

EDWARDS

CHICAGO PD

(11)

XTRAS

Ruby —
Union Kelling

Doc #1

XCC

INVOLVEMENT OF JACK RUBY IN UNION KILLING IN 1939

Jack Ruby, who was then known as Jack Rubenstein, was employed by Local 20467 of the Scrap Iron and Junk Handlers Union in Chicago, Illinois, from 1937 to 1940 as a union organizer.

Attorney Leon Cooke, who was the union's financial secretary, was shot on December 8, 1939, by the union's president, John Martin. Cooke died of the wounds on January 5, 1940. Martin was subsequently acquitted on the ground of self-defense.

Ruby had been a friend of Cooke's. Indications were that after the killing, Ruby was so upset that he was unable to devote himself further to union activities and left its employ.

Information regarding this is on page 788 of the "Warren Commission Report" (attached).

Commission Exhibit 1235 (attached) is an FBI investigative insert which contains information that an extensive search of the records of the Chicago Police Department did not reflect any reference to John Martin, Jack Ruby or Rubenstein, or to the murder of Leon Cook.

Doc # 2

Commission Exhibit 1236 (attached), contains the results of a November 25, 1963, check of the records of the "Chicago Tribune" newspaper morgue by the FBI. An article was found which stated Cook_ died on January 5, 1940. It states that Cook_ went to the union offices on December 8, 1939, and while talking to Martin, was shot as a result of an argument involving the amount of pay given to union members. The article points out that Cook_ went to the hospital under his own power and gave a statement to the effect that while talking with Martin, Martin became angry, pulled a gun and shot him. In his trial, Martin maintained that he shot Cook_ in self-defense as it was Cook_ who had the gun. Martin's secretary testified she saw the two men arguing and struggling, but could not see who had the gun or how it was fired.

This article states that much of the information about this matter came from Jack Rubenstein on December 9, 1939.

A second article reports that on January 16, 1940, Martin was freed of the charges of murdering Cook_.

count prices.¹⁴⁶ One of his closest Chicago friends stated that Ruby's sales and promotions were "shady" but "legitimate."¹⁴⁷

Labor union activities.—Ruby reported that in "about 1937" he became active in Local 20467 of the Scrap Iron and Junk Handlers Union.¹⁴⁸ At this time, his friend, attorney Leon Cooke, was the local's financial secretary.¹⁴⁹ Records provided by the Social Security Administration indicate that Ruby was employed by the union from late 1937 until early 1940;¹⁵⁰ he worked as a union organizer and negotiated with employers on its behalf.¹⁵¹

On December 8, 1939, the union's president, John Martin, shot Cooke, who died of gunshot wounds on January 5, 1940; Martin was subsequently acquitted on the ground of self-defense.¹⁵² Although a Jack Rubenstein is mentioned in the minutes of a union meeting on February 2, 1940,¹⁵³ and Ruby is reported to have said after Cooke's death that he wanted to "take over" the union,¹⁵⁴ the evidence indicates that Ruby was so upset by Cooke's death that he was unable to devote himself further to union activities and left its employ.¹⁵⁵ Ruby reported that after Cooke's death he adopted the middle name "Leon," which he used only infrequently, in memory of his friend.¹⁵⁶

Since Ruby was the ultimate source of all but one of these accounts,¹⁵⁷ other descriptions of Ruby's separation from the union cannot with certainty be deemed inaccurate. These reports indicated that Ruby might have been forced out of the union by a criminal group, or might have left because he lacked the emotional stability necessary for successful labor negotiations¹⁵⁸ or because he felt he was not earning enough money with the union.¹⁶⁰

Although the AFL-CIO investigated the ethical practices of local 20467 in 1956, placed the local in trusteeship, and suspended Paul Dorfman, who succeeded Martin and Cooke, there is no evidence that Ruby's union activities were connected with Chicago's criminal element.¹⁶¹ Several longtime members of the union reported that it had a good reputation when Ruby was affiliated with it¹⁶² and employers who negotiated with it have given no indication that it had criminal connections.¹⁶³

Subsequent employment.—In 1941, Ruby and Harry Epstein organized the Spartan Novelty Co., a small firm that sold in various northeastern States small cedar chests containing candy and gambling devices known as punchboards.¹⁶⁴ Earl Ruby and two of Jack Ruby's friends, Martin Gimpel and Martin Shargol, were also associated in this venture. The group had no fixed addresses, living in hotels.¹⁶⁵

