

UNITED STATES GOV

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: JACK L. RUBY, AKA;
LEE HARVEY OSWALD, AKA - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

DATE: July 30, 1964

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Hines
- 1 - Mr. Edwards

Mr. Tolson
 Mr. DeLoach
 Mr. Mohr
 Mr. Bishop
 Mr. Casper
 Mr. Callahan
 Mr. Conrad
 Mr. Felt
 Mr. Gale
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Sullivan
 Mr. Tavel
 Mr. Trotter
 Tele. Room
 Mr. Holmes
 Gandy

_____ confidentially advised that he had recently had occasion to become acquainted with Shields Mitchell, a free lance cameraman and producer of motion pictures in Dallas, Texas. Mitchell told _____ that he had been employed by Melvin Belli, former legal counsel for Ruby, during the pretrial interviews that Belli had with Ruby.

Mitchell said that Belli had demanded and received as his fee for defending Ruby complete rights to any book or film based on Ruby's life and Belli had employed Mitchell and another cameraman to shoot considerable film footage of Ruby during Belli's interviews with him. Mitchell said Belli explained the use of the cameramen, if challenged, by stating that it was necessary for him to completely ascertain the personality and character of Ruby for his assistance in preparing Ruby's defense. In reality according to Mitchell, Belli was compiling an immense film library on Ruby for future exploitation and apparently hoped that Ruby would "crack up" during one of the interviews so that it could be recorded on film. Belli's belief was that such film would become priceless as a historic document in the future and that he would personally reap rich rewards.

Mitchell stated that Belli frequently referred to unethical approach he was using, stating that if it became known he would "go to jail." These references to illegality caused Mitchell to disassociate himself from Belli's employment and he was sworn to secrecy by Belli before leaving his employ.

Dallas has advised that they would make no effort to interview Shields Mitchell concerning this matter and suggested that the Bureau consider furnishing the information to Walter F. Craig, President, American Bar Association (ABA), in view of the reported multi-million dollar suit filed by Belli against Craig and the ABA. In view of the interest of the President's Commission in Jack Ruby, it will be necessary to advise them of the information reported by _____

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: JACK L. RUEY, AKA;

The dispute between Belli and Craig and the ABA has received considerable publicity which was instigated primarily by both Belli and Craig. If the information furnished by [redacted] on a confidential basis is given to Craig, it will no doubt also become meat for the news media. The Bureau must not become involved in this public argument between Belli and Craig.

ACTION:

In view of the Commission's interest in Ruby, the information furnished by [redacted] will be disseminated to the President's Commission taking care to conceal [redacted] as the source.

Dallas will be instructed to conduct no investigation concerning this matter and they will be advised that the information will be disseminated to the President's Commission only and is not to be furnished to Craig or anyone else outside of the Bureau.

A copy of this memorandum has been furnished to Mr. Edwards who handles liaison with the ABA for his information only.