

# Ruby Linked to Chicago Gangs; Boasted of Knowing Hoodlums

## Police Say He Was Friendly With Several Who Were Slain, but Never Made 'Big Time'—Had Union Ties

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CHICAGO, Nov. 25 — Jack Ruby was an admitted associate of gangsters but never made the "big time," acquaintances said today.

When the background of the man who had shot President Kennedy's accused assassin was pieced together, it was apparent that he had been linked to several Chicagoans who were murdered. He was said to have boasted of knowing such hoodlums.

Ruby, whose real name was Leon Rubenstein, was born in Chicago 52 years ago. He was friendly with Paul Labriola, who was slain in 1954, and Paul R. Jones, now in Federal prison on a narcotics conviction, according to a police official. Ruby moved to Dallas about 12 years ago.

Jones and Labriola went there in 1946, where they frequented Ruby's night club while trying unsuccessfully to bribe the sheriff, a Dallas source said.

Ruby's background ranged to San Francisco, where he lived before the war. There, on the basis of information obtained today, he was probably only on the fringe of the underworld.

Tom Cahill, San Francisco police chief, said a check showed no evidence that Ruby was a "known gangster" there.

Federal investigators here focused on Ruby's connection with the Waste Material Handlers Union. In 1957 the union was expelled from the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations on charges of corruption.

Ruby and Leon R. Cooke, a lawyer, organized the union in 1937. Two years later Cooke was shot to death.

Ruby, who bore the nickname "Sparky," left his union job — he once had the title of secretary — in 1940. That was soon after the union had been taken over by Paul Dorfman, a close friend of James R. Hoffa, head of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

In Palm Springs, Calif., Mr. Dorfman said Ruby was a "real nice guy" with "liberal" views.

He denied he had dismissed him from the union. Ruby lost his job as an organizer on orders of the regional A.F.L. office when it temporarily took control of the union after Cooke was killed, Mr. Dorfman said.

In 1959 Senate racketeers in-

down in front, which Al Capone had made a hoodlum fad.

Another person who remembered Ruby was Police Capt. Louis Capparelli. He was long commanding officer of the Maxwell district where Ruby was born. His father was from Russia and his mother from Poland.

"He wasn't a tough guy, as they say, but he was a very aggressive salesman when he was selling something," the captain said. "He liked to be seen or heard, and I guess you could call him a frustrated policeman because he liked to be seen with a policeman."

investigators termed the union leadership a link between Mr. Hoffa and the underworld. Its leaders have been involved in charges of graft, beatings and killings in the years after Ruby left the union.

Earl Ruby, a brother, said in Detroit that reports about Jack Ruby's criminal connections were incorrect.

### Made Small Bets

But Ruby, information from many quarters made clear, knew gamblers and other "police characters" through his scalping of tickets at sporting events. He made small bets on fights and baseball games, sources said.

He was said to have known Nathan Gumbin, a wealthy businessman who was killed in England style in 1948. The two had business dealings when Ruby was with the union, sources said, and Ruby frequented a gambling place where Gumbin went.

Theodore H. Shulman, head of the Sanatex Corporation and executive director of the Waste Trade Industries, said Ruby had been forced out of the union because of his temperament.

Ruby, he said, would excitedly threaten a strike before a grievance could be discussed.

Luis Kutner, a lawyer, said that when the Senate committee was at work in 1949, Ruby apparently wanted to become the crime syndicate's "pipeline" into the committee.

Mr. Kutner said Ruby became an "adviser" to the committee. But he added that he thought Ruby had been trying to impress "the boys" with his connections.

"He was a nervous, ambitious, frustrated guy who never made the big time," Mr. Kutner said.

He insisted, however, that he would not say Ruby had had ties with the underworld, but that he had "tossed off names" of hoodlums.

Ruby always acted "tough," he recalled, wearing "sharp" suits and the pearly-gray fedora with the broad brim turned