

CDs 171:1-4;177:1-3, John Edward Roddenberry, Ramous Bar, "discussion groups" in Dallas,
"Ham-Ham" (Mexican woman)

I will keep one set and will send the second to my Dallas source, who was able to do nothing with the summary only.

If you have my Castor transcript, it might be interesting to put a note on it for when you read it on both the name Ramous and discussion groups, for there were some far-out ones there, which makes me wonder what Roddenberry really said and saw and did.

It is obvious that in 7/63 this was not Oswald, in Dallas.

PH might want to send these to Mary.

What is obviously missing is an interview with "Ham-Ham" to learn who the man "Lee" really is.

The description misses a characteristic Oswald identification, the receding hairline. And the peeling skin might be taken to suggest one who had been in the sun, like one of the Cuban mercenaries?

It seems strange that after an evening in a bar they'd go to an apartment for only one or two beers, and then strangers. And as late as when the bar closed.

Suggest PH ask for interviews with "Ham-Ham" or anyone at Ramous bar.

HW

Copy to:

Report of: EDWARD A. MORRIS
Date: 12/12/63
Office: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Field Office File #: 105-9958
Bureau File #: 105-82555

Title: IEE HARVEY OSWALD

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - R - CIMA

Synopsis: JOHN EDWARD HODDGENBERY ordered 50 IM type blank checks drawn on account of Ernie Commission, Commonwealth of Great Britain, World Trade Center, Houston, Texas, printed at Dover, Pa. After picking up checks on 12/10/63 arrested by Pennsylvania State Police, York, Pa., on charge of forgery. HODDGENBERY admits checks were false and intended to pass them in Dallas, Texas, area using false identification of British Consular employee. Also admits passing true name checks on banks in Dallas and San Antonio, Texas, at York, Harrisburg, and Philadelphia, all Pennsylvania, during period 12/7/63 to 12/10/63. Stayed in Federal Prison at Seagoville, Texas, 7/63 after serving 17 months of two-year sentence for impersonation. Presently on probation from local court, Philadelphia, Pa., on check charge. Probation expires 7/10/65. HODDGENBERY stated while in Dallas, Texas, 7/63 met IEE HARVEY OSWALD at Ramon's bar and later same evening OSWALD came to HODDGENBERY's apartment for drink. Stated OSWALD criticized U.S. form of government and stated other governments, unspecified, were better. OSWALD also suggested HODDGENBERY attend "Alexander Evans" in Dallas but HODDGENBERY declined. Stated he is and was friendly to OSWALD's principles and theories and never saw him again. Denies any information re associates and/or activities of OSWALD.

- P -

CD 171 PAGE 1

WHAT YOU WANT,
I SEND TO
JIM S.

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PH 105-9958

Details: This phase of instant investigation was initiated on December 9, 1963, when information was received by SA EDWARD A. MORRIS that an individual identifying himself as Mr. HODDGENBERY ordered 50 blank IM type checks printed at the printing shop of P.A. Harris, RD 5, Dover, Pa. A sample check left at the printers on an IM type card indicated that it was drawn on the Trade Commission, Commonwealth of Great Britain, World Trade Center, Houston, Texas, on the Republic National Bank of Dallas, Dallas, Texas.

The person ordering the checks stated they were necessary to replace similar checks which had been on the persons of two men who had died in an airplane accident.

On December 10, 1963, JOHN EDWARD HODDGENBERY was questioned after he had picked up the above checks at the printers in Dover, Pa. At this time he admitted the checks were forgeries and that he had intended to pass these in the Dallas, Texas, area using false identification of a British Consular employee. He also admitted that he has passed true name checks drawn on the Merchants National Bank, Dallas, Texas, and the National Bank of Commerce, San Antonio, Texas, in Philadelphia, Harrisburg, and York, all Pennsylvania, during the period December 7 to 10, 1963.

HODDGENBERY further advised that he was presently on probation from a sentence in the Quarter Sessions Court of Philadelphia, Pa., and that the probation period extended to July 10, 1965. He also said that he had completed 17 months of a two-year sentence in a Federal Prison in Seagoville, Texas, in July 1963, after a conviction on charge of impersonating a foreign official.

On December 11, 1963, HODDGENBERY was charged by the Pennsylvania State Police at York, Pa., with forgery in connection with checks printed at Dover, Pa., and the Pennsylvania State Police have advised that further charges will be filed in connection with true-name checks passed in Harrisburg and York, Pa. At the present time HODDGENBERY is incarcerated at the York County Prison, York, Pa., awaiting disposition of local charges.

