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HO 44-939
FWH:pak

RE: ROBERT M. ERSKINE

The following investigation was conducted by
SA PAUL W. HUCKERIEDE:

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS

On December 24, 1963, ROBERT M. ERSKINE, Division Manager, Continental-Emsco, Humble Building, Houston, whose home address is 12150 Tera, Houston 24, Texas, was interviewed in his office. ERSKINE advised that he met JACK RUBY in 1958 or 1959 when RUBY came to the office of Continental-Emsco in Dallas and attempted to solicit executives of that business to purchase memberships in one of his clubs. ERSKINE advised he saw RUBY on approximately three or four occasions, but he never purchased a membership. He advised that finally he was given a membership to the club as were several other executives at Continental-Emsco and on two or three occasions he went to the club. ERSKINE does not recall the name of this club, however, it was on the second floor of the building and across the street from the "Adolphus". ERSKINE advised he saw RUBY on the two or three occasions he was in his club and probably spoke to him on two or three occasions commenting on the entertainment or talk of that nature.

ERSKINE advised he has not been to one of RUBY's clubs or has not seen RUBY for probably over two years. ERSKINE advised he had no knowledge of any of RUBY's friends or activities and to his knowledge he had never seen LEE HARVEY OSWALD. ERSKINE advised he was transferred from the Dallas office of Continental-Emsco to the Houston office on May 20, 1963.

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Date 1/2/641

Mr. HUGH D. GRANBERRY, Belt Line Road, Garland, Texas, furnished the following information:

Mr. GRANBERRY, an employee of Mobil Oil Company, in approximately 1960 received telephone calls and brochures from the operators of the Sovereign Club. He seemed to recall that at that time the Sovereign Club was in its initial stages, as it had only recently opened. At that time, the Sovereign Club was attempting to gain new members. GRANBERRY stated he joined the Sovereign Club with the intention of using it as a club where he could take clients and friends for luncheon.

To the best of Mr. GRANBERRY's recollection, he attended or was in the Sovereign Club on one occasion. He stated that, shortly after attending the Sovereign Club, the club closed. He did not know JACK RUBY, nor did he know LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He stated he had no information or knowledge pertaining to any association or acquaintance between OSWALD and RUBY.

on 12/30/63 at Garland, Texas File # DL 44-1639
by Special Agent JAMES S. WEIR/eah Date dictated 12/31/63

Date 12/27/63

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DOROTHY JANE ~~HOLMAN~~, interviewed at H. S. Riggs Accounting Firm, advised she is presently teaching and working on her doctorate degree at Kansas University, Lawrence, Kansas.

HOLMAN advised she had been a charter member of the Sovereign Club, which had been a private club, started by JACK RUBY. HOLMAN advised that in 1960 she had been living in Dallas, Texas, and going to school in Denton, Texas, at North Texas State University, working on her Master's degree in Political Science. She advised she saw an ad in one of the Dallas newspapers advertising the Sovereign Club and answered the ad, asking for more information.

HOLMAN advised a man called her, identifying himself as "Mr. RUBENSTEIN", and made the final arrangements for her membership in the club. She advised she went to the club several times, taking friends with her, and it was her opinion that RUBY's club was one of the best run she had ever seen.

HOLMAN advised she met JACK RUBY only once or twice at the door of the club and she had never noticed any trouble at the club, except for a few parties getting too loud. She stated further she had never noticed anyone serving as a bouncer or manager other than RUBY, and she had never heard of any connection between RUBY and any of the policemen in the city of Dallas.

HOLMAN further advised she knew of no relationship between RUBY and LEE HARVEY OSWALD and never heard of OSWALD prior to the assassination of President KENNEDY.

on 12/23/63 at Wellington, Kansas File # DL 44-1639
by Special Agent STEPHEN A. REDSHAW - LAC Date dictated 12/23/63

DL 44-1639

JFG:gj

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA JAMES F. GLONEK at Dallas:

The name WILFORD JACKSON, 4106 Esnalda, appeared among RUBY's property as a former employee at one of his clubs. *DALLAS TEXAS*

On December 17, 1963, investigation in the vicinity of 4106 Esnalda reflected that this is a very run down dilapidated neighborhood and that the house at 4106 appeared to be deserted with a portion of the roof removed.