Late in 1941, Jack Ruby returned to Chicago, where he continued his punchboard business through the mails.¹⁶⁶ Following the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor, he and several friends decided to design and sell plaques commemorating the Day of Infamy. However, the venture was impeded by Ruby's perfectionistic approach to details of design which resulted in numerous production delays.¹⁶⁷ By the time Ruby's copyrighted plaque¹⁶⁸ was finally ready for sale, the market was flooded with similar items.¹⁶⁹ At about this time,

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OO 44-644
DI 44-1639

PAUL DOURMAN, former head of Dejean Iron and Junk Handlers Union Local 20467, AFU, is quoted in THE KITCHENER's column "Chicago Sun Times" dated November 23, 1963 as advising JUDY worked as an operator of the union for a short period but was unaffiliated.

JOE JACOVY, labor attorney and attorney for Local 20467 of Dejean Iron and Junk Handlers Union, until five years ago, advised that he had no recollection on November 28, 1963 that he does not know MARY but does he recall his being associated with the union during the thirties or early forties.

An extensive search of the records of Chicago Police Department did not reflect any reference to JOHN MURKIN, JACK MARY or JACK HURKINER or to murder of LEOH OOK.

IRVING SOLOMON, former boxing promoter, 1313 West Randolph, Chicago, advised SA JOHN H. DUBERTY on November 25, 1963, that HARRY RYAN, who is believed to be working for the Illinois State Athletic Commission, is currently on a sabbatical leave in Europe. He is expected to return to Chicago in December, 1963. RYAN has telephone number 7-1234. This number is listed to HARRY RYAN, 1704 North Neilson, Chicago. SOLOMON did not know JACK MARY, "BUNKER", or JACK HURKINER.

DAE MYRTICE A. KOTIUC and JOHN E. DALRYMPLE attempted on November 23, 1963, to contact RYAN through telephone number ME 7-1234 with negative results.

ALF VIKOR, member, Illinois State Athletic Commission, 160 North La Salle Street, Chicago, advised SA KOTIUC on November 25, 1963, that HARRY RYAN is no longer with the commission. RYAN was an office administrator for over ten years and was let out when the political administration of the state of Illinois changed approximately two years ago. RYAN is currently employed with the Metropolitan Sanitary District, Chicago. VIKOR had no knowledge or information regarding subject MARY.

Mr. TED LAURIBAH, guard, Metropolitan Sanitary District, 100 East Erie, Chicago, advised SA DALRYMPLE on November 25, 1963, that Mr. HARRY RYAN, presently on a metropolitan police and sanitation tour, was presently on a metropolitan police and sanitation tour, was presently on a metropolitan police and sanitation tour, was presently on a metropolitan police and sanitation tour, would not return to Chicago until about December 1, 1963.

He could furnish no additional information.

719
COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1235

2

On November 23, 1963, HARRY MURKIN, O'CONNOR, Chicago Tribune Reporter, 435 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, advised SA DUCZ 2. PLETNER that a check of their records reflects an article stating that LEOH M. OOK died on January 5, 1940. He resided at 1135 South Sacramento and was the founder of the Iron and Junk Handlers Union. Even though he has no office with the union, on December 8, 1939, OOK went to the office of the Iron and Junk Handlers Union, 3152 South Roosevelt and while talking to JOHN MURKIN, president of the local, was shot as a result of an argument involving amount of pay for union members. The article points out that OOK went to the hospital under the name of "and gave an abdomen to the effect that he was talking to MURKIN he had concluded that the union members were not and shot him." The article pointed out that MURKIN and LEOH M. OOK were both Chicagoans and that MURKIN resided at 1135 South Sacramento, Chicago, and that MURKIN was subsequently killed by MURKIN, thirty-five, 409 Belmont, Chicago. MURKIN could not be located. The article stated that MURKIN subsequently did appear at the police station and that in the article MURKIN maintained that he shot OOK in self defense as it was December 8, 1939. MARY VIKOR testified that she saw the two men arguing and struggling, but could not see who had the gun or how it was fired.

This article states that much of the information about this matter was received from JACK HURKINER on December 17, 1939. HURKINER, secretary of the union, stated that he was only a collector for the union.

Mrs. O'CONNOR stated that a second article reflected that on January 16, 1940, union president JOHN MURKIN was freed of the charge of murdering LEOH M. OOK. She stated that no other information is available concerning this matter.

