

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Dallas, Texas August 21, 1964

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT

JOHN PITZGERALD KENNEDY,

NOVEMBER 22, 1963, DALLAS, TEXAS

By letter dated August 3, 1964, the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy advised that Mark Lane had testified before the Commission about an allegation that on November 14, 1963, there was a two-hour meeting at the Carousel Club between Bernard Welssman, Officer J. D. Tippit, and Jack Ruby. In conhection with this allegation, the Commission requested that photographs of Bernard Welssman and J. D. Tippit be obtained and exhibited to George Senator, Andrew Armstrong, Larry Craford, Karen Bennet Carlin, Nancy Powell, and William D. Crowe in order to determine whether any of these individuals observed Weissman or Tippit at the Carousel Club at any time and whether any of these persons observed a meeting such as that described by Lane.

Furthermore, the Commission requested that Bernard Weissman be reinterviewed to determine his whereabouts on November 14, 1963, and in particular in the evening hours.

The Commission also requested that Mrs. J. D. Tippit be reinterviewed as to whether or not she was aware of any contact between her late husband and Bernard Weissman.

The Commission further noted that Ruby claims he did not know Officer J. D. Tippit, who was killed on November 22, 1963, but he did know another member of the Dallas Police Department by the name of Tippit. The Commission requested that this latter officer be interviewed to determine the extent of his relationship, if any, with Jack Ruby.

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ENCLOSURE

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ew Armstrong. Jr., Apart-

On August 20, 1964, Andrew Armstrong. Jr., Apartment C, 3821 Dixon Street, and a warehouse employee at Goodman Produce Company, 1000 South Central Expressway, Dallas, advised upon viewing photographs of both Bernard Weissman and J. D. Tippit that he had never seen either individual before at any time, including the date of November 14, 1963, at the Carousel Club. Armstrong stated that Jack Ruby had mentioned to him at the time of the radio broadcast about Officer Tippit being shot that he, Ruby, knew Tippit; however, Ruby subsequently mentioned to Armstrong that it was another Tippit that was shot, and not the one he knew.

On August 20, 1964, Karen Bennett Carlin, Apartment 2, 1054 West Allen Street, Fort Worth, Texas, advised upon viewing photographs of J. D. Tippit and Bernard Weissman that she had never seen either of these two men talking together or with Jack Ruby prior to the assassination of President Kennedy in November, 1963.

Carlin noted that after Jack Ruby shot Lee Harvey Oswald on November 24, 1963, there was a man who worked at the Carousel Club in Dallas, where she performed) as a striptease performer, who vaguely resembled the photograph of Bernard Weissman, and who worked taking cover charges and generally helping around the club. She stated she did not know this man's name, could not describe him, and did not know from where he came. She stated he was there at the club only a few nights, and she never did learn his name. She noted that she could not positively state that this person was Bernard Weissman, but he had a general appearance of Weissman. She further noted that it was very dark in the club and it was possible that she could be mistaken.

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Nancy Powell, 1217 Clarence Street, Fort Worth, Texas, advised on August 17, 1964, that she has performed in the past in a strip-tease act at the Carousel Club in Dallas, Texas, when that club was operated by Jack Ruby. Upon viewing photographs of Bernard Weissman and J. D. Tippit, Miss Powell stated that she has never seen either Weissman or Tippit in a meeting together at the Carousel Club with Jack Ruby or anyone else. She does not know Weissman or Tippit.

On August 7, 1964, Mrs. Marie Tippit, 238 Glencairn, Dallas, advised that she is the wife of deceased Dallas Police Officer J. D. Tippit, who was killed on November 22, 1963. Mrs. Tippit viewed two different photographs of her late husband which had been obtained on August 6, 1964, from the Dallas Police Department, and she noted that the photograph of her husband in plain street clothes was taken in 1952, and the other photograph of Officer Tippit in a policeman's uniform was a snapshot taken in 1957. She noted that the latter photograph is the better likeness of her deceased husband. Mrs. Tippit stated that she has no additional good photographs of her husband as he had always neglected having a studio photograph made of himself.

Mrs. Tippit advised that Bernard Weissman is unknown to her, and she does not recall her husband ever having mentioned his name or having known such an individual.

On December 16, 1963, Gayle M. Tippit. Detective.

Special Service Bureau, Dallas Police Department, advised that he first began working for the Dallas Police Department in 1950, and soon thereafter, he met Jack Ruby, who was at that time operating the Silver Spur Night Club at 1717 South Ervay, in Dallas. Tippit was assigned to this area, and it was his duty to periodically check the Silver Spur, which was a combination dance hall and beer tavern. During this period of time, he became very well acquainted with Jack Ruby. He noted

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that Ruby acted as his own bouncer and would forcibly expel anyone who caused trouble at the club. Ruby was very friendly and helpful to the patrolling officers and requested no special favors of the officers.

In subsequent years Gayle Tippit had occasion to contact Ruby while the latter was operating the Vegas Club and the Carousel Club although his contacts in recent years have been infrequent. Tippit personally has no knowledge of any illegal activities on the part of Ruby, such as gambling, narcotics or prostitution.

Detective Tippit advised he had not known Lee Harvey Oswald prior to the assassination of President Kennedy and had no information indicating a connection between Oswald and Ruby.

Detective Tippit stated that on November 24, 1963, he was on duty on the second floor of the Municipal Building at the time Oswald was slain by Ruby. Tippit was in the office of the Special Service Bureau and had no opportunity to see what was going on in the basement of the building. He did not see Ruby on that date. Tippit was not aware of the security plans concerning the transfer of Oswald to the County Jail but did note that he had to identify himself to patrolmen on duty on the third floor when he had occasion to go to that floor on the morning of November 24, 1963.