

1 And he said, "Jack, we wound up our work already. We
2 wound up what we were doing. We are finished what we were
3 doing. I will tell the boys about your thoughtfulness, and
4 I will thank them for you."

5 In the meantime, there is a fellow in town that has
6 been very good to me named Gordon McLendon. Do you know him,
7 Mr. Warren?

8 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I think I do not.

9 MR. RUBY: He had been giving me a lot of free plugs.
10 And all the while listening to the radio, I heard about a
11 certain disk jockey, Joe Long, that is down at the station,
12 giving firsthand information -- I want to describe him --
13 of Oswald.

14 Very rarely do I use the name Oswald. I don't know
15 why. I don't know how to explain it -- of the person that
16 committed the act. (Pause to compose self)

17 So before going down to the Police Station, I try
18 to call KLIF but can't get their number. --

19 I wanted to bring the sandwiches to KLIF so they would
20 have the sandwiches, since they already started to make them
21 up.

22 And I remember ~~Russ Knight~~, a disk jockey -- these
23 names aren't familiar to you, but I have to mention them in
24 order to refresh my memory.

25 -- His name was Moore, or something, and I tried to

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1 get information on the telephone, but they couldn't give me
2 the phone number of his home.

3 I probably thought I could get the phone number, but
4 after 6:00 p.m. you cannot get into the premises unless you
5 have a "hot" number that is right to the disk jockey room.

6 So I couldn't get a hold of that.

7 But in the meantime, I called Gordon McLendon's home,
8 because I know he lives near the Synagogue out there, and I
9 got a little girl on the phone, and I knew they had children,
10 and I asked for the number for KLIF.

11 I said, "Anyone home?"

12 She said, "No."

13 I said, "Is your Daddy or Mommy home?" I forget what
14 transpired. I said, "I would like to get the number of the
15 station so I can get in the building at this time."

16 She said she would go and see, and gave me a Riverside
17 exchange.

18 Mind you, this is six or seven months back, gentlemen.

19 And I asked her name. Her name was Christine, I think.
20 I said, "I wanted to bring some sandwiches."

21 She said, "My Mother already brought sandwiches."

22 And I said I wanted to go there too. And that was
23 the end of this little girl's conversation with myself.

24 I called that number, as I am repeating myself. There
25 was no such number. It was an obsolete number.

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1 I go down to the -- I drive by -- I leave the
2 delicatessen -- the clerk helped me with the sandwiches out
3 to my car, and I thanked him. I told him, "These were going
4 to KLIF, and I want you to make them real good."

5 He helped me with the sandwiches in the car. I got
6 in the car and drove down toward town. I imagine it is
7 about four or five miles to the downtown section from this
8 delicatessen.

9 But prior to going into the station, I drove up
10 McKinney Avenue to look over a couple of Clubs to see if they
11 were activating. I knew the Club across from the Phil's
12 Delicatessen and I knew the B & B Restaurant was open. There
13 is a restaurant and I know the necessity for food, but I
14 can't understand some of the Clubs remaining open. It
15 struck me funny at such a tragic time as that happening.

16 I drove down to Commerce and Harwood and parked my
17 car with my dog -- incidentally, I always have my dog with me
18 -- on the lot there, left the sandwiches in the car, went
19 into the building of the Police Station, took the elevator
20 up to the second floor, and there was a police officer there.

21 This is the first time I ever entered the building,
22 gentlemen. The first time of that Friday. This time it
23 must have been about -- I mean the time, the time of my
24 entering the building, I guess, was approximately 11:15 p.m.

25 The officer was there, and I said, "Where is Joe Long

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1 I said, "Can I go and look for him?"

2 Evidently I took a little domineering part about me,
3 and I was able to be admitted. I asked different reporters
4 and various personalities there, "Are you Joe Long?", and I
5 couldn't locate him.

