ADVISED THAT CLAY SHAW WAS THE FORMER MANAGING DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA. BOTH KOHN AND [REDACTED] ADVISED THAT INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THEM LEAD THEM TO BELIEVE THAT SHAW HAS HOMOSEXUAL TENDENCIES.

[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM A PERSON THAT IS A FRIEND OF A FRIEND OF BILL REED OF WWL TV NEWS SERVICE, NEW ORLEANS. THIS FOURTH DASH HAND INFORMATION IS THAT SAM QUOTE "MONK" UNQUOTE ZELDEN, PROMINENT NEW ORLEANS ATTORNEY, Lu HAS IN HIS POSSESSION AN APPLICATION, NOT OTHERWISE IDENTIFIED, IN

PAGE THREE

WHICH OSWALD USED AS A REFERENCE JACK RUBY. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] DOES NOT KNOW WHAT KIND OF AN APPLICATION
OR IF THIS IS EVEN TRUE.

NO INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED. INFORMATION BEING
RECEIVED FROM ESTABLISHED SOURCES.

END

HOLD FOR CORR.

~~TIME SHOULD BE 212 PM~~

END

LLD

FBI WASH DC

FBI

Date: 2/20/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Vig
AIRTEL

AIRMAIL - REGISTERED

(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-24016)

JAW
FROM : SAC, PORTLAND (44-225)

SUBJECT: JACK L. RUBY, aka;
LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka -
VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

Repp 1926

Re Portland teletype to Indianapolis and Dallas dated 11/25/63, captioned, "JACK LEON RUBY, aka; LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka - VICTIM DECEASED; CR". Re also report of SA WILLIAM S. BROWN dated 12/1/63 entitled, "LEE HARVEY OSWALD, IS-R", and numerous communications thereafter captioned, "JACK L. RUBY, aka; LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka - Victim; CR".
FI 12
All dealt with information provided by GEORGE WILLIAM FEHRENBACH of Medford, Oregon.

4211 Littleton, Ashland
Enclosed herewith are three copies for the Bureau and one each for Dallas and Indianapolis of a newspaper account which appeared in the 2/16/67 issue of the "Ashland Daily Tidings", a daily newspaper published at Ashland, Oregon. Included is a photo of FEHRENBACH. The account includes information previously provided by FEHRENBACH to the Bureau. The copies are being submitted as a matter of information. Ashland, Oregon, is a small community approximately 12 miles from Medford. FEHRENBACH apparently now lives in Ashland.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 3) (RM)
- 1 - Dallas (44-1639) (Enc. 1) (RM) **EX-114**
- 1 - Indianapolis (44-358) (Enc. 1) (RM)
- 2 - Portland

44-24016-2143

WSB:cfk
(7)

REC-34

FEB 23 1967

75
55 MAR 9 1967

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

'Shot Oswald To Shut His Mouth'

Ruby Was A Commie, Ashland 'Friend' C

By HASSO HERING
Of The Tidings

An Ashland man who says he knew the late Jack Ruby claims he saw Ruby's name on a Communist Party roster in Indiana during World War II.

George William Fehrenbach, an Ashland jeweler, said Wednesday he told the Warren Commission, the blue-ribbon group appointed to investigate President Kennedy's death, about what he thinks was Ruby's Communist past.

In a time when theories about the President's assassination in November 1963 abound, Fehrenbach thinks Ruby was still a member of the Communist Party when he killed Lee Harvey Oswald,

the man the Warren Commission said killed the President.

Fehrenbach is listed in the papers of the Warren Commission as "a purported acquaintance of Ruby."

The 41-year-old jeweler, who lives at 439 Litway, said he thinks Ruby was chosen by the Communist Party to slay Oswald after the killer of the President had been caught.

Fehrenbach said he worked as an apprentice in the jewelry store of a man named Sam Jaffe in 1942 and 1943 in Muncie, Ind. During that time, Fehrenbach claims, he met Ruby a number of times and once went out to dinner with him. One day, after a group of

"Communists" had rented the union hall on top of the store where he worked, Fehrenbach went upstairs to retrieve a chair which had been borrowed for the meeting, he recalled. He said he saw a list lying in the room.

Fehrenbach said, "I was no dumbbell. I knew what kind of meetings they were holding up there. So I took the list and turned it over to the chief of police."