On November 25, 1963, LOUIS E. SCHMIDT, 2270 Garrison, Evanston, Illinois, advised SA JOHN E. DALRYMPLE that he does not know JACK MARY or anyone allegedly associated with him. SCHMIDT stated that he was a cousin named LOUIS SCHMIDT, 10104 Wyom Drive, Westwood, California, who might know MARY.

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1236

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Office of Associate Director

10/27, 1975

- Director
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Jenkins
- Mr. Adams
- Mr. Ash
- Mr. Bassett
- Mr. Cleveland
- Mr. Cochran
- Mr. Decker
- Mr. Gallagher
- Mr. Hoxie
- Mr. McDermott
- Mr. Mintz
- Mr. Mooney
- Mr. Moore
- Mr. Walsh
- Mr. Wannall
- Mr. Mack
- Mr. Feeney
- Mr. O'Connell

- Mrs. Metcalf
- Telephone Room
- Corres. Review
- Mail Room
- Teletype
- Mechanical Section
- For Appropriate Action
- For Your Approval
- Initial and Return
- Please Call Me
- For Information
- Per Conversation
- Please See Me

- Mrs. Mutter
- Mrs. Haines
- Miss A. Southers

M Bill Nettles

Room _____
 Let me know as
 soon as we receive
 results of full review
 we rec. Has to who
 we should advise.

JBA
 J. B. Adams
 Room 7010, Ext. 5555

Doc # 5

Edwards CR
55513 12/9/39
Det. rep 12/8/39
Trible in file asks
for FBI to be notified
if any inquiry made.

Called CG Asak Paul
3:30 PM 10/1 & CR
out.

LARRY DEATON HANDLING
AT CHICAGO.

Doc #6

RUBY
CG KILLING
NEW CHECKS

Cook - 44-24016-1528 ✓

1740 ✓

567 ✓

Cooke 44-24016-358 ✓

77 ✓

MR on 62 n 105

Martin 44-24016-77 ✓

634 En.p. 5, 1720, 719

MR 62 n 105

Walsh 44-24016-634 En.p. 720

1740

1644 En.p. 169 ✓

1829 En.p. 40, 42 ✓

MR 62 n 105

LARRY DEATON CHICAGO
HANDLING.

Doc # 13

INSIDE LABOR
By Victor Riesel

Release on Rece
Dispatched 10/14/75

Assoc. Dir.	
Dep. A.D.	
Dep. A.D.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Admin.	
Comp. Syst.	
Ext. Affairs	
Files & Com.	
Gen. Inv.	
Ident.	
Inspection	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Plan. & Eval.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Training	
Legal Coun.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director Sec'y	

The Untouchables:
Where Congressional Probe of
Jack Ruby Could Lead

WASHINGTON -- There are many money-making cults
not the least of which is that of the assassination
plot worshippers. This cult now is cheering into
action a congressional committee's probe of Jack
Ruby, the late small-time Dallas hood (a Chicago transplant)
who killed Lee Harvey Oswald, who murdered Jack Kennedy
according to two of the world's most scientific ballistic
experts.

Bravo to the investigation. It will disappoint the
cult. But if the controlling investigative-prone
Congressmen and women persist in following all leads --
they'll get to an amazing conglomerate of violence-
-venders such as the Capone mob. And to the late Jimmy
Hoffa. And to his late buddy, the thick-necked Paul
"Red" Dorfman, whose son Allen has for years made
millions of dollars out of the now heavily investigated
Teamsters Central States, South East, South West pension
fund. Chicago-based, of course.

Doc #16

At this point I do believe the congressional committee will lose ardor, steam and indignation. The probe could uncover political ramifications -- on the majority's own side.

It's a simple trail they'll find unwinding: back in 1938 somebody staked Jack Ruby to a few bucks so he could go into the waste material handlers' union business. He got what's called an AFL federal local charter (now out of existence). Junk, waste-handling and garbage meats are lucrative items. So one day Ruby's union associate found himself dead. Ruby then was secretary-treasurer. Then he got word from the "mob." Get out. He did. Soon Paul "Red" Dorfman was the federal local's secretary-treasurer. And Ruby got himself a Dallas bar close to the only two tolerable hotels in the center of town. Ruby got to be a police buff. He was not an FBI undercover man. As a bar owner he heard things and an FBI agent would drop around occasionally with a question or two.

