

Letter links LBJ to JFK killing

Newsday

NEW YORK — He fired the shot that confounded the world. Now, 28 years after Jack Ruby's death, a letter purportedly handwritten by the man who shot Lee Harvey Oswald has surfaced to fuel an old controversy.

Friday, Manhattan-based historical-documents dealer Gary Zimet told *Newsday* he has acquired a letter written by Ruby accusing President Johnson of complicity in the 1963 assassination of President Kennedy.

In the 12-page letter written from prison in 1965, Ruby also claimed he was framed for conspiracy in the assassination of JFK. The letter was addressed to a Dallas police officer friend named "Joe," Zimet said.

Ruby, whose 1964 murder conviction was reversed because of illegal testimony allowed by the trial judge, died of cancer in January 1967.

"This letter . . . gives us insight into the perspectives

of a man who was at center stage in one of the great tragedies of our time," Zimet said.

Zimet said he bought the letter six weeks ago from "someone one step removed from the Ruby family."

In the letter, Zimet said, Ruby wrote he was "being framed for being in on the assassination, that I had been used to silence Oswald."

"Someday, Joe, you will find out what President Johnson is!" Ruby wrote, according to Zimet. "What he had to do with the assassination. One thing is for certain, Joe, he couldn't stand a polygraph test."

Ruby questioned in the letter how Oswald "went to work a week or 10 days at the Texas School Book Depository before even Kennedy knew he himself was coming to Dallas."

"Who up in Washington was so close to the president to know this information and to pass it on the Oswald?" the letter had asked, according to Zimet.

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