He said the list was "a roster of the Communists who had been at the meeting."

He said he knew Ruby under the name of Jack Rubenstein, his actual name. When Fehrenbach and his wife

Phyllis watched the events following the assassination of the President on television, he said, he recognized Ruby.

After "debating whether I should say I knew him," Fehrenbach said, he called the Medford office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

He told The Tidings two FBI agents came to see him, took him to the Ashland police station and questioned him at length.

After "three or four" months, during which FBI agents questioned him so frequently that he often had to close his jewelry shop in the Ashland Medical Center, Fehrenbach said, he was called to testify before the Warren Commission in Washing-

ton, D. C., in a letter signed by Lee Rankin, general counsel for the Commission.

He said he gave a deposition before three men associated with the commission when he appeared in the capital on July 22, 1964. Fehrenbach said he was shown a number of photographs of Ruby and "members of the Communist party in Muncie at that time, back in '41 through '44."

Fehrenbach said he served in the Navy from 1944 until 1946 and met Ruby again on his return to Muncie in 1946. Fehrenbach moved to Jacksonville, Fla., when he was discharged from the Navy after his second tour of duty in 1950. He moved to Grants Pass in 1959

and can be contacted at 439 Litway. The FBI agent who had told Fehrenbach he was shown a number of photographs of Ruby and "members of the Communist party in Muncie at that time, back in '41 through '44."

and can be contacted at 439 Litway. The FBI agent who had told Fehrenbach he was shown a number of photographs of Ruby and "members of the Communist party in Muncie at that time, back in '41 through '44."

ASHLAND TIDINGS

Southern Oregon's Oldest Newspaper

63th Year

10c Per Copy

ASHLAND, OREGON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1967

Telephone 432-3456



RECALL KILLER'S KILLER — George W. Fehrenbach of Ashland, a jeweler, sits in his small shop recalling events of the early 40s, when he knew Jack Ruby in Muncie, Ind. — Tidings Photo

FEB 20 1967

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Handwritten signatures and initials

Handwritten signature

FBI WASH DC

FBI NEW ORLS

2:59 PM URGENT 2-20-67 GLM3P

DIRECTOR 62-109060 AND DALLAS 89-43

FROM NEW ORLEANS 89-69

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,
DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER TWENTYTWO, SIXTYTHREE, MISCELLANEOUS
INFO CONCERNING, OO: DALLAS.

RE NEW ORLEANS TEL TO BUREAU AND DALLAS DATED NOV.
TWENTYSEVEN, SIXTYTHREE AND REPORT OF SA MANNING C. CLEMENTS
DATED NOV. THIRTY, SIXTYTHREE AT DALLAS, IN CASE ENTITLED
JACK L. RUBY; LEE HARVEY OSWALD, AKA. - VICTIM,
DECEASED, ^{CIVIL RIGHTS} CR.

REFERENCED TEL FURNISHED INFO FROM MRS. CORINNE BURGESS,
CLERK, NEWPORT MOTEL, MORGAN CITY, LA. ON NOV. TWENTYSIX,
SIXTYTHREE, ADVISING THAT A MAN STOPPED AT NEWPORT MOTEL ON
NOV. FOURTEEN, SIXTYTHREE, AT APPROXIMATELY ONE PM AND ASKED
TO SPEAK TO PETE GUARISCO, OWNER OF MOTEL. PERSON
CLAIMED TO BE OLD FRIEND OF GUARISCO FROM DALLAS. MRS. BURGESS
SAID PHOTO OF JACK RUBY IN PAPER APPEARED TO BE THIS MAN.

GUARISCO WAS NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME BUT SUBSEQUENTLY ADVISED

END PAGE ONE

62-109060-4513
ORIGINAL FILED IN

75
70 MAR 7 1967

40-24016-
NOT RECORDED
199 FEB 28 1967

Handwritten signature

PAGE TWO

NO 89-69

RUBY NOT KNOWN TO HIM AND HE DOES NOT KNOW IDENTITY OF THIS
MAN. REFERENCED REPORT OF SA CLEMENTS SETS FORTH THREE
ZERO TWO'S COVERING INTERVIEWS WITH PETER JAMES GUARISCO
AND MRS. CORINNE BURGESS REGARDING ABOVE INFO.