Meanwhile Red Dorfman prospered in Chicago. Why not? According to at least one federal report he was close to the Al Capone mob. And a liaison between

it and some old-time labor people and political circles. Red was an effective money-raiser for the powers that were, locally and nationally.

Red Dorfman was accepted and wooed. During the 1951 AFL San Francisco convention he was lionized in the posh Fairmount Hotel. He was the harbinger of a new day and new character who had just become a Teamsters vice president -- James Riddle Hoffa. One evening Dorfman got a little rough in one corridor encounter with someone who didn't happen to know Jimmy at the time but had reflected on his muscle days in Detroit, Minneapolis, and a foray into Miami.

"Jimmy's my buddy, my partner," Dorfman said truculently.

This was followed by a swift one-two query: "Do you think we're bums?"

Affirmative. But since the Fairmount was a busy hotel, and deservedly prestigious, Dorfman didn't swing, he just pushed, grunting, "No one can say that about my partner Jimmy."

There was what Karl Marx called an economic determinism co-mingled with this fraternal bond. Hoffa was rising

swiftly. Soon he was able to put Allen Dorfman virtually in charge of overseeing multi-million-dollar loans from the big Central States pension fund, (now totalling about \$1.4 billion) and now the most heavily investigated target in government law agencies.

Dorfman also was close to some of the tough syndicate men in the East -- namely the so-called Luchese (Three Fingers Brown) Mafia crowd.

This mob co-mingled with the racket crowd in the strategic trucking industry -- which will soon be exposed by Bill Aronwald, chief of the Justice Department anti-organized crime strike force in New York's southern district. The grand jury is about to hand down more indictments.

But back to Paul Dorfman, whom Jack Ruby always feared. Dorfman used to work out of the Hampshire House on New York's Central Park South. Nothing small or miserly about Red. He was big-time even after the AFL-CIO lifted his charter in 1957 and turned the field over to one of its big affiliates. Dorfman sure had power across the Northeast and Midwest states. What the congressional committee can do even at this late date is to

dig into that power. If we're going back to 1963 and Jack Ruby, this might be the choice chance to shovel into long-buried channels -- used by some of the nation's most powerful combines.

Allen Dorfman, still of Chicago, was convicted in 1972 for taking finder's fee kickbacks in the winning of loans from the big Central States fund.

There's all that money in the central pension fund -- and yet the congressional subcommittee is wasting time in futile digging into Jack Ruby, the police "go-for." Meaning he would bring in coffee and delicatessen sandwiches. Ruby wasn't involved in any "cut out" part of an assassination plot. He had just come in from the Western Union telegraph office that traumatic afternoon.

Had he remained a few minutes longer or arrived earlier he'd have seen Oswald's backside going into the police car. Instead, Ruby milled around down in the police garage ramp bottom. He shot spontaneously -- out of religious fervor thinking himself an avenging "angel" with flaming bullet.

It's Ruby's Chicago connections, many of them dead no doubt, which would give this nation a fascinating

glimpse into an era which has been so romantically covered by the movies. One more thought: if that Chicago political machine had not been so powerful in 1960 -- and if Dick Nixon had won a few more Midwestern electoral votes -- history would have been different for the tragic Kennedys.

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Field Newspaper Syndicate
401 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago, IL 60611 jm

November 26, 1975

The Attorney General

Director, FBI

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CIVIL AND
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
THE JUDICIARY

- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Jenkins
- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. Gallagher
- 1 - Mr. Cooke 1 - Mr. O'Connell
- 1 - Mr. Nettles
- 1 - Mr. Mints
- 1 - Mr. Moore
- 1 - Mr. Wannall

There is enclosed herewith for approval and forwarding to the above-captioned Subcommittee the original of a memorandum which constitutes the FBI's response to the portion of a letter of October 29, 1975, from the Subcommittee dealing with [REDACTED]

A copy of the memorandum is being furnished you for your records.