DALLAS, TEXAS
On December 17, 1963, Mrs. JOHNNIE MAE MITCHELL, 4114 Esnalda, advised that a part of the roof of Mr. JACKSON's house blew off in a heavy wind last October and she has only seen him around there one time since then. She had no idea as to where he might be staying now or who he might be staying with.

She was advised that it appeared Mr. JACKSON had formerly worked for JACK RUBY in the past. She advised she was not acquainted with JACK RUBY and was not familiar with events relating to the assassination of President KENNEDY and the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

She advised she doubted very seriously that JACKSON ever worked for any length of time for anyone during the past few years as he never appeared to have any steady employment. He appeared to get what little money he needed to live on primarily from going out and mowing lawns.

She was not acquainted with JACK RUBY or LEE HARVEY OSWALD, knew of no association between these two men of any possible involvement of other individuals with these two men in the shootings.

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DL 44-1639

JFG:BL

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On December 18, 1963, [BIRDIE SUE BELCHER,] Clerk, Retail Merchants Credit Association of Dallas, advised her files contain no record identifiable with JACKSON.

On December 19, 1963, [PAT SIWIEC,] Clerk, Records Bureau, Dallas Police Department, advised her files reflect WILFORD JACKSON, 4106 Esmalda, was arrested for loitering April 11, 1959, and for investigation of vagrancy on October 4, 1959. Her files contain no information as to relatives or other information which would be of assistance in determining his present whereabouts.

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1Date 12/24/63

DALLAS, TEXAS
Mr. WARREN ~~LESLIE~~, 11415 Hillcrest Road, was apprised of the fact that the records of JACK RUBY contained his name indicating that he was a member of one of RUBY's clubs. LESLIE furnished the following information in way of explanation:

LESLIE advised that he received a membership to the Sovereign Club when it opened several years ago. He said that it was located at the current location of the Carousel Club.

LESLIE stated that the Sovereign Club was operated by JACK RUBY. He said that he seldom used his membership during the short period that the club was open.

LESLIE advised that he knows nothing regarding JACK RUBY and knows of no association between RUBY and LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

on 12/22/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639
by Special Agent WILLIAM O. JOHNSON - gi Date dictated 12/22/63

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Date 12/23/63

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DOUGLAS J. MILLER, 2408 South Dundee, Tampa, Florida, appeared at the Tampa Office for interview. Mr. MILLER stated in 1956 or 1957 he was the Division Sales Manager for the Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company, Dallas, Texas.

Mr. MILLER said that when he was in the above position at that time, JACK L. RUBY appeared in his office one day, accompanied by another individual, whom Mr. MILLER could not further identify. At this time, RUBY introduced himself, and explained that he was soliciting trial memberships in the Sovereign Supper Club, which he was organizing in downtown Dallas. RUBY said that he had a list of prominent Dallas business and professional men who were already members, and he wanted to add Mr. MILLER's name to the list. The membership cost nothing, so Mr. MILLER accepted the invitation. Thereafter, Mr. JACK L. RUBY left Mr. MILLER's office.

Mr. MILLER said that during the next several weeks, he went to the Sovereign Supper Club for dinner on several occasions with his wife, and found that the food and entertainment were of the highest caliber. On these occasions, JACK L. RUBY, acting as the genial host, came to his table, and chatted for a few moments, generally asking about the food and the service. Mr. MILLER said he had no further contact with RUBY, and had the impression that RUBY had high aspirations for the success of the Sovereign Supper Club. Mr. MILLER added that at the end of six months, the trial membership ended, and he did not take out a permanent membership.

Mr. MILLER said further that he had no information concerning any other contacts made by RUBY, and knew nothing else about him.

On 12/21/63 at Tampa, Florida File # TP 44-187
DL 44-1639
by SA LIONEL E. BELANGER /dk Date dictated 12/23/63

DL 44-1639

RDM:gj

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The following investigation was conducted by SA
ROBLEY D. MADLAND:

AT FORT WORTH, TEXAS:

On December 24, 1963, Miss ROSE ALICE PALMER, 3812
Heywood Street, advised that she is the ticket agent for
Delta Airlines at Greater Southwest Airport. Miss PALMER
advised she recalls that about three to four years past,
a passenger, name not recalled, gave her a complimentary
dinner for two at a private club or key-type club in Dallas.
She said that she does not recall the name of the club and
did not use this pass. She said further that she recalls
the club was located in downtown Dallas, but cannot recall
the address or name of the club.