ON AFTERNOON OF FEB. NINETEEN, SIXTYSEVEN, ASSISTANT
CHIEF OF POLICE
COP A. A. ACOSTA, MORGAN CITY, LA. TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED
RESIDENT AGENT THAT MRS. BURGESS HAD CONTACTED HIM STATING
THAT SHE DID NOT FURNISH ALL THE INFORMATION TO THE AGENT
OF THE FBI WHO CONTACTED HER SINCE PETE GUARISCO WAS PRESENT
AT TIME AND SHE WAS AFRAID TO FURNISH ALL THE INFORMATION
SHE KNEW SINCE GUARISCO HAD PREVIOUSLY TOLD HER TO KEEP
QUIET AND THAT HE DID NOT KNOW JACK RUBY.

MRS. BURGESS NOW CLAIMS INDIVIDUAL WHO APPEARED AT
MOTEL ON NOV. FOURTEEN, SIXTYTHREE, IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS
JACK RUBY, ASKED TO SEE PETER GUARISCO AND INQUIRED ABOUT
VICK GUARISCO, A COUSIN OF PETE GUARISCO. HE ALSO MENTIONED
HE WAS A FRIEND OF CARLOS MARCELLO AND PETE GUARISCO.
ASOCTA ADVISED THAT PETE GUARISCO APPARENTLY WAS NOT AT THE
MOTEL AT THE TIME AND THE INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFYING HIMSELF TO
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

NO 89-69

BE RUBY DID NOT SEE OR TALK TO GUARISCO. MRS. BURGESS ALSO CLAIMS THAT THERE WAS ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL WITH RUBY AND IT IS HER FEELING THAT THIS INDIVIDUAL COULD POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN OSWALD.

ACOSTA ADVISED MATTER BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE FBI SINCE MRS. BURGESS STATED SHE PLANNED TO FURNISH THIS INFO TO DISTRICT ATTORNEY GARRISON.

FILES OF THIS OFFICE SHOW OSWALD'S PRESENCE IN DALLAS ON THAT DATE HAS BEEN VERIFIED BY THE DALLAS DIVISION. FILES ALSO SHOW THAT PRESENCE OF JACK RUBY IN DALLAS ON NOV. FOURTEEN, SIXTYTHREE VERIFIED THROUGH ACQUAINTANCES AND EMPLOYEES OF RUBY.

unless Advised to Contrary by Bureau

~~WFG~~, NO ACTION IS BEING TAKEN BY THIS OFFICE TO REINTERVIEW MRS. BURGESS RELATIVE TO INFORMATION SHE CURRENTLY POSSESSES.

WA...MXS

FBI WASH DC

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SUMMARY FROM SPANISH

P2

The following is a summary of the No. 162, January 15-31, 1967, issue of the biweekly publication, "Politica," that is printed by the "Talleres Graficos de Mexico" at South 69-A, 402, Col. Banjidal, Mexico 13. The commercial address is Bucareli 59, 2nd Floor, Mexico 1. Its general director is Manuel Marcue Pardinaz; Boris Rosen is its editor-in-chief.

Front and back cover

"For Good Relations with the President of the Republic"
"The Police Are Always Watching"

The article is a sharp denunciation of the Mexican police and their tactics. Under the strict control of President Diaz Ordaz, Mexico is dominated by the three P's: Police, Prostitution and Politics. The FBI and the CIA dominate the U.S. Embassy which in turn controls the police force and coerces it to eliminate all leftist activities. It must be decided whether Mexico will be governed according to its Constitution or whether it will be subject to the "police forces which are involved in struggles and fights among themselves, aggression against the people, and submissive positions in the face of the FBI's of Yankee imperialism."

Pages I-V

"The U. S. Economy in 1966"
"If the Government Does Not Act Quickly, A Catastrophe Will Take Place"

This is a translation of an article from the December 30, 1966, issue of "Time."

