



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

January 17, 1964

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LAMONT C. PETERSON,
RD #2, BOX 371,
READING, PENNSYLVANIA

On January 14, 1964, Mr. LAMONT C. PETERSON, residing at RD #2, Box 271, Reading, Pa., was interviewed by Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at his specific request. Mr. PETERSON's letter, requesting interview, inferred that he had information regarding JACK L. RUBY, LEE HARVEY OSWALD and/or the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY.

Upon interview, it developed that the "RUBY-RUBENSTEIN" PETERSON mentioned in his letter was one (FNU) RUBENSTEIN, nickname "RUBY," who is an international organizer for the United Steelworkers of America.

PETERSON related that he works for the American Chain and Cable Company, Reading, Pa.; and, as such, is a member of Local 5912, United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO. He stated that in the summer of 1959, prior to the Steelworkers becoming the local at American Chain, PETERSON signed a card agreeing to accept the Steelworkers as his bargaining agent if they were voted in at an National Labor Relations Board election. Subsequently, because of dissatisfaction with the proposed contract, and prior to the National Labor Relations Board election, PETERSON tried to back out, and demanded his signed card back. This request was refused.

PETERSON said that he has sought legal advice about this matter; and, although he admitted having signed the card in good faith originally, he is now claiming "fraud in the inducement," but his attorneys seem unwilling or unable to gain redress for him.

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PETERSON stated that initially ED HAAS was the union president but in about the spring of 1960, (first name unknown) RUBENSTEIN, whom PETERSON believes to be an International Representative of the Steelworkers and who he believes lives in the Reading, Pa., area, began to attend the Steelworkers meetings. PETERSON said that the company took over a former lunchroom where he and other employees had been accustomed to eating and playing chess on their lunch hour. PETERSON tried to file a grievance about this but RUBENSTEIN would not listen to him. PETERSON said he had written to former President EISENHOWER about this, also to the then President JOHN J. KENNEDY on November 13, 1961. He also said he has written to the Department of Justice and to Attorney General ROBERT KENNEDY at various times. His letters all related the above grievances; none were ever threatening or abusive, but asked for "justice."

PETERSON said that once, as a result of his problems with the union, someone tried to run down his children as they left the house for the school bus. He never saw this man or car but the next evening a man came to his house and asked permission to leave his car in PETERSON's driveway for a while. His eight year old son later told him "that was the man that nearly ran us down." PETERSON also mentioned having been in the U. S. Navy and stated that the Navy had taught him to protect himself. He said that "I was taught if one man goes berserk, it is better to kill him, even if he is a close friend, rather than have him cause the death of 50 others." PETERSON said he is not a violent man and would rather move back than get involved in violence, but that sometimes he gets angry. He mentioned that in the Navy he was taught to use a gun and throw a knife, even backwards over his shoulder.

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PETERSON said he realized the complaint he had was not properly one for the FBI but that he wanted to bring his position to the attention of the United States Government, and that is the reason he has been writing letters.

PETERSON said that he is not against unions generally and on the contrary is very much in favor of them, at one time having been president of a local. He was formerly affiliated with the Bakers Union. PETERSON's gripe is against the leadership of the Steelworkers Local to which he is compelled to belong. He pays his dues regularly but has not attended any meetings for some time.

A confidential source, who has not been contacted with sufficient frequency to establish his reliability, related that he has had periodic contact with PETERSON over a period of several years. Source related that PETERSON is, in his opinion, a "nut" and he will be lucid for a time and then go off on a tangent. Source, although allegedly a member of the Steelworkers Union where he works, always expresses himself as being against them. PETERSON has, sometimes as often as once a month, contacted source, primarily to complain about his treatment as a member of the Steelworkers Local. Source has never found any real basis for legal action on behalf of PETERSON.

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