

REC 27-77-24016-1105

April 17, 1964
BY COURIER SERVICE

EX-102

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
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Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, Northeast
Washington, D. C. 20002

Dear Mr. Rankin:

In response to your letter of April 3, 1964, as it pertains to Robert Ray McKeown, I am enclosing a letterhead memorandum entitled "Robert Ray McKeown" dated April 17, 1964, which sets forth McKeown's connection with a neutrality and registration act investigation conducted by this Bureau and identifies his confederates.

The neutrality and registration act investigation related primarily to the activities of Carlos Prio Socarras, who, with a number of others including McKeown, was involved in a conspiracy to ship arms, munitions, and other war materials to Fidel Castro to assist him in his efforts to overthrow the Batista regime in Cuba. There are no references to Jack L. Ruby appearing in this investigation.

Other than McKeown's connection with the above matter and material previously furnished to you in connection with the case entitled "Jack L. Ruby, Lee Harvey Oswald - Victim, Civil Rights" there is no other material in Bureau files concerning McKeown.

Sincerely yours,

B. Edgar Hoover

BY COURIER SVC.
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- Walters _____
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Enclosure
JWH/ras.
SEE NOTE ON PAGE TWO.

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NOTE:

The Commission by letter 4/3/64 stated that to shed further light on connections between Jack Ruby and Robert Ray McKeown, the Commission would appreciate our detailing the material available in FBI files concerning McKeown including the names of any suspects or confederates in his armament sales to Cuba. McKeown was allegedly contacted by Ruby in early 1959 after Castro took over leadership in Cuba. Information concerning his contact and McKeown's gunrunning activities were fully set forth in a report of 2/18/64 which was furnished to the Commission. He was also a subject in our investigation involving Carlos Prio Socarras and others who were furnishing material and guns to Castro and aiding him in his efforts to overthrow Batista. McKeown does not appear in our files in connection with any other investigation and there are no references to Ruby whatever in the Socarras file. In reply to the Commission's request, we are furnishing them a letterhead memorandum setting forth McKeown's connection with the Socarras case and the identity of other subjects and also that there is no information or references in the Socarras file concerning Ruby.

The results of the investigation are voluminous, consisting of 57 sections of the main file. There are no references to Jack Ruby in this investigation. McKeown's name is indexed once in the Jack Ruby investigation. The pertinent information in this reference concerning Ruby's connection with McKeown is set forth in a report which has already been disseminated to the Commission. As there are no references to Ruby in this 57-section file, it does not appear that any purpose would be served by reviewing this voluminous material page by page for complete detailed information concerning McKeown's background. The Commission has been given the names of McKeown's confederates in this matter as requested and has previously received the information concerning possible contact between McKeown and Ruby.