*Congressional
Info.
outside scope*

Enclosures (2)

- 1 - The Deputy Attorney General
Attention: Mr. Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.
Special Counsel for
Intelligence Coordination

MSK:jyl
(14)

Doc #17

November 25, 1975

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CIVIL AND
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
THE JUDICIARY

- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Jenkins
- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. Callagher
- 1 - Mr. O'Connell
- 1 - Mr. Cooks
- 1 - Mr. Nettles
- 1 - Mr. Mintz

RE: CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT
REPORT NUMBER 55113

By letter of October 29, 1975, the Honorable Don
Edwards, Chairman, Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional
Rights, House Committee on the Judiciary, requested

[REDACTED]

Congressional
Info.
outside
scope.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Chicago Police Department advises that it would be impossible to attempt to retrieve a file based on its number, as report numbers are recurrent annually and are not used for indexing purposes. Their Report Number 55113 was located, however, on October 22, 1975, in a packet assembled in response to a November 25, 1963, letter from the Dallas, Texas, Police Department. This Report Number 55113 applies to the substance of the inquiry. The detective report is also included in this packet. No "tickler" or other notation was found on any of the files of the Chicago Police Department in this matter asking that the FBI be notified if any inquiries or requests were made concerning the files. Additionally, James McGuire, Director of Records, Chicago Police Department, has advised that he is unaware of any such stop or notation.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CIVIL AND
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

No information pertaining to any such "tickler" or notation ever being placed on the Chicago Police Department files pertaining to this matter is known to FBI Headquarters or the Chicago Field Office.

Director McGuire was advised that the FBI had caused Chicago Police Department records to be checked on November 27, 1963, regarding John Martin, Jack Ruby (and Rubenstein), and the murder of Leon Cooke; and no record had been found identifiable with any of them. He stated the reason a record check regarding Martin was negative on November 27, 1963, was that Martin was not arrested and therefore would not have been indexed. Ruby (Rubenstein) and Cooke would not have been indexed since names of witnesses and victims were not indexed in 1939.

NOTE: See memorandum to the Attorney General, dated 11/24/75, captioned: "Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, House Committee on the Judiciary."

A previous LHM dated 11/7/75, was prepared in this matter which included FD-302s pertaining to the checks conducted at the Chicago Police Department. SA Paul V. Daly, Legal Counsel Division, has advised that a decision has been made not to submit FD-302s to the Subcommittee. Accordingly, this current LHM was prepared as a replacement.

November 4, 1975

The Attorney General

Director, FBI

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CIVIL AND
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
THE JUDICIARY

- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Jenkins
- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. Gallagher
- 1 - Mr. O'Connell
- 1 - Mr. Cooke
- 1 - Mr. Nettles
- 1 - Mr. Nantz
- 1 - Mr. Moore
- 1 - Mr. Wannall

There is enclosed herewith for approval and forwarding to the above-captioned Subcommittee the original of a memorandum ~~(and its attachment)~~ which constitutes the FBI's response to the portion of a letter of October 29, 1975, from the Subcommittee dealing with



A copy of the memorandum ~~(and its attachment)~~ is being furnished you for your records.

Congressional
Info
outside
scope

Enclosures ²(4)

- 1 - The Deputy Attorney General
Attention: Mr. Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.
Special Counsel for
Intelligence Coordination

*Not
sent.
Summary of it
sent instead*

was, jyl
(14)

November 7, 1975

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CIVIL AND
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
THE JUDICIARY

RE: CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT
REPORT NUMBER 55513

By letter of October 29, 1975, the Honorable Don Edwards, Chairman, Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, House Committee on the Judiciary, requested certain material and information to augment the record of the

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*Congressional
Info.
outside
scope*

Attached is a memorandum prepared by the FBI, Chicago, Illinois, on October 30, 1975, which is responsive to that request.

[REDACTED] As set forth in the attached memorandum, the Chicago Police Department advises that it would be impossible to attempt to retrieve a file based on its number. Their Report Number 55113 was located, however, in a packet assembled in response to a November 25, 1963, letter from the Dallas, Texas, Police Department. This Report Number 55113 applies to the substance of the inquiry. No "tickler" or other notation was found on any of the files of the Chicago Police Department in this matter asking that the FBI be notified if any inquiries or requests were made concerning the files.

Enclosure

NOTE: See Page 2

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CIVIL AND
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
THE JUDICIARY

It is realized that some of the material contained in the attached October 30, 1975, memorandum is illegible. The copies of this material received from the Chicago Police Department were likewise of a poor quality and difficult to reproduce. There does appear to be sufficient legible material, however, to fulfill the Subcommittee's request.

NOTE: See memorandum to the Attorney General, dated 11/7/75, captioned "Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, House Committee on the Judiciary," WEN:jyl.

Enclosed Chicago letterhead memorandum of 10/30/75, was forwarded to Bureau by airtel of same date. The investigation contained therein was conducted on instructions of FBIHQ following testimony of Mr. Adams on 10/21/75. Other requests contained in 10/29/75, letter from the Subcommittee are being handled separately.