

Mr. GRIFFIN. You said that we were skipping ahead, I think.
Mr. HUBERT. I think the last thing you were talking about before we diverted into these other aspects was that you said you had nothing to lose.
Mr. RUBY. Yes; that is right, so that evening we went to see Belli.
Mr. GRIFFIN. Where did you see Belli?
Mr. RUBY. In a home—a used home he had recently purchased in L.A.
Mr. HUBERT. Was an appointment made by them to see him?
Mr. RUBY. Yes; oh, yes. I think it was 7 o'clock, if I am not mistaken, that evening.
Mr. GRIFFIN. Where did they call Belli? Where was Belli when they called him to make the appointment.
Mr. RUBY. In L.A. from what they told me.
Mr. GRIFFIN. Yes; but do you know whether he was at his house or in an office or in a hotel or in a cocktail lounge or where he might have been?
Mr. RUBY. I don't recall. I don't remember.
Mr. HUBERT. Were you present when they called to make the appointment?
Mr. RUBY. I don't remember that, either.
Mr. HUBERT. So we are at the point that you do go to see Belli.
Mr. RUBY. Yes.
Mr. HUBERT. I think this is a good breaking point for lunch.
Mr. GRIFFIN. Maybe.
(Whereupon, at 1:10 p.m., the proceeding was recessed.)

TESTIMONY OF EARL RUBY RESUMED

The proceeding reconvened at 2:30 p.m.
Mr. GRIFFIN. Let me state for the record that as we resume this deposition that I presume you understand that the oath you took this morning with Mr. Hubert and all the formalities which you went through still pertain to this hearing.
You are still under oath and we will continue in the same fashion that we did before.
If there are any questions about it why you are free to say anything.
We were talking, it seems to me, that we got you to the point where you had just met Mr. Belli.
Mr. RUBY. Belli, that is right.
Mr. GRIFFIN. Now, I wanted to confine your attention from here on in to certain narrow aspects of your dealings in Los Angeles, and that is your efforts to find financing for Jack's trial and what the actual financing of the trial is.
Can you tell us, first of all, whether prior to seeing Belli, that day that you were in Los Angeles, you talked to Mr. Shore and Mr. Woodfield at all about the financing of the trial?
Mr. RUBY. Yes; I told them we had to raise money, and I told them Howard gave me a figure of anywhere from \$25,000 to \$50,000, and I asked them about how much they thought they could obtain from a story, and they said they couldn't promise 50 but 30, 35, I think that was the figure that Woodfield used.
Mr. GRIFFIN. Would that be the gross figure or would that be what your brother would have ultimately had available from the entire sum for his defense?
Mr. RUBY. That was the figure, the net figure my brother would have left over after they took their commissions and percentage, and the agent's fee and all of that.
Mr. GRIFFIN. How many people were to share in the proceeds from the sale, beside Jack?
Mr. RUBY. Woodfield, William Woodfield, Larry Shiller, the agent, and then they in turn said they would pay commissions to sales people.
I don't know who those were, of course.
Mr. GRIFFIN. Now, this first day in Los Angeles—
Mr. RUBY. Yes.
Mr. GRIFFIN. Prior to meeting Belli and your talk with them, did you discuss how long the article or biography would be and where it would be published and other details such as that?

Mrs. GRANT. Or maybe together—they were together I think on insurance cases previously—I assume this.

Mr. HUBERT. So, Belli chose a local lawyer, as it were, to go along with him; is that the idea?

Mrs. GRANT. Well, Tom was still in the case. Tom called him right away.

Mr. HUBERT. Called who?

Mrs. GRANT. You know more about that—Tom got us an investigator, Bob Dennison.

Mr. BURLESON. You made the statement that Tom called you?

Mrs. GRANT. Tom called you.

Mr. HUBERT. You mean Phil Burleson?

Mrs. GRANT. Phil Burleson.

Mr. HUBERT. And ultimately, in any case, Mr. Belli was retained to handle the defense?

Mrs. GRANT. That's right.

Mr. HUBERT. Was a fee arrangement made with him?

Mrs. GRANT. Let me explain that part—this is what I know. I was not in San Francisco or Los Angeles. Earl told me this—he says, "You're looking at Belli—\$75,000," and Earl thought you might as well have said \$75 million, but he says, "I will want about \$25,000 to pay my expenses and I think I could write a book and make \$50,000."

Mr. HUBERT. Earl was telling you that?

Mrs. GRANT. Earl told me words that—

Mr. HUBERT. That Belli had told him?

Mrs. GRANT. Yes; and this is what took place in their conversation.

Mr. HUBERT. When you were quoting some sentences there a moment ago, I understood you to mean, and see if I am correct, that Earl was telling you what Belli had told him?

Mrs. GRANT. Yes, and I don't know if there was a contract—I assumed it was agreeable with Earl. Earl already had talked to a fellow by the name of Billy Woodfield, the writer. Billy Woodfield, and don't ask me how they got connected—I know little about these things—he's going to write a short story for Europe, and he probably could help us raise this initial \$25,000 cash. Well, no; he didn't say that—that was for his expenses—he didn't get any money down that day as far as I know.