Page 27, Columns 1, 2 and 3

"Two Yankee Aggressions"

The government of the U. S. could not let the eighth anniversary of the Cuban Revolution go by without renewing its

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attacks on the Cuban people with two new acts of aggression:

1. Four counterrevolutionaries: Alberto Concepcion Barreras, Jose Martinez Valdes, Francisco Cordoba, and Ramon Bravo Aloala, were apprehended by the Cuban police in an attempt to bring twenty other counterrevolutionaries out of Cuba. Gonzalez Rodriguez confessed that he was working for the CIA and that this was not his first mission in Cuba. The CIA supplied these men and previous groups with weapons so that as many people as possible can escape from Cuba, thereby causing the Cuban government to lose face.
2. World reaction was aroused by the ballistic missile, Mace, which exploded right off the shore of Cuba. Although this incident was poorly explained as a misfire, it still "constitutes a violation of international laws and places countries like Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras, which border on the Caribbean, in great danger..."

Page 27, Column 3; Page 28, Columns 1 and 2

"The United States"
"Ruby, Another Link"

The death of Jack Ruby raises to 18 the number of mysterious deaths of persons who could have contributed valuable information about the assassination of President Kennedy. Since Ruby was known to have been in good health, "persistent rumors have been circulating in Dallas to the effect that Ruby was given an injection of cancerous cells while he was in prison." Ruby's sister, Eva, and both of his brothers stated that he received very negligent treatment while he was in Dallas Hospital. All signs point to the fact that this nightclub owner was simply another victim of a vast plot.

His deathbed statement about being solely responsible for the death of Oswald can be explained by the fact that Ruby was worried about his above-mentioned family who could undoubtedly have been killed if he had made a true confession. Ruby was a Jew and it is a well-known fact that Jews have a strong spirit of "collective responsibility."

Page 28, Column 2; Page 30, Column 1

"Judith Coplon, Innocent"
(Item fully translated as follows)

Seventeen years ago, when the U.S. vigorously declared the "cold war" on the U.S.S.R., the F.B.I. (Federal Police Agency) eagerly dedicated itself to find spies who were in the pay of the U.S.S.R. Any U.S. citizen who belonged to a leftist organization, who had travelled to the U.S.S.R., or who had had or did have a friendly relationship or a simple acquaintance with Soviet diplomatic officials or consuls, was vigilantly watched by the F.B.I.

Judith Coplon was then a young employee of the Department of Justice who wrote police novels based on true stories that were taken from the unlimited source material in the files of this department. She knew Valentin A. Gubitchev, a member of the U.S.S.R.'s delegation to the United Nations, and the two young people became engaged for a short period of time. The F.B.I., however, saw this as an espionage scheme. It learned that Judith was using the files to get plots and one day, it arrested the two young people. Judith was carrying notes about a U.S. juvenile delinquent in her briefcase. This sufficed for the F.B.I. to accuse Judith of supplying the U.S.S.R. with documents they could use to damage the reputation of the "U.S. way of life."

To this evidence the F.B.I. added recordings of telephone conversations between Judith and Gubitchev, in which they made arrangements to meet somewhere, generally in a cafe or a restaurant. With this "arsenal of evidence," the U.S. anti-communistic propaganda formed a fantastic espionage story.

It was a repetition of the Julius and Ethel Rosenberg trial. They were accused of having given Soviet agents the plans to construct the atomic bomb. The Rosenberg couple, just like Judith Coplon, denied the accusations but were sentenced to death and executed, based on the evidence produced by the F.B.I. This evidence, especially the principal one which was a sketch of something which could have been a nuclear bomb, was kept secret until a few months ago, when U.S. technicians who took part in the creation of the atomic bomb, acknowledged the fact that the sketch was worthless.

Judith Coplon was luckier. In 1949, she was sentenced to ten years in prison by a New York court. The sentence was increased to fifteen years by a Washington court of appeal, but Judith's lawyers made an appeal to the Supreme Court. At this point, the U.S. government, through the Department of Justice, postponed the trial indefinitely because they could not produce any real proof of Judith's guilt.

Gubitchev had been sentenced to the same prison term as Judith, but he decided to return to his country before the sentence was executed. In Moscow, it was definitively denied that Gubitchev and Coplon were involved in any espionage activities.

Thanks to her lawyers' appeals, Judith was not imprisoned; but she was to remain at the police's complete disposition. She married one of her lawyers, Albert H. Socolov. They have had four children and have been living in New York. For the past 17 years, Socolov has been trying unsuccessfully to get the Department of Justice to present the evidence it claims to have. Suddenly, on January 6, the Department issued a writ which withdrew the charges it had held against Judith Coplon for 17 years. The Supreme Court quickly suspended the trial and informed the subject of its suspension.