6 I even had a police officer try to page him and he
7 couldn't locate him.

8 I recognized a couple of police officers, Cal Jones
9 and a few others, and I said "hello" to them.

10 And I am still looking for Joe Long, but I am carried
11 away with the excitement of history.

12 And one fellow then -- I am in the hallway there --
13 there is a narrow hallway, and I don't recall if Captain
14 Fritz or Chief Curry brings the prisoner out, and I am
15 standing about two or three feet away from him, and there
16 is some reporters that didn't know the various police officers
17 and I don't know whether they asked me or I volunteered to
18 tell them, because I knew they were looking to find out who
19 that was, and I said, "That was Chief Curry" or "That is
20 Captain Fritz", or whoever it was.

21 I don't recall Henry Wade coming out in the hallway.
22 He probably did. I don't recall what happened.

23 (To Joe Tonahill) Is that for me, Joe?

24 Then suddenly someone asked, either the Chief or
25 Captain Fritz, "Isn't there a larger room we can go into?"

1 They said, "Well, let's go down to the Assembly Room
2 downstairs."

3 I don't know what transpired in between from the time
4 that I had the officer page Joe Long up to the time I was
5 standing about three feet away from Oswald. All the things
6 -- I don't recall if I am telling you everything that happened
7 from that time, from the time I entered the building to the
8 time I went down to the Assembly Room.

9 I went down to the Assembly Room down in the basement.
10 I felt perfectly free walking in there. No one asked me
11 or anything. I got up on a little table there where I knew
12 I wasn't blocking anyone's view, because there was an
13 abutment sticking out, and I had my back to the abutment,
14 and I was standing there.

15 Then they brought the prisoner out and various
16 questions were being shouted.

17 I noticed there was a chief County or Judge Davidson,
18 I can't think of his name, one of these Precinct Court Judges,
19 and they brought the prisoner out.

20 I don't recall if Chief Fritz, Captain Fritz was there,
21 or Chief Curry. I know Henry Wade was there. And they
22 started shouting questions and he said, "Is he the one?"
23 And the question about the gun.

24 And they questioned Henry Wade, "What organization did
25 he belong to", or something. And if I recall, I think

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1 Henry Wade answered, "Free Cuba".

2 And I corrected Henry Wade, because listening to the
3 radio or KLIF, it stood out in my mind that it was "Fair Play
4 Cuba". There was a difference.

5 So he said, "Oh yes, Fair Play Cuba", and he corrected
6 that.

7 I don't know how long we remained there. There was
8 lot of questions thrown back and forth, and this District
9 Attorney Henry Wade was answering them to the best he could.

10 From the way he stated, he let the reporters know
11 that this was the guilty one that committed the crime.

12 He specifically stated that in that room, that he was
13 the one.

14 It didn't have any effect in my mind, because whether
15 the person had come out, whether he come out openly and
16 publicly stated didn't have any bearing in my mind, because
17 I wasn't interested in anything. All I knew, they had the
18 prisoner. But the reporters like to know where they stand,
19 "is he the one?"

20 We left out in the hallway, and I saw Henry Wade
21 standing there, and I went over to him and said, "Henry,
22 I want you to know I was the one that corrected you." I
23 think it is a childish thing, but I met Henry Wade sometime
24 back, and I knew he would recognize me.

25 "By the way, it was Fair Play Cuba", or something to

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1 that effect.

2 In the meantime, as I leave Henry Wade, two gentlemen
3 pass by and I said, "Are you Joe Long?" He said, "No, why
4 do you want Joe Long?"

5 And I said, "I got to get into KLIF. I have got some
6 sandwiches."

7 And he said, "What about us?"

8 And I said, "Some other time."

9 And it so happened I found out Jerry Gunkle and Sam
10 Pease, I found out they were the names, so I did get the
11 number, because these fellows work for a rival radio station,
12 and he gave me the number of KLIF.

13 And in the testimony of John Rutledge, if I recall
14 now -- this is the only time I had ever seen this person.
15 When I went out the railing where the phone was at, people
16 felt free to walk in.