Miss PALMER said further that several weeks later
she received in the mail a membership from this same club,
but did not use it and never went to the club. She said
that she threw this membership away at the time she received
it.

Miss PALMER said that to her knowledge, she
has never been to a club owned or operated by JACK RUBY.
She said she does not know JACK RUBY and did not know LEE
HARVEY OSWALD.

148

Date 12/24/631

JOHN M. ~~ROMWEBER~~, 11411 Park Central Place, advised
 as follows: DALLAS, TEXAS

He had known JACK RUBY for approximately three years and had met him at the time he joined a club owned by RUBY, which club was across the street from the Adolphus Hotel on Commerce Street in Dallas. He could not recall the name of this club but knew RUBY owned it and also knew that RUBY had owned several clubs in that particular area.

His only connection with RUBY was through the membership he had in this club, and the reason he joined the club was to be able to have a place to drink. He recalled the card cost him \$50.00 and that he made use of the card.

He knew nothing concerning RUBY's background except that he was apparently a "man about town" who knew a great many people. In that he did not know LEE HARVEY OSWALD, he knew of no association or connection between JACK RUBY and OSWALD.

on 12/20/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639
 by Special Agent JOHN T. MC MURRER - LAC Date dictated 12/20/63

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Date 12/24/63

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MAXINE SMITH, 3411 Hidalgo, Dallas, was advised that the name, MAXINE SMITH, was found in a book which was the property of JACK RUBY. She stated this name could possibly be her name, since JACK RUBY gave her a membership card to his Carousel Club in Dallas about four years ago. She stated she met RUBY in a group at Love Field Airport some four years ago and after he gave her the membership card she visited his club on one occasion shortly thereafter. She added she has had no other association with RUBY and she knows nothing about his personal life or business interests. She said, furthermore, she knew none of his friends or acquaintances.

She advised she did not know LEE HARVEY OSWALD and knew of no association between RUBY and OSWALD.

on 12/21/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639
by Special Agent JAMES E. GARRIS - gj Date dictated 12/23/63

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12/24/63

Date

Mr. RICHARD H. STARK, 2934 Maydelle, Dallas, Telephone Number CH 7-5603, whose name appeared as "DICK STARK" in a book which was the property of JACK RUBY, as belonging to one of RUBY's clubs in Dallas, was contacted at which time he advised that it would appear very logical that his name appear as DICK STARK and was quite positive that it referred to him. He stated that approximately two or three years ago he had a business on Knox Street called the Campbell's Appliances and could recall meeting RUBY at STARK's place of business. Although he could not recall the exact circumstances regarding the meeting, he advised that RUBY asked him to join his club, called the Sovereign Club, and explained that he thereafter joined the club. He described the Sovereign Club as being a social night club and was of the opinion it was patronized by several of the nicer people in Dallas. STARK went on to say that he visited the Sovereign Club on only one or two occasions and could not recall ever engaging in any lengthy conversations with RUBY. His acquaintanceship with RUBY was strictly a casual one and he could recall seeing RUBY for the last time around February of 1962.

STARK was unable to furnish any background information regarding friends or associates of RUBY and stated that he never discussed any type of politics with RUBY at any time.

LEE HARVEY OSWALD was unknown to him prior to the assassination and he knew of no connection whatsoever between RUBY and OSWALD. He knew of nothing that would connect RUBY with any of the police authorities in Dallas and stated that he never saw any of the local policemen in RUBY's clubs, to the best of his knowledge.

on 12/21/63 at Dallas, Texas DL File # 44-1639
 by Special Agent LANSING P. LOGAN /lp Date dictated 12/23/63

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1Date 12/24/63
Dallas, Texas

Mr. ~~BILL~~ ~~UTNICK~~, 5023 Live Oak, Apartment 101, was informed that the effects of JACK RUBY revealed his, ~~UTNICK~~'s name as a member of one of JACK RUBY's clubs. ~~UTNICK~~ furnished the following information in way of explanation:

~~UTNICK~~ stated that a few years ago he obtained a membership to the Sovereign Club which was located on current site of the Carousel Club.