Socolov told newspapermen: "This action has made us very happy, since justice has finally been served in my wife's case. Now, we will continue our married life and will be much happier than we have been for the past 17 years. The important thing is that no one will be able to suspect my wife of having been in the service of the U.S.S.R. or of having been involved in espionage activities against this country."

Page 48, Columns 1, 2, and 3

"The Press"

"The Green Berets"

"...unsure of their final invincibility, these same leaders of pro-imperialistic propaganda have begun to distribute magazines which will get the people of the United States used to the idea of a nuclear war on their own soil. They also want to popularize the idea of an almost total destruction of mankind, from which only a privileged group, U.S. citizens naturally, will survive. Publications like "Green Berets," "Total War," "Los Cabaleros Atomicos," and many others which contribute to the warmongering and collective hysteria, do not remain solely within the United States. They are distributed throughout the western world, either in their original language or in poorly written translations, where they fill readers' heads, especially children and young people, with lies and fantastic tales."

"The 'Muckrakers' Are Roborn"

This article praises the work done by "Fact" and its editor Ralph Ginzburg as well as "Ramparts" and its editors,

Edward Koating and Warren Hinckle. These magazines are not afraid to expose the capitalistic and fascistic actions and tendencies of the U.S. government and the U.S. way of life.

Joseph North, of the "New Masses," stated: "the only course of action, the only scientific cure for all of the nations' problems (the United States) is communism: this is my declaration as a muckraker."

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

DATE: 2/14/67

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
(ATTN: CRIME RECORDS DIVISION)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN

Stiles
Jack Ruby

Enclosed herewith is a Xerox copy of an article which appeared in the Fall, 1966 edition of the University of Wisconsin Law Review. This article is a review of a book entitled, "The Trial of Jack Ruby", by JOHN WAPLAN and JON R. WALTZ. The comments of particular interest are those of the book reviewer concerning the ineffectiveness of current criminal prosecutions. The topical interest of commentary of this type to people engaged in law enforcement should be substantial; therefore, the editors of the Law Enforcement Bulletin may wish to consider securing authority to reprint this book review or possibly to have the author write something separately developing the theme which he prefaces concerning the ineffectiveness of our system of criminal trials.

A copy of this memorandum and the book review are also enclosed for the Legal Research Unit of the Training Division for their information.

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Stiles

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COMMENTARY

AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY: THE TRIAL OF JACK RUBY†

LAWRENCE M. FRIEDMAN*

President Kennedy was assassinated on November 22, 1963. Two days later, his body lay in state in the rotunda of the Capitol. The world was given over to black pomp and measured grief. It was a "day of drums." Far off, in Dallas, near the site of the bullets and blood, the police held Lee Harvey Oswald in custody. No one doubted that Oswald, ("a twenty-four-year-old drifter and self-proclaimed Marxist with a checkered history of protest against society") had killed the President. On the morning of November 24th, the Dallas police prepared to move Oswald from one jail to another. The room in the basement of the Dallas city hall was humid and crowded. Oswald was led in, handcuffed to a detective. Suddenly, a man emerged from a boiling mass of onlookers, police officers, television cameramen, and reporters—Jack Ruby, born Rubinstein, the owner of a Dallas strip joint. "You son of a bitch!" he shouted, and fired a gun at Oswald; hours later Oswald was dead. This turn of events robbed Dallas of one great state trial, but gave it another; when judgment day came it was Ruby who sat in the dock instead of Oswald. The story of his trial, beautifully understated, has now been told in a masterful book by John Kaplan and Jon R. Waltz.

The trial was bound to excite public interest. No sequence of events in modern times had been followed so eagerly by the public as the tragedy at Dallas and its consequences: the death of a young hero-President, so swift, so tragic, so meaningless. The murder of Oswald was horror piled upon horror. Millions of people had seen it on their television screens; they would never forget. The country had settled down to normalcy when Jack Ruby came to trial, but the trauma had not been expunged. Public curiosity was exploited to the hilt by mass media. The trial was conducted in the honky-tonk air of publicity, polluted by the press and by the buzzing of countless photographers. Ruby's team of lawyers was dominated by Melvin Belli, the "King of Torts,"—flamboyant, high-priced, and notorious. Judge Joe Brown presided, a man known to the Dallas bar as "affable and witty"; "the sort that other men liked to join on a fishing trip or at a poker party."¹ No one thought of Brown as a legal scholar or a subtle umpire of fact. His lust for the limelight

† This Commentary is based on *THE TRIAL OF JACK RUBY*, by John Kaplan and Jon R. Waltz. New York, New York: The Macmillan Company, 1965. Pp. 1, 392. \$7.95 [hereinafter cited as *KAPLAN & WALTZ*].