17 In other words, I felt that I was deputized as a
18 reporter momentarily, you might say.

19 So I called one of the boys at KLIF and I said to
20 them, "I have sandwiches for you. I want to get over there."
21 I said, "By the way, I see Henry Wade talking on the phone
22 to someone. Do you want me to get him over here?"

23 And he said, "Yes, do that."

24 That is when everyone was beckoning Henry Wade, and
25 I called him over and he talked on the phone to this boy.

1 And after he finished; I didn't even tell him what
2 station it was. I said, "Here is somebody that wants to
3 talk to you." And I felt he wouldn't turn it down.

4 And this fellow was very much elated that I brought
5 him over there.

6 And I said, "Now, will you let me in?"

7 He said, "I will only leave the door open for five
8 minutes." That was after the conversation was finished
9 with Henry Wade.

10 I got ready to leave the building and I got up to the
11 next floor and there was another disk jockey at KLIF, Russ
12 Knight. He said, "Jack, where is everything happening?"
13 And he had a tape recorder.

14 And I said, "Come on downstairs", and led him down-
15 stairs. And there was Henry Wade sitting there. And I
16 said, "Henry, this is Russ Knight." And I left him there
17 with Henry Wade, and I went to my car and drove over to KLIF,
18 which is a block away from there.

19 , And it was a little chilly that night, as I recall,
20 but by bringing Russ Knight over to Henry Wade, I delayed
21 too long to get to KLIF, and I had to wait fifteen minutes
22 until Russ Knight came from finishing his interview with
23 Henry Wade.

24 I had the sandwiches with me and some soda pop and
25 various things, and Russ Knight opened the door and we went

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1 upstairs.

2 (Mr. Arlen Specter, a Staff Counsel, entered the ro
3 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: This is another man on my
4 staff, Mr. Specter. Would you mind if he came in?

5 (Chief Justice Warren introduced the men around the
6 room.)

7 MR. RUBY: Is there any way to get me to Washington.

8 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I beg your pardon?

9 MR. RUBY: Is there any way of you getting me to
10 Washington?

11 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I don't know of any. I will
12 be glad to talk to your counsel about what the situation is,
13 Mr. Ruby, when we get an opportunity to talk.

14 MR. RUBY: I don't think I will get a fair repre-
15 sentation with my counsel, Joe Tonahill. I don't think so
16 I would like to request that I go to Washington and you take
17 all the tests that I have to take. It is very important.

18 MR. TONAHILL: Jack, will you tell him why you
19 don't think you will get a fair representation?

20 MR. RUBY: Because I have been over this for the
21 longest time to get the lie detector test. Somebody has
22 been holding it back from me.

23 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Mr. Ruby, I might say to you
24 that the lateness of this thing is not due to your counsel.

25 He wrote me, I think, close to two months ago and told me

1 that you would be glad to testify and take, I believe he said,
2 any test. I am sure of that, but would be glad to testify
3 before the Commission.

4 And I thanked him for the letter. But we have been
5 so busy that this is the first time we have had an opportunity
6 to do it.

7 But there has been no delay, as far as I know, on the
8 part of Mr. Tonahill in bringing about this meeting. It was
9 our own delay due to the pressures we had on us at the time.

10 MR. RUBY: What State are you from, Congressman?

11 CONGRESSMAN FORD: Michigan. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

12 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I will be glad to talk that
13 over, if we can. You might go right ahead, if you wish,
14 with the rest of your statement.

15 MR. RUBY: All right. I remained at KLIF from that
16 moment on, from the time I got into the building, with Russ
17 Knight. We talked about various things. I brought out
18 the thought of this ad that Bernard Weisman had placed in the
19 newspaper, and I also told Russ the one I admired by Gordon
20 McLendon.

21 He came out with an editorial about the incident with
22 Adlai Stevenson and all those things. He is one person
23 that will immediately go to bat if anything is wrong. He
24 will clarify it.

