

Ruby's Travels Included Trips to Cuba and Mexico

Last in a Series

By Jack Ruby

And William Read Woodfield

DALLAS — The following is the last half of an interview with Jack Ruby, who is to be tried in Dallas for the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald:

Q—We have heard that you traveled to Cuba. Would you tell us about this and about any other traveling you have done?

A—Well, three or four months ago I went to New Orleans and stopped off at Aetna to see Candy Barr (an exotic dancer). I spent two days with her. I was also in Houston. I haven't been back to Chicago since 1958.

Q—What about foreign travel?

A—I only went to Laredo and Juarez, Mexico. Also to Windsor, Canada, out of Detroit. I did go to Cuba in '59. I had a good friend there from Dallas named L. C. McWhiters (Las Vegas gambler). He wanted me to come to Cuba to see him. He sent me the plane ticket to Havana. I stayed 8 or 10 days.

Q—Did you have anything to do with Cuban politics?

A—No. I didn't fool around at all in any political activities in Cuba. I bought a ticket to a day-long celebration, that's all. I never went back and I had never been there before. And I haven't received any letters from Cuba.

Q—Did you ever run guns into Cuba?

A—No. But when Castro came into power, I thought Cuba was going to be a new and democratic country and I tried to sell them surplus jeeps. I was going into the G.I. surplus business. I saw a lawyer about it in Houston, Tex., but he told me I was too little a punk for such a

deal. But there was no talk of gun running. A lot of people have called the FBI and told them a lot of things, just trying to get into the act.

Q—What organizations do you or did you belong to?

A—The Boy Scouts, the Democratic Party, the Variety Club and AGVA, the entertainment union. I was never a member of the Communist Party or any such thing, or any subversive organization. I made donations to Angels, Inc., which is a home in Dallas for homeless kids. As for the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, I do not belong to it, never belonged to it and I have never received any literature from it or any other Cuba organization. I once had an argument with some guy about communism and had to throw him out of the club.

Q—Have you ever had any trouble with mental illness? Or has your family had a history of mental illness?

A—Well, I've been hit on the head a few times but I don't have a metal plate in my head or anything like that. There's no history of mental illness. In 1958 my brother, Earl, had some problems and had himself committed to the Veterans Administration hospital. My mother, who passed away in 1943, thought my father was taking the children's love from her but I don't know if that means anything.

Q—Have you ever thought of suicide?

A—I was very depressed when my business failed in '52. I broke down completely. I wanted to commit suicide. I just stayed in the Cotton Bowl Hotel for several weeks. I didn't want to face people. I was ashamed of being a failure in Dallas. I left for Chicago. Earl helped me a lot. I found the courage to return to Dallas and I've been here ever since.

Q—Let's go into your feel-

ings about the events of November 22.

A—I was in mourning from the minute I heard the news. The world had come to an end.

Q—How did you feel about Oswald?

A—When he appeared before me, something inside me went blank and it just tore out of me. I never saw that kind of person (Oswald) before in my life. Oswald had blemished this beautiful city. Those are the things that went through my mind. No one knew I was going to shoot Oswald—not even me. I had not discussed it nor thought of it. There was nothing to discuss. No one helped me or gave me access.

Q—Do you feel you did a service to the United States by shooting Oswald?

A—No. It isn't a service to the country. It's a shame. But I didn't do it intentionally. I didn't even know I had done it. I'm sorry I did it. I've embarrassed my country.

Q—What do you think should be done with you?

A—I feel that something should be done with me. I'm willing to go into a mental hospital and stay as long as it's necessary, even if it's the rest of my life. I've offered to submit to truth serum test,

polygraph test or any other scientific test the FBI wanted. They said they didn't want me to. I want to be bona fide with the FBI.

Q—Are you sorry?

A—Yes.

Q—Would you do it again?

A—Oh, hell, no!

Q—What if Oswald were not the man?

A—Then Dallas police and the District Attorney's office made a hell of a mistake. My attorneys tried to get Henry Wade to agree in court that Oswald was the killer of our

President. Henry Wade refused. I can't understand why. With my own ears I heard Henry and Chief Fritz say there was no doubt that Oswald was the assassin and he said Oswald wasn't insane, that he knew what he was doing, that he planned the murder of our President and Henry promised that he would kill Oswald in the electric chair.

I know Henry Wade is an honest man. I believed him.

Oswald was a dead man before I shot him.

©1964, Jack Ruby and William Read Woodfield. All rights reserved.

Commission to Hear Mrs. Oswald Monday

Associated Press

The Warren Commission investigating the assassination of President John F. Kennedy said yesterday that it will take testimony from Marina Oswald at the Commission offices in Washington Monday.

A spokesman said the widow of Lee Oswald, who was accused of killing Mr. Kennedy and then was in turn fatally shot himself, will appear at 10 a.m. No further details were disclosed.

The spokesman said the

Commission has no information at this time on Mrs. Oswald's travel plans, whether she will be represented by an attorney at the questioning or whether she might be questioned more than once.

She is appearing voluntarily, the spokesman said.

The Commission announced Jan. 27 that Mrs. Oswald would be questioned within two weeks but did not say specifically when or where.

Mrs. Oswald is living in the Dallas area.