~~UTNICK~~ stated that it was his understanding that it was operated by one JACK RUBY. He said that it was a private bottle club which folded shortly after it opened.

~~UTNICK~~ stated that he knows nothing concerning JACK RUBY and knows of no association between RUBY and LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

on 12/22/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639

by Special Agent WILLIAM O. JOHNSON - gj Date dictated 12/22/63

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 12/25/631

Interview

Mr. LEO VESENMEIR, Geologist, 1840 Republic Bank Building, was apprised of the fact that his name and address were located in effects of JACK RUBY. He furnished the following information in way of explanation:

He stated that a few years ago he obtained a membership to the Sovereign Club for \$30.00 and never used the card. He stated that this club was operated by JACK RUBY, but it closed shortly after opening. He stated that it was at the site of the current Carousel Club.

VESENMEIER advised that he knows nothing about JACK RUBY other than what he had obtained from reading the newspapers and from watching television. He knows of no connection between RUBY and LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

on 12/20/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639
by Special Agent WILLIAM O. JOHNSON - LAC Date dictated 12/22/63

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Date 12/24/63

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 JOHN F. WAITE, 4430 Abbott Avenue, Secretary,
 Texas & Pacific Railway, was informed of the fact that
 the effects of JACK RUBY revealed that he, WAITE, was a
 member of one of RUBY's clubs. WAITE furnished the fol-
 lowing information in way of explanation:

WAITE advised that, when the Sovereign Club was
 opened several years ago, he purchased a membership. He
 stated it was a private bottle club and recalls the member-
 ship fee was \$30.00.

WAITE stated he recalls the club was operated by
 JACK RUBY. He said the club failed after several months.

WAITE advised that, although he met RUBY several
 times at the club during its existence, he knows nothing
 regarding associates or background of RUBY.

WAITE advised he knows of no association between
 RUBY or LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

on 12/21/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639
 by Special Agent WILLIAM O. JOHNSON/eah Date dictated 12/22/63

1Date 12/24/63

Mr. JAMES W. WALKER, 3221 Westminister, was apprised of the fact that his name appeared in the records of JACK RUBY as having been a member of one of his clubs. WALKER furnished the following information in way of explanation:

WALKER stated that he had a membership to the old Sovereign Club located on Commerce Street across from the Adolphus Hotel. He said that he recalls that it was run by JACK RUBY.

WALKER stated that he frequented the club on only one or two occasions and during those visits did not have any contact with JACK RUBY.

WALKER stated that he could furnish no information regarding RUBY and knows of no association between RUBY and LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

on 12/22/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639
by Special Agent WILLIAM O. JOHNSON - gj Date dictated 12/22/63

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DL 44-1539
WOJ:LAC

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A review of the effects of JACK RUBY reflected that one DAVID E. WALLING, no address, was listed as a temporary member of one of JACK RUBY's clubs.

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM O. JOHNSON:

On December 19, 1963, the following sources of information were contacted or consulted in an effort to identify DAVID E. WALLING. Results of the inquiry were negative.

TEX
[BIRDIE SUE BELCHER]
Credit Bureau of Greater Dallas;

[ED CARLSON] Identification Division
Dallas Police Department;

M/
WAP
[H. L. CRAIGHEAD]
Records Bureau
Dallas Police Department;

[JIM KITCHING]
Identification Bureau
Dallas County Sheriff's Office;

Telephone Directory of Greater Dallas.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 23, 1963

SIDNEY G. WHITING, JR., 1916 Windsor, Waco, Texas, who is District Sales Manager for Dodge Division of Chrysler Motors, informed that he and his wife during August to December, 1960, were managers of the Wedgwood Apartments located at 5018-5022 San Jacinto Street, Dallas, Texas. At that time these apartments were owned by a man by the name of LAVAZORRIO of Chicago, Illinois, who subsequently sold them to JACK STEELE, now manager of Lemon Wood Apartments in Dallas. Apartment No. 5020 was rented to two young men by the names of JOHN and DON, last names not recalled, but who were from St. Louis, Missouri. These young men began selling membership in the Sovereign Club, a supper club located near the Adolphus Hotel in Dallas, and Mr. and Mrs. WHITING bought membership in the club for a period of three months for \$12.50.

