FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 6/21/76

JAMES E. BEAIRD, 1478 South Main Street, advised that in 1955 to 1957 he resided in the Houston, Texas, area and sold automobiles for a dealer in Houston, Texas. During that time he became acquainted with many people in the area of Seabrook and Kemah, Texas. He had some friends that he played poker with in the Kemah, Texas, area; one of those friends was JACK RUBY who shot LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He explained that JACK RUBY was, at that time, involved in the business of selling guns to FIDEL CASTRO in Cuba. He further explained that, during the middle 1950's, the United States was not too concerned with FIDEL CASTRO inasmuch as CASTRO had not gained control of Cuba, and it was not known at that time that CASTRO had Communist connections.

Mr. JAMES E. BEAIRD advised that JACK RUBY stored guns and ammunition in a two-story house between the waterfront and railroad tracks in Kamah, Texas, and would take the guns and ammunition to Cuba, mostly on weekends. He related that he personally saw many boxes of new guns, including automatic rifles and handguns, stored in the two-story house and placed on a boat for shipment. He related that JACK RUBY had a boat about 50 feet long which appeared to be government surplus, similar to a military landing craft or LST. He stated that each time that the boat left with guns and ammunition JACK RUBY was on the boat.

Mr. BEAIRD advised that he had recently returned from Kamah, Texas, where visiting and noticed that the area in which the old two-story house stood is now built up with new buildings. He advised that he did not remember names of persons with whom JACK RUBY was in business at the time and thought nothing of the matter until after President KENNEDY was shot. Since the assassination of President KENNEDY there has been so much speculation as to possible foreign connections and he thought it better not to mention his knowledge of JACK RUBY in Kamah, Texas. He advised that he could not remember any specific dates regarding this associations with JACK RUBY nor dates that JACK RUBY transported guns and ammunition to CASTRO in Cuba.

602-982-3243

Interviewed on 6/7/76 at Apache Junction, Arizona File # Phoenix 89-42

by SA [redacted]:jlc Date dictated 6/10/76

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ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
DALLAS, TEXAS
11/22/63
DALLAS, TEXAS

The files of the Dallas Office of the FBI reflect in 1955 Jack Ruby was operating the Vegas Club at Dallas, Texas. In 1956, he opened another club called Hernando's Hideaway at Dallas, Texas, which he operated for only approximately three months. In 1956, he took a trip, which lasted several weeks to New York; Joplin, Missouri; Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Chicago, when he was attempting to promote a young Negro tap dancer and drummer named Nelson, also known as "Little Daddy."

During the investigation it was established that Ruby's only trip to Cuba was in August, 1959, when he went to Havana, Cuba, at the invitation of one, L. C. McWillie.