25 And I told Russ Knight there were some other things

1 that were occurring at the time, So I remained there until
2 about 2:00 a.m. in the morning and we all partook of the
3 sandwiches and had a feast there.

4 And they spliced the various comments they got back
5 and forth of Henry Wade, of Russ Knight's copy of Russ Knight's
6 items of Henry Wade.

7 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Mr. Ruby, this is the young
8 man, Mr. Specter. He is a member of our staff, and he comes
9 from Philadelphia.

10 (Ruby shakes hands with Mr. Specter.)

11 MR. RUBY: I am at a disadvantage, gentlemen, telling
12 my story.

13 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: You were right at the point
14 where you had it about 2:00 o'clock in the morning and you
15 had had your feast, as you mentioned, and had talked to these
16 men, and so forth. That was the last that you had told us.

17 MR. RUBY: Well, lots of things occurred up to that.
18 They talked pro and con about the tragedy.

19 At 2:00 a.m. I left the building. I drove -- I was
20 going to go toward the Times Herald Building, because as a
21 result -- I very rarely go there for my weekend ad, because
22 once I get the ad into the Morning News, which is the earlier
23 issue, all I have to do is call the newspaper and they
24 transpire the same ad that I had into the newspaper -- into
25 the Morning News.

1 And I promised one of the boys working in the Times
2 Herald Building there -- I was in the act, in the business of
3 a twist board deal I was promoting as a sales item by
4 advertisement and mail order, and I had been evading him,
5 or didn't have time to go out there because it was very late
6 when I left the Club, and I didn't want to stop, but because
7 this was an early morning, I thought this would be the right
8 time to go over there, plus the fact of changing my ad I had
9 in the Morning News to the closing of three days, that I
10 would go over there and maybe add a little more effectiveness
11 to it in the way I wanted the ad placed.

12 As I was driving toward the Times Herald with the
13 intention of doing these things, I heard someone honk a horn
14 very loudly, and I stopped. There was a police officer
15 sitting in a car. He was sitting with this young lady that
16 works in my Club, Kathy Kay, and they were very much carried
17 away.

18 And I was carried away; and he had a few beers, and
19 it is so bad about those places open, and I was a great guy
20 to close; and I remained with them -- did I tell you this
21 part of it?

22 MR. MOORE: I don't recall this part, no.

23 MR. RUBY: I didn't tell you this part because at
24 the time I thought a lot of Harry ~~Carlson~~ as a police officer,
25 and either it slipped my mind in telling this, or it was

1 more or less a reason for leaving it out, because I felt I
2 didn't want to involve them in anything, because it was
3 supposed to be a secret that he was going with this young lady.
4 He had marital problems.

5 I don't know if that is why I didn't tell you that.
6 Anyway, I did leave it out. His name is Harry Carlson. Her
7 name is Kathy Kay.

8 And they talked and they carried on, and they thought
9 I was the greatest guy in the world, and he stated they should
10 cut this guy inch by inch into ribbons, and so on.

11 And she said, "Well, if he was in England, they would
12 drag him through the streets and would have hung him." I
13 forget what she said.

14 I left them after a long delay. They kept me from
15 leaving. They were constantly talking and were in a pretty
16 dramatic mood. They were crying and carrying on.

17 I went to the building of the Times Herald. I went
18 to the Times Herald -- may I read that, Joe? May I please?

19 (Joe Tonahill hands paper to Jack Ruby.)

20 MR. TONAHILL: Sam ever get your glasses?

21 MR. RUBY: Not yet. (Reading) "This is the girl
22 that" -- what? -- "that started Jack off." What is this
23 other word?

24 MR. TONAHILL: Culminated?

25 MR. RUBY: That is untrue. That is what I wanted

1 to read. (Throwing pad on table)

2 Gentlemen, unless you get me to Washington, you can't
3 get a fair shake out of me.

4 If you understand my way of talking, you have got to
5 bring me to Washington to get the tests.

6 Do I sound dramatic? Off the beam?

7 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No, you are speaking very,
8 very rational, and I am really surprised that you can remember
9 as much as you have remembered up to the present time.

