

FBI

Date: 2/5/64

Transmit the following in _____ (Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL (Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-24016)
 FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-1639) P
 RE: JACK L. RUBY, aka;
 LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka - VICTIM
 CR
 (OO DL)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED #6454
 DATE 2/2/89 BY SP6 [redacted]

Per CIA letter 9/23/88
 b7c/FBI

Re Miami airtel to Dallas 12/26/63; Dallas airtel to Bureau and Miami 12/31/63; Bureau airtel to Dallas and Miami 2/3/64.

RE: ALLEGED TRAVEL OF RUBY TO CUBA

Referenced Miami airtel ^{Fla} transmitted a copy of a letter furnished by CARLOS VILLA, Miami, which had been given to VILLA by JOSE ANTONIO JUAN, who had in turn allegedly received the letter from his son living in Cuba. A portion of the letter stated that "RUBENSTEIN," apparently referring to subject, was in Cuba "a little less than a year ago visiting a Mr. PRANSKI, owner of a shop dealing in tourist articles located on Prado Street between Animas and Trocadero, opposite the Sevilla-Biltmore."

A copy of the letter in question was furnished to Bureau by Dallas airtel 12/31/63.

Bureau airtel 2/3/64 enclosed for Dallas and Miami a copy of a memorandum from CIA dated 1/30/64 which refers to Bureau memorandum of 1/7/64. CIA stated that they had received a similar

- 3 Bureau (Enc. 1) ENCLOSURE
 1 Miami
 2 Dallas
 MCC:LAC
 (6)

SOA
 JWH: RAS
 3/11/64

REC-24 44-24016-7073
 EX-111
 FEB 7 1964

Approved: 79 FEB 12 1964 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____
 Ice Dept. [unclear]
 2-11-64 ice liaison

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report from a source to the effect RUBY was in Havana in late 1962 or in early 1963. The CIA report continued that according to unconfirmed report RUBY was a "friend and customer of a (Cuban) citizen named PRASKIN, owner and manager of a novelty shop for tourists (located in Havana) between Animas and Trocadero, Paseo del Prado, in front of the Hotel Sevilla." CIA furnished the name of an individual who could allegedly verify the above information. *OR PRASKIN*
Cuba

District Attorney HENRY WADE, Dallas County, has furnished clippings of an article said to have appeared in the Wednesday, January 29, 1964, issue of "The Miami News," page 4-A, which is quoted as follows:

"RUBY VISITED CUBA--EXILES

**"By MARY LOUISE WILKINSON
Reporter of the Miami News**

"JACK RUBY, killer of President KENNEDY's accused assassin, has visited CASTRO's Cuba, an exile student group charged here today.

"RUBY flew from Mexico City to Havana the latter part of December 1962 on a Mexicana de Aviacion flight, said a spokesman for the Cuban Student Directory (DRE).

"The DRE is the organization which first brought to light the Marxist-Leninist leanings of accused presidential slayer LEE HARVEY OSWALD, who debated with DRE members on New Orleans radio last August.

The students said they first learned of RUBY's Havana visit several weeks ago but delayed making any statement until a complete check had been made with their forces on the island.

"According to underground communications, RUBY stayed in Havana until early January 1963, frequenting a tourist store owned by a man named SOLOMON PRATKIN.

"The store was located on El Prado, across the street from the Sevilla Biltmore Hotel. *Havana Cuba*

"In the preliminary hearing over a week ago in Dallas, Dr. WALTER BROMBERG, psychiatrist appointed for RUBY, stated RUBY said he had been to Cuba in September 1959.

"BROMBERG, under questioning from district attorney HENRY WADE, said RUBY apparently wanted to sell unidentified merchandise to CASTRO.

"According to the psychiatrist who has been the main defense witness, RUBY stayed in Cuba about 10 days."

Reference is made to the report of SA JAMES J. O'CONNOR dated 1/25/64, Miami, entitled "LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka; IS-R," (Bufile 62-82555, Miami 105-8342) which sets forth information which appeared in certain newspapers to the effect that DRE (Students Revolutionary Directorate) had represented that OSWALD had been in Miami. Interviews with representatives of DRE resulted in complete denials that these individuals had circulated the information pertaining to OSWALD. It will be observed that the writer of the article quoted above names a spokesman for DRE as the source of the information alleging travel of RUBY from Mexico City to Havana.

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In interview with Agents, 12/21/63, RUBY denied that he had ever been in Mexico (except for a brief trip across the border at Juarez many years ago while en route to California) and denied travel to Cuba except in 1959, the details of which he supplied. His travel to Cuba in 1959 was confirmed by other sources, including records.

