

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

1-Mr. Conrad  
1-Mr. Jevons

1-Mr. Herndon  
1-Mr. [unclear] 1573

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Geale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Conrad

DATE: 7/27/64

FROM : R. H. Jevons

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

In my memorandum of 7/20/64, I advised that in accordance with arrangements made with the President's Commission, Jack L. Ruby was afforded a polygraph examination by SA Bell P. Herndon, Polygraph Examiner, FBI Laboratory, at the Dallas County Jail on Saturday, 7/18/64. Ruby provided additional details and facts during the interview, however, gave no new significant information. He continued to deny previously knowing Oswald or being in any conspiracy to kill the President or Oswald. In later sworn testimony by Ruby's psychiatrist, Dr. William R. Beavers, he indicated that Ruby was aware of the questions and was rational in his response but generally described Ruby as "psychotic depressive." Referenced memorandum also advised that a review of the charts obtained as a result of the polygraph examination indicates that Ruby was not deceptive in his denial of knowing Oswald or his being involved in any conspiracy and shows no conflict with prior investigation. However, if Ruby is in fact a "psychotic" personality, the test results should be considered as inconclusive because of his mental condition.

Mr. Arlen Specter of the President's Commission, requested that SA Herndon confer with him prior to the submission of any written formal report.

My memorandum of 7/22/64, advised that during the conference with Mr. Specter, SA Herndon informed him in general that in view of the psychiatrist's diagnosis of Ruby's mental condition as "psychotic depressive," no significance can be placed on the polygraph examination. Mr. Specter advised that he desired a complete review of the psychiatrist's testimony be made prior to the submission of a formal polygraph report and that the report was not expected before the latter part of the week.

Enclosure

62-109060

- 1-Mr. Belmont - Enc.
- 1-Mr. Rosen - Enc.
- 1-Mr. Malley - Enc.
- 1-Mr. Sullivan - Enc.

- 1-Mr. McGowan, Rm. 2712
- 1-Mr. Hines, Rm. 2264

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Memorandum to Mr. Conrad  
Re: JACK L. RUBY; LEE HARVEY  
OSWALD, VICTIM; CIVIL RIGHTS  
62-109060

On 7/24/64, Mr. Specter requested a brief report in the form of a letter be furnished to the Commission even though the psychiatrist's complete testimony has not been reviewed. He also requested SA Herndon to appear for conference at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, 7/28/64, and to give a deposition at 2:00 p. m. regarding the polygraph examination. It is anticipated that during the deposition, hypothetical situations will be presented based on the data in the polygraph charts; if so, any reply will be carefully qualified solely to the situation presented. The question of Ruby's mental condition precludes any interpretation of his polygrams. Specifically, it is anticipated that Mr. Specter may ask for an interpretation of the charts based on the assumption that Ruby is sane and mentally competent. In such an event, it is contemplated that the answer will be given that on the basis of the hypothesis advanced by the Commission's attorney, the charts would normally be interpreted as showing no indication of deception; however, that the examiner has no information which would resolve the hypothesis and therefore must consider the results in this instance inconclusive.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

If you approve, it is recommended that the attached letter be sent to the President's Commission setting forth the Bureau's policy concerning the limitations of the polygraph technique and advising that in view of the psychiatrist's testimony that Jack Ruby is generally described as a "psychotic depressive," no significance should be placed on the polygraph examination and it should be considered nonconclusive as the charts cannot be relied upon.

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*