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CD 171

Date 12/12/63

JOHN EDWARD RODDENBERRY advised that he was born on September 18, 1934, in Florida, and that his present permanent address is 909 Clinton Street, Philadelphia. He advised that in July 1963 he was released from a Federal Prison at Seagoville, Texas, and following his release lived in Dallas, Texas, at 4440 Travis Street. Sometime in July 1963, he was at the Ramous Bar, McKinney and Lemon Streets in Dallas, Texas. While at this bar he was introduced to a young man by a Mexican woman known to RODDENBERRY as "HAM-HAM" whom he believes is the waitress-manager of this bar. The man was introduced to him as LEE.

Later, when the bar closed the same evening, RODDENBERRY returned to his apartment and he invited LEE to accompany him. At the apartment they drank one or two beers. RODDENBERRY stated that he recognized a photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD as the individual whom he met at the bar and who was introduced to him as LEE. He stated that OSWALD's conversation at the bar and in the apartment was such that RODDENBERRY gained the impression that LEE was in favor of a form of Government other than that of the United States although no other specific form of Government was mentioned. RODDENBERRY said that he recalls that OSWALD made remarks to the effect that more attention should be paid by our Government to furthering the interests of the "poor man" rather than catering to individuals of wealth and prominence.

RODDENBERRY said that LEE brought up the subject of "discussion groups" and suggested that RODDENBERRY attend such meetings although no specific groups, places of attendance, or other information regarding this was disclosed by OSWALD. RODDENBERRY said he was and is opposed to individuals or groups who express opinions such as those set forth by LEE. He said he neither sought nor did he ever further his acquaintance with OSWALD and never saw him again. RODDENBERRY stated he knows of no associates or friends of OSWALD except that it appeared to him that OSWALD was well known to the aforementioned waitress-manager "HAM-HAM" at the Ramous Bar. RODDENBERRY denied that he knows anything further concerning OSWALD, his associates, or activities.

JOHN EDWARD RODDENBERRY stated that once or twice he was

On 12/12/63 at York, Pa. File # Philadelphia 105-9958

by SA EDWARD A. MURPHY/jp Date dictated 12/12/63

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In the Carousel Bar which he believes is owned by JACK ROBINSTEIN but he does not know this individual, nor did he ever see OSWALD at this place.

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CD 171 PAGE 4 *

Date December 13, 1963

(1)

JOHN EDWARD RODDERBERTY, 509 Clinton Street, Philadelphia, Pa., stated he was aware of the identity of interviewing Agent and was told that he did not have to make any statement, that any statement he made to interviewing Agent which was in anyway false he could be prosecuted in Federal court. He was advised that he might consult an attorney prior to making a statement, and that any statement made by him could be used against him in a court of law.

RODDERBERTY stated he was released from a Federal prison in Seagrville, Tex., on July 19, 1963, and shortly thereafter obtained an apartment at 4040 Travis Street, Dallas, Tex.

On the Wednesday evening following his release from prison, July 24, 1963, he was at the FAMOUS BAR, Mc Kinney and Lemon Streets, Dallas, Tex. He observed a young man come into the bar and gained a first impression that this individual might be a college student who had come into the bar from a coffee house across the street.

RODDERBERTY recalls that he was introduced to this individual by a Mexican waitress, "MARGARITA" and that she said this man's name was LEE. RODDERBERTY recalls that several times during the evening, the man known as LEE, spoke in a Spanish or Mexican dialect to the waitress and was corrected several times by her concerning his use of a proper phrase or idiom.

RODDERBERTY states that the waitress asked LEE "how he was doing," and LEE replied he thought he "would go into the construction work." Among the remarks made by LEE to RODDERBERTY was one to the effect that he, LEE, had a good education but could not obtain employment. He also said that the United States should be better equipped to take care of this type situation, and that other countries were doing a better job.

LEE never mentioned any specific foreign country nor

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by SA EDWARD A. MURPHY /cc:1 Date dictated 12/13/63

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did he mention any official of the U.S. Government.

RODDERBERTY states that LEE was a young white male, probably in his middle or late 20s, 5'10" or 5'11" in height, dark hair, wearing khaki pants, and that his skin was peeling as though sunburned.

RODDERBERTY stated that upon leaving the bar and going to his apartment at 4040 Travis Street where he was accompanied by LEE, the latter continued to speak concerning the "unfair situation" in the U.S. regarding employment and was very argumentative.

RODDERBERTY stated that he is almost "100% certain that LEE is identical to HARVEY LEE OSWALD."

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