10 You have given it to us in detail.

11 MR. RUBY: Unless you can get me to Washington, and
12 I am not a crackpot, I have all my senses -- I don't want
13 to evade any crime I am guilty of. But Mr. Moore, have I
14 spoken this way when we have talked?

15 MR. MOORE: Yes.

16 MR. RUBY: Unless you get me to Washington immedi-
17 ately, I am afraid after what Mr. Tonahill has written there,
18 which is unfair to me regarding my testimony here, -- you all
19 want to hear what he wrote?

20 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, you might read it. If
21 you need glasses again, try mine this time (handing glasses
22 to Mr. Ruby).

23 MR. RUBY: (Putting on glasses) "This is the girl"

24 MR. TONAHILL: "thing", isn't it?

25 MR. RUBY: "This is the thing that started Jack in

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the shooting.

MR. TONAHILL: Kathy Kay was talking about Oswald.

MR. RUBY: You are lying, Joe Tonahill. You are lying.

MR. TONAHILL: No, I am not.

MR. RUBY: You are lying, because you know what motivated me. You want to make it that it was a premeditation.

MR. TONAHILL: No.

MR. RUBY: Yes, you do.

MR. TONAHILL: I don't think there was any premeditation, but you go ahead and tell it your way. That is what we want you to do. That is what the Chief Justice wants.

MR. RUBY: Not when you specify this.

You are Senator Rankin?

MR. RANKIN: No, I am the General Counsel for our Commission, Mr. Ruby.

MR. TONAHILL: You go on and keep telling it down to Caroline and the truth.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Mr. Ruby, may I suggest this, that if we are to have any tests, either a lie detector or, as you suggest, maybe a truth serum, I don't know anything about truth serum, but if we are to have it, we have to have something to check against, and we would like to have the rest of your story as you started to tell us, because you are

1 now getting down to the crucial part of it, and it wouldn't
2 be fair to you to have this much of it and then not have the
3 rest.

4 MR. RUBY: Because the reason why, Joe knows from the
5 time that I told Attorney Belli, and the story I wanted to
6 tell on the stand, and Mr. Tonahill knows this isn't the
7 time. The thought never entered my mind. He knows it.

8 MR. TONAHILL: I didn't say the thought entered your
9 mind. I didn't say that.

10 MR. RUBY: You are inferring that.

11 MR. TONAHILL: Unconsciously, maybe, is what I mean
12 to say.

13 MR. RUBY: Why go back to Friday, Joe?

14 MR. TONAHILL: You are going to come right down --

15 MR. RUBY: Why go back to Friday? That set me off.
16 Then it is a greater premeditation than you know
17 is true.

18 MR. TONAHILL: I don't say it is premeditation.
19 never have. I don't think it is.

20 MR. RUBY: Because it never entered my mind when
21 they talked about, the officer, cutting him into bits.
22 I would like to have built it up for my defense, but that is
23 not it. I am here to tell the truth.

24 MR. TONAHILL: The psychiatrist said that to me.

25 MR. RUBY: You want to put that into my thoughts,

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1 but it never happened. I took it with a grain of salt what³⁷
2 he said at that particular time.

3 Well, it is too bad, Chief Warren, that you didn't get
4 me to your headquarters six months ago.

5 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Well, Mr. Ruby, I will tell
6 you why we didn't. Because you were then about to be tried
7 and I didn't want to do anything that would prejudice you in
8 your trial. And for that reason, I wouldn't even consider
9 asking you to testify until your trial was over. That is
10 the only reason that we didn't talk to you sooner.

11 And I wish we had gotten here a little sooner after
12 your trial was over, but I know you had other things on your
13 mind, and we had other work, and it got to this late date.