* Professor of Law, University of Wisconsin. B.A., 1943, J.D., 1951, LL.M., 1953, University of Chicago.

¹ *KAPLAN & WALTZ* 1.

² *Id.* at 17.

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("But, Sam, couldn't you give me just one camera?")—along with simple lack of skill in running a courtroom—may have impeded the conduct of the trial.

The trial itself was arduous. Selection of the jury took a great deal of time; a long parade of witnesses marched on and off the stand. Belli's problem in defending Jack Ruby was simple to state, but difficult to solve. Ruby's state of mind was the essential (and only) question at the trial. Millions, after all, had seen him pull the trigger. The act was undeniable; insanity would have to be the defense. Belli never proved it to the jury's satisfaction. He dabbled with this theory and that. An elusive brand of epilepsy captivated his fancy, but no one else seemed convinced. Belli, it seems, had overextended his powers; by the end of the trial he was exhausted. In addition, he made serious tactical mistakes.³ Ruby himself never took the stand. He sat and listened. At the end of the trial the jury, with almost unseemly speed, found Jack Ruby guilty as charged. He was sentenced to death.

The sentence of death has not yet been carried out; perhaps it never will. Yet the trial and the shadow of death have destroyed what was left of Jack Ruby. By all accounts, he is a broken man. Perhaps he was (legally) sane at the time of his act; after the trial, his mind seemed clearly out of joint. On April 26, 1964, he had to be taken to the hospital for an abrasion caused when he struck his head against the wall of his cell. A professor of psychiatry found him "obviously psychotic."⁴ There were signs of gross paranoia in his behavior. He believed that "all the Jews in America were being slaughtered," that "the President's assassination [was] . . . now being blamed on him," and that he was the cause of a national massacre.⁵ He thought he heard the screams of his brother, who had been castrated and murdered on account of Ruby's deed.⁶ His detachment from reality was by then so gross that even the prosecution could see it. Whatever the game Ruby played, whatever the

³ *Id.* at 35. The statement was made by Brown to Sam Bloom, his "press aide." Brown finally gave way to pressure and barred television from the courtroom.

⁴ For example, in regard to the testimony of Patricia Ann Eurge Kohs: who could have been one of [the defense's] . . . most important witnesses. . . . Belli, however, in the preliminary questioning brought out the fact that she was presently being held for trial on a narcotics charge. . . . Belli . . . had for some unaccountable reason destroyed the credibility of what might have been one of his most helpful witnesses.

⁵ *Id.* at 183.

In his closing argument, Belli insisted that "there was only one proper disposition of Jack Ruby's case: he must be acquitted outright, on grounds of sanity. Over and again Belli informed the jurors that there was no middle ground, no room for compromise." *Id.* at 329.

⁶ *Id.* at 344.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Id.* at 344-45.

secrets of his mind, his essential gamble had ended in defeat. That much was clear.

He was not the only loser. With the possible exception of the prosecuting team, everybody who touched the Ruby trial or who was touched by it came away tainted with its filth. The judge, Melvin Belli, his colleagues on the defense, the expert witnesses on the stand—all stood indicted of incompetence or worse. The American system of trial by jury was itself on trial, and the verdict was adverse. There were no heroes of the Ruby trial, tragic or otherwise—only pathetic, limited men. There was a Faulkner quality to every episode, an air of grotesque Texas rot. It was a trial of the decadent, by the decadent, and the decadent sat solemnly in judgment.

This is in essence the tale. The subject calls for—and gets—a narrative of the highest skill. *The Trial of Jack Ruby* is a model of accuracy and irony, of subtle indirection. It does not describe; it evokes. That is one of its greatest virtues. Another is the clarity with which institutions of the criminal law are presented and explained. Perhaps no other book of American law teaches so well in narrative form. Moreover, few books bring so tellingly to judgment the American system of trial by jury. Trial by jury is elsewhere romanticized or denigrated; very occasionally it is studied. Here, quite exceptionally, a mirror is held up to its face.

