

MEMORANDUM

Handwritten: Memphis, Tenn

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April 3, 1964

TO: Mr. Joseph Ball
Mr. David W. Babin

FROM: Hurl W. Griffin

RE: Helen Markham - Commission Document 185, page 104.

Is there any significance in the fact that Helen Markham, 2089th Street, Dallas, Texas, who witnessed the killing of Officer Tippitt by Lee Harvey Oswald, has known Jack Ruby for the past two years or more? Ruby is a customer at the East Wall Cafe where Miss Markham is employed as a waitress.

Mr. Roland O. Carpenter independently reported to the FBI that when he was discussing the assassination of President Kennedy and the possible association of Oswald and Ruby with Jimmie Gumbles, manager of the Bill Restaurant, Gumbles declined to explain conversation. Gumbles made an unqualified point because, according to Carpenter, Gumbles stated he did not wish to get involved. (Commission Doc. 7, page 459) Of course, when the FBI interviewed Mr. Gumbles and his brother, no significant information was developed.

Does the connection between Markham and Ruby suggest any reason for Oswald's being at the corner of 10th and Patton when he shot Tippitt? Does Miss Markham's explanation of why she was at 10th and Patton give any clue as to why Oswald might also have been there?

Griffin/jv/4-3-64
CC: Griffin chron file
Mr. Rankin