14 But I assure you, there is no desire on our part to
15 let this matter go to any late date for any ulterior purpose.
16 I assure you that.

17 And as I told you at the beginning, if you want a test
18 of some kind made, I will undertake to see that it is done.

19 MR. RUBY: You have power to do it, even though the
20 District Attorney objects to me getting the tests?

21 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, I do.

22 MR. RUBY: How soon can it be done?

23 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Well, I am not familiar with
24 those things, but we will try to do it expeditiously, you
25 may be sure, because we are trying to wind up the work of

1 this Commission. And I assure you we won't delay it.

2 MR. RUBY: Are you staying overnight here, Chief
3 Warren?

4 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No, I have to be back, because
5 we have an early session of the court tomorrow morning.

6 MR. RUBY: Is there any way of getting a polygraph
7 here?

8 SHERIFF DECKER: May I make a suggestion?
9 Jack, listen, you and I have had a lot of dealings.
10 Do you want my officers removed from the room while you talk
11 to this Commission?

12 MR. RUBY: That wouldn't prove any truth.

13 SHERIFF DECKER: These people came several thousand
14 miles to interview you. You have wanted to tell me your
15 story and I have refused to let you tell me. Now be a man
16 with a bunch of men that have come a long way to give you an
17 opportunity to.

18 You asked me for permission to tell your story, and
19 I told you "No."

20 This is a supreme investigating committee at this
21 particular time. Now give them your story and be a man,
22 if you want them to deal with you and deal fairly with you.

23 MR. RUBY: It is unfair to me unless I get all the
24 facilities to back up what I say.

25 SHERIFF DECKER: You tell him your, story. Nobody

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1 is denying it. You tell this man. He has come a thousand
2 or more miles to listen to you. Now be a man about it.

3 MR. MOORE: What I suggest: Jack, at one time I
4 was a polygraph operator, and you would not be able to go
5 through the entire story the way you have here.

6 So seriously, you should tell the story and the things
7 you want checked, you can be asked directly. Because you
8 can only answer yes or no on the polygraph examination. So
9 I think in view of what you want, you should tell your story
10 first, and then the points that you want verified, you can
11 be questioned on.

12 As the Sheriff mentioned, the Commission has come a
13 long way to have the opportunity to listen to your story,
14 and I am sure that they know you are telling the truth, in
15 any case.

16 MR. RUBY: I wish the President were right here now.
17 It is a terrible ordeal, I tell you that.

18 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I am sure it is an ordeal
19 for you, and we want to make it just as easy as we can.
20 That is the reason that we have let you tell your story in
21 your own way without being interrupted.

22 If you will just proceed with the rest of your
23 statement, I think it would make it a lot easier for us to
24 verify it in the way that you want it to be done.

25 MR. RUBY: I don't know how to answer you.

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1 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Well, you have told us most
2 of what happened up to the time of the incident, and you
3 are almost within, you are just within a few hours of it
4 now.

5 MR. RUBY: There is a Saturday.

6 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Beg your pardon?

7 MR. RUBY: There is a Saturday night. There is a
8 Friday night. This is still only Friday night, Chief.

9 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, that is true.

10 MR. RUBY: Well, I will go into a certain point,
11 and if I stop, you will have to understand if I stop to get
12 my bearings together.

13 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes.

14 MR. RUBY: I am in the Times Herald Building. I
15 go upstairs, naturally.

16 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: This is about what time?

17 MR. RUBY: This, I imagine, is -- I left the KLIF
18 at 2:00 a.m., and I spent an hour with the officer and his
19 girl friend, so it must have been about 3:15 approximately.
20 No, it wasn't. When you are not concerned with time, it
21 could have been 4:00 o'clock.

22 CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: It doesn't make any difference

23 MR. RUBY: Forty-five minutes difference.

24 I am up there in the composing room talking to a guy
25 by the name of Pat ~~Gayloesch~~. He was so elated that I