UNITED STATES GC TT

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To : Mr. Belmont

DATE: January 8, 1964

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A United Press International (UPI) release of 1-7-64 quoted one of Ruby's defense attorneys, J. H. Tonahill of Jasper, Texas, as stating, "We offered Ruby to the FBI locally but they refused; I don't know why." The Director inquired, "Didn't we interview Ruby?"

Ruby was interviewed at the Dallas County Jail, Dallas, Texas, by Special Agents C. Ray Hall and Manning C. Clements on 12-21-63 in the presence of his attorneys J. H. Tonahill, Jasper, Texas, Melvin Belli and William Choulos, San Francisco, California, and Sam Brody, Los Angeles, California.

In the interview, Ruby furnished a detailed account of his activities between 11-20-63 and 11-24-63 and pertinent details of his personal history. He specifically denied ever knowing Oswald or having any contacts or associations with him prior to the time Oswald was shot on 11-24-63. Our collateral investigation concerning Ruby would indicate he gave a truthful account at this interview to the best of his recollection.

It is noted that attorney Tonahill, according to a UPI release, also said that Ruby would submit to "truth serum" — sodium pentothal — for the testimony before the President's Commission and in return he expected copies of the FBI and Warren Commission reports to be used in the defense of Ruby, and he said that he would go into Federal court if necessary to get the reports. Ruby's attorney Melvin Belli has also been quoted in the press as stating that it was all right with him if Ruby was given a polygraph examination and truth serum.

The Bureau has not received any specific request from Ruby's defense attorneys for the reports of our investigation or to afford Ruby a polygraph examination. Dallas was advised on

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont RE: JACK L. RUBY, AKA.

12-21-63 that no polygraph examination should be given Ruby and that in the event Belli or any other defense attorney insisted that it be done that the attorney be tactfully advised that the Bureau does not desire to give Ruby a polygraph examination.

## ACTION

Dallas will be instructed to advise the Bureau promptly of the receipt of any request from Ruby's defense attorneys for Hun Charles Sienes Con Michigan our investigative reports or that we furnish Ruby a polygraph examination.