WHITING related that he and his wife attended the Sovereign Club only twice during 1960 and 1961, and on one occasion they were accompanied by DON, JOHN, and GERRY DAMÓN, 3511 Travis Street, Dallas. They were introduced to JACK RUBY, the manager, during their first visit to the club, but have had no further contact with him. WHITING informed he did not know anything about RUBY and had no knowledge of any association between RUBY and LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

On 12/21/63 at Waco, Texas File # SA 44-748
by SA O. LEE GOLDEN / njs Date dictated 12/21/63

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 23, 1963

Mrs. SIDNEY G. WHITING, JR., 1916 Windsor, Waco, Texas, whose husband is District Sales Manager for Dodge Division of Chrysler Motors, advised that she and her husband have lived in Waco since May, 1963, and previously had resided in Dallas. During August to December, 1960, they were managers of the Wedgwood Apartments, 5018-5022 San Jacinto Street in Dallas, at which time these apartments were owned by a man by the name of LAVAZORRIO of Chicago, Illinois. Subsequently the apartment building was sold to JACK STEELE, now manager of Lemmon Wood Apartments in Dallas, and the transaction was handled by JACK S. COLE, an Attorney in Dallas. However, she informed there were no permanent records of the tenants maintained.

Mrs. WHITING related that Apartment No. 5020 of the Wedgwood Apartments during the latter part of 1960 was rented to two young men by the names of JOHN and DON, last names not recalled, who were from St. Louis, Missouri. These two young men sold membership in the Sovereign Club, a supper club owned by JACK RUBY. Mr. and Mrs. WHITING bought membership in the club for a period of three months for \$12.50.

Mrs. WHITING related she and her husband attended the Sovereign Club only on two occasions during 1960 and 1961, and on the first occasion they were introduced to JACK RUBY, the manager, but had no further contact with him. On one occasion they were accompanied to the club by DON, JOHN, and GERRY DAMON, 3511 Travis Street, Dallas. Mrs. WHITING advised she did not know anything about RUBY and had no knowledge of any association between RUBY and LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

On 12/21/63 at Waco, Texas File # SA 44-748
 by SA O. LEE GOLDEN / njs Date dictated 12/21/63
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Date 12/25/631

Mr. BOB YARBOROUGH, 4608 Columbia Street, was apprised of the fact that the effects of JACK RUBY revealed that he was a member of one of RUBY's clubs. YARBOROUGH explained this as follows:

He advised that several years ago he joined the Sovereign Club located at the present site of the Carousel Club on Commerce Street. He stated that this was a private club operated by JACK RUBY.

YARBOROUGH stated that he did not use his membership on many occasions and that the club closed in a matter of months after its opening.

YARBOROUGH stated that he could furnish no information of value as pertains to RUBY inasmuch as he had little or no contact with him during the period that he attended the Sovereign Club.

He advised that he knows of no association between JACK RUBY and LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

on 12/21/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639
 by Special Agent WILLIAM O. JOHNSON - LAC Date dictated 12/22/63

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1Date 12/24/63

BILLY JAMES BAKER, 1012 Miranda Drive, Mesquite, Texas, advised that he is employed with the Fire Department, Station Number 3, located at 500 North Oakland Avenue, Telephone FR 4-2380, and stated that it would be logical for RUBY to have the telephone number of Fire Station # 3 in his address book.

He explained this by saying he had worked for JACK RUBY for a short period of time, mostly on weekends, sometime around 1960, and could recall RUBY calling him on a few occasions at Fire Station # 3. He went on to say that he first met RUBY around 1955 or 1956 at the Vegas Club and that he used to patronize the Vegas Club strictly as a social entertainment. After becoming fairly well acquainted with RUBY, BAKER stated that he began working as a ticket collector at the Vegas Club as a part-time job, and was never a permanent-type employee of RUBY's. During this period, his association with RUBY was strictly that of employee - employer relationship, and he stated that he had never associated socially with RUBY. He could offer no background information concerning RUBY, but expressed the fact that RUBY had several friends in the Dallas area.

BAKER did not know LEE HARVEY OSWALD prior to the assassination, and could offer nothing that would connect RUBY and OSWALD in any manner whatsoever. He knew of no connection that RUBY may have had with the Dallas Police Department.

on 12/21/63 at Mesquite, Texas DL File # 44-1639
 by Special Agent LANSING P. LOGAN /lp Date dictated 12/23/63

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