Not that *The Trial of Jack Ruby* is a book of preachments and conclusions. Works of *verismo* depict our purulence and blood, but prescribe no cure; nor do they willingly go to the end of their implications. In *Jack Ruby* too, there is a deliberate holding back. Partly, this is a matter of technique; the authors prefer to make their points by delicate juxtapositions. Partly, one suspects, the authors mean also to arouse in their reader a critical mood, a mood that will allow the reader to find his own corollaries and deductions. Some questions are raised, some data given in the form of a cautionary tale; but no answers are explicitly provided. Let us pursue one or two of the problems more fully. Was the trial of Jack Ruby unique? Does it reflect some larger whole? Is the system it represents basically sound, or is it far too corrupt for redemption?

The trial of Jack Ruby, as described by Kaplan and Waltz, leaves the reader with a feeling that our system of criminal justice is sick. In this case it is clear where the sickness lies. In large measure, it was made manifest in a passion for celebrity. If the trial was a circus, it was because the major characters had chosen for themselves a role of greasepaint and drums. The judge's fondness for the limelight has already been mentioned. Before the Ruby

trial, he was best known to the world for his conduct during the trial of Candy Barr. Candy Barr was a stripper, on trial for possession of marijuana. The judge called her into chambers and took photographs of her. She was fully clothed, but, understandably, some citizens of Dallas found the judge's behavior unprofessional. Ruby himself may have pulled the trigger for reasons of notoriety—he was a lonely and alienated man gambling (perhaps subconsciously) for a place in the sun. And Lee Oswald no doubt knew that only his rifle could make him famous—a hero in a world which does not always discriminate between noble and ignoble fame. Our society has (relatively speaking) many gradations of rank but little fixity of birth. Some are willing to kill and be killed, to earn a counterfeit nobility; murder may be preferable to an obscure and pointless life. The lust for fame crosses the boundaries of class and occupation. There are doctors who prefer the courtroom to the operating room, heliotropic professors who thrive on flashbulbs. Expert witnesses are sometimes recruited from these men. Oswald's mother is another instance. Her grief at the death of her son has been eased by her delight at "going down in history." Every major Dallas participant had memories for sale. And most avid and eager of all to feed on the mass media was Melvin Belli, chief counsel for the defense. "Get me that case," he said, "I want it so badly I can taste it." He tasted publicity. His name and his money had been acquired, bit by bit, through clever manipulation of the art of being known, through press agency, through courtroom stunts and strident appeals to the visual senses of juries. This is the man who once carried an artificial leg, wrapped in brown butchershop paper, into the courtroom; who celebrates verdicts by firing a cannon and running a skull-and-crossbones up the flagstaff of his office.⁸ His reputation is known to millions of Americans who could not name two Wall Street lawyers to save their souls.

Belli represents, in his profession, the extreme case of the seeker of headlines. But it is important to remember that he is not unique. There are others of his stamp. Every big city has at least one—bizarre, eccentric lawyers, who specialize in personal injury work and garish criminal trials, "attorneys for the damned"; lawyers of lurid divorces, people whose names are always in the paper, men who strike extravagant poses, ladies with incredible hats—"good copy," all of them, despised by the "respectable" bar but rich, successful, and notorious.

These lawyers are, in one sense, the degenerate descendants of the lions of another day—of lawyers like Daniel Webster and Horace Binney, the great courtroom orators of the nineteenth century. In his day, Webster was also "good copy." Audiences gathered breath-

⁸ *Id.* at 31.

⁹ *Id.* at 28, 31.

lessly to hear him speak. When the cause was right, and the occasion propitious, he could harangue a court for hours or days in oral argument. His eloquence made the crowds laugh and cry on his behalf. When a Webster spoke, the Supreme Court drew sizable crowds; important civil servants, diplomats, and high-born ladies crowded the galleries.¹⁰ Of less prestige, the circuit-riding lawyers of the open West were also public performers. In dull, unpolished county seats, they entertained the masses with tricks, legal charades, outrageous technicalities, homespun addresses. All this skill displayed at trial brought them an audience—and customers as well. Indeed, whatever its psychological and social roots, exhibitionism at the bar has only flourished where it meant cold cash. Lawyers are human beings as hungry for psychic and material goods as anyone else, whatever pious platitudes the leaders of the bar put forth. If a craving for attention may lead a man to murder, a craving for money and success may create a Webster, a Lincoln—or Melvin Belli.