On page 38, report of SA MANNING C. CLEMENTS, dated 12/31/63, Dallas, interview with ALFRED L. DREYFUS by Agents of the New York Office on 12/16/63 is set forth. DREYFUS stated he went to Dallas on a business trip from 12/18 to 21/62, went to the Carousel Club on two nights, probably 12/18 and 19, and that he saw and talked to RUBY.

On page 325, report of SA MANNING C. CLEMENTS, 12/14/63, interview with ROBERT MC EWAN by Agents of the Louisville Office on 11/3/63 is set forth. MC EWAN stated he appeared as an entertainer at the Carousel Club during the period from one week before Christmas 1962 and including two weeks in January 1963, that he became acquainted with RUBY and saw him on a daily basis.

It would appear from the information in the letter transmitted to Bureau by Dallas airtel 12/31/63 and from the report of CIA, mentioned above, that there is a common source of information regarding RUBY's alleged travel to Cuba and contacts with FRANSKI or PRASKIN.

Reference is made to the latter portion of the clipping from the "Miami News" concerning the testimony of Dr. WALTER BROMBERG (bond hearing 1/20/64). Special Agents of Dallas Office, under subpoena on the same date, heard the testimony of Dr. BROMBERG. He was asked by the District Attorney, in cross-examination, if RUBY had not told him of having traveled to Cuba in 1959. In the same question, and before BROMBERG's response, the D.A. asked also if RUBY had not also told him of contacts regarding possible sale of merchandise to CASTRO. It

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was the feeling of Agents that this was a "loaded question" intended by the prosecution to obtain an affirmative answer, which was given. It was the feeling of Agents that Dr. BROMBERG was undoubtedly confused by the question and inadvertently his affirmative response would have inferred to the uninformed listener that RUBY's trip to Cuba in 1959 was in fact in connection with attempts to sell merchandise to CASTRO. In actuality, according to RUBY, confirmed by L. J. MC WILLIE whom RUBY visited in Havana, the 1959 trip was purely a vacation trip. During interview 12/21/63, RUBY told Agents of this trip.

Later in the interview, RUBY volunteered that he had some years ago, "at a time when CASTRO was popular in the United States," attempted to contact an individual in the vicinity of Houston, Texas, whose name had come to his attention in connection with "gun running to CASTRO." He stated he had in mind at the time "possibly making a buck" by possibly acquiring Jeeps or other equipment which he might sell to persons interested in exportation of such items to Cuba. RUBY's relation of circumstances of his visit to Cuba in 1959 and the other matter were not related.

Investigation by the Houston Office, not yet furnished to Bureau in report form, has developed information that ROBERT RAY MC KEOWN, now residing at Bay Cliff, Texas, was apparently the individual whom RUBY contacted and to whom RUBY referred in interview with Agents. MC KEOWN advised in interview 1/24/64 he had been personally acquainted with CASTRO. He was sentenced on 10/24/58 in U. S. District Court, Houston, Texas, in connection with conspiracy to smuggle guns and related equipment to Cuba for CASTRO. He said CASTRO took over leadership on or about 1/1/58 and that about a week later he received a call from a person who said his name was "RUBENSTEIN," calling from Dallas. This individual stated he wanted to get three persons out of Cuba who were being held by CASTRO.

MC KEOWN negotiated with the individual but heard nothing further about it. Some three weeks later an individual

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personally contacted MC KEOWN, whose name he did not obtain. This individual talked with MC KEOWN relative to possible sale of a number of Jeeps and wanted a letter of introduction to CASTRO. The unidentified person was supposed to provide money, which he did not have at the time, but never returned. MC KEOWN has said photographs of RUBY resembled the person who contacted him, and he feels strongly this person was RUBY.

JACOB, it is suggested Miami Office contact ~~MARY LOUISE WILKINSON~~, author of the article in "The Miami News," and request she reveal her sources re RUBY's travel to Cuba as alleged. It is further suggested representative of DRE be contacted by Miami to determine whether this organization is in fact the source of the allegation. *Fla*

The Bureau's attention is directed to allegation RUBY traveled by air from Mexico City to Havana in the latter part of 1962. If Bureau deems it advisable, Legat, Mexico City, might prove or disprove the allegation [redacted] under the names JACK L. RUBY, JACK LEON RUBY, JACK RUBENSTEIN and JACOB RUBENSTEIN.

A copy of the FD-302, interview with ROBERT RAY MC KEOWN is enclosed for the Bureau.

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