Mr. HUBERT. Then, the fee was \$75,000, of which he thought—

Mrs. GRANT. He could write a book and retain \$50,000 out of the book, but he would like \$25,000.

Mr. HUBERT. As soon as possible?

Mrs. GRANT. That I don't know—he says for expenses on the case.

Mr. HUBERT. How much was actually paid to him; do you know?

Mrs. GRANT. Let me tell you this—the short stories were sold in Europe and some in America through newspapers. Each paper paid separately—\$400, \$300, \$600, and the story said, "My story—Jack Ruby." I gave most of the story, Jack gave some of it, but I knew this story—what would you call it—little incidents that happened in his life, some of it, and some part of the story was right on Friday and Saturday the 22d. I gave the whole story, you know, I have newspaper stories of it, and I gave it to Belli, and all these little stories, we were supposed to get \$50,000 from all the different agencies that bought this to put it in their papers—that's how it's done, but we received, I would say to my knowledge, \$23,000.

Mr. HUBERT. How was it handled?

Mrs. GRANT. Earl.

Mr. HUBERT. Earl controlled the funds at that time?

Mrs. GRANT. At that time, yes. It came to the writer and the agent, Larry Schiller and Billy Woodfield. Larry sells the story, Billy wrote the story. You know, you need a writer even though you write.

Mr. HUBERT. I'm talking about the money that came to you?

Mrs. GRANT. Well, they received some money on the west coast but they deposited it in a bank with an escrow deal.

Mr. HUBERT. In what bank and under what name was it?

Mrs. GRANT. Earl will tell you—Earl has papers from the bank.

Mr. HUBERT. You don't know that?

Mrs. GRANT. I know it's in Hollywood and I know Earl says he received about \$23,000.

Mr. HUBERT. It was not handled in Dallas.

Mrs. GRANT. Not to my knowledge—1 cent of that.

Mr. HUBERT. But you say that Earl is the one who is handling the money?

Mrs. GRANT. At that time, Earl had power of attorney.

Mr. HUBERT. He had a power of attorney from Jack?

Mrs. GRANT. Yes.

Mr. HUBERT. In other words, this contract was made for the benefit of Jack, as it were, and the money that came in was put into some escrow agreement and then Earl was able to withdraw from that and sign checks against it by virtue of the power of attorney; is that right?

Mrs. GRANT. That's right, that's right; these people received, I would say, 35 percent.

Mr. HUBERT. Is that correct—the way I put it?

Mrs. GRANT. Yes; but we received ourselves, I think, \$23,000—there may have been \$30,000.

Mr. HUBERT. What happened to the money you did receive?

Mrs. GRANT. Earl has checks that were made out directly to Belli, which I think he himself cashed about \$13,200.

Mr. HUBERT. Who is "he"?

Mrs. GRANT. Mr. Melvin Belli. I do know that the doctors were paid and that may have run to \$3,500, and we do know that Bob Dennison received \$4,000. I cannot give you step by step because I do not have it, but Earl has an accounting of all the money received through the efforts of that story; however, Earl has spent—I don't know how many thousands. In the first place, I think Earl put in \$7,000 right away for things, but he took it out later.

Mr. HUBERT. Do you know how much has been received all told—you say about \$23,000 as a result of the story?

Mrs. GRANT. That's as much as I know. This is what I know. There may have been some money—we were supposed to get money in later, but I don't know if we got it.

Mr. HUBERT. Were there any other people or organizations that contributed any money?

Mrs. GRANT. No; well—

Mr. HUBERT. Or, do you know?

Mrs. GRANT. Yes; I know. But I'm trying to think how to tell it to you. Recently we received \$100 from Walter Winchell in the last 10 days. We received \$250 a month ago from friends back in Chicago. Then there is a lot of 5's and 10's—I guess I, myself, could not go into that account, by the way. In the city of Dallas, I received \$245 that I had given to Eileen to reimburse Earl. We put that in a Jack's defense fund. I received that amount, then that was December and January—those months, and then in March or April, I think I also took \$110—let me tell you, the money comes into the county building, you know, the checks, and when I say I received it, it doesn't come directly to me. I typed up all the money on a list and I sent it on to Eileen with a check for deposit of \$110. That's the money that I know, but if we will stop for a minute, I know the hundred, the 250, the 245 and the hundred—those were plus that \$23,000. Now, if there is any other money—did I tell you any other money? I told you everything there was.

Mr. HUBERT. There are no substantial amounts?

Mrs. GRANT. Oh, no; listen, don't listen to those reports.

Mr. HUBERT. Except from the result of the selling?

Mrs. GRANT. The big fee was \$250 and the story was sold, and we received—I would say Larry Schiller and Billy Woodfield took 35 percent of the money—the writer and the agent that sells it of the story. I know there was \$23,000 came in and there may have been more since then.

Mr. HUBERT. In any case, Earl would have more accurate figures?

Mrs. GRANT. Oh, yes.

Mr. HUBERT. As far as you know, in the handling of the money, it is less than a thousand dollars that came through you?