Success does not come easily to a lawyer. This is true of all professions and hence also of the law. There is room at the top, but the ladder is crowded. There are a number of ways to succeed, but none of them are simple. One highly selective way leads to the genteel anonymity of Wall Street.¹¹ Here success means money, pride, and a kind of muted fame. The masses will never hear your name or ask your autograph, but an audience of peers and servants understands your place. To win on Wall Street means admission to a tiny club of the elite. Moreover, once a young lawyer gets a start on Wall Street, he has a certain measure of security within reach. Not everybody who is hired by a Wall Street firm winds up as a senior partner; but we are speaking here of men with skill and brains. In the firm, the young lawyer finds a ready-made clientele—big businessmen, their companies, their private affairs. When he achieves partnership, the young lawyer will inherit these clients; and when he in turn dies or retires, he will leave them to his successors. New clients are not easily acquired, to be sure; yet by moving in economic and social circles inhabited by the rich and powerful, he is at least exposed to potential business. He may have been born into those circles in the first place. If not, he can learn how to behave—most likely he has already learned this at college.

But Wall Street (and its equivalent in other cities) is only for the few. Many lawyers, by reason of their background, inclination, training, and temperament cannot aspire to its heights. The big firms are rigid in their insistence that prospective recruits must have been trained in the proper schools and have credentials of academic success. A certain temperament, a certain culture, and

¹⁰ See I C. WARREN, *THE SUPREME COURT IN UNITED STATES HISTORY* 471-73 (1937).

¹¹ For a recent study of the Wall Street lawyer, his recruitment, career patterns, and characteristics, see SMICEL, *THE WALL STREET LAWYER* (1964).

certain style of life are also essential. Yet those who have Wall Street traits do not exhaust the ranks of the able and ambitious. The others must take different roads to the top. The small firm lawyer in a big city¹² has to scramble for his clients. Word of mouth, hard and patient work, friends and relations, classmates in school, clubs and social groups—all of these can provide him with business, if he is lucky or adroit. For those who specialize (through desire or otherwise) in criminal work, personal injury, or divorce, the job of finding customers may be the hardest of all. Their business in those fields is nonrecurring; few clients come back. Advertising in its less polite forms is forbidden to them¹³ by the "ethics" invented by their betters at the bar. For them, word of mouth must be a shout, not a whisper. A front-page story is a golden brief.

Headlines and mass media are modern phenomena. The silver tongue of Daniel Webster and the antics of the frontier lawyer were the functional equivalents, in their day, of Belli's headlines. All these tactics were employed to bring a lawyer to the attention of potential clients. One hundred years ago, the "retainer" was virtually unknown; courtroom work loomed larger in the average lawyer's practice than it now does. Attention-getting was even more important than today. But for lawyers who work with a shifting clientele, the situation has hardly altered in a century. In one way or another, their name must get known to an audience of potential business. Thus, though temperament predisposes a man to exhibitionism, economic facts of the profession help write the script.

In Belli's case, economic need has turned into an addiction; his own ego has been victimized. He "had become a prisoner of his own image. . . . [O]ver the years Belli had gradually come to believe more and more of the things he said about himself."¹⁴ So the glitter and stench from Dallas were stimuli he was powerless to resist. Jack Ruby, whom he was so badly to serve, had set a trap for him; and the King of Torts, grown unwary from success, fell into it. It hardly needs to be added that Jack Ruby, too, paid dearly for his mistake. Yet in a sense, neither was responsible. It was not Ruby's fault but that of the system that he called for Melvin Belli; not Belli's fault that he ran to take the bait. The virtue of the system is that it brings together the two partners in a mutual relation, as the color of a flower attracts a suitable species of bee. The system is tolerable, however, only if and so long as it serves its function—matching lawyers to people in need. Kaplan and Waltz have shown, by dispassionate but damning analysis, how Belli failed to serve his client. They raise, in acute form, the question

¹² Graphically described in CARLIN, *LAWYERS ON THEIR OWN* (1962).

¹³ ABA, *CANONS OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS*, Canon 27.

¹⁴ KAPLAN & WALTZ 31.