

Jack Ruby met Castro?

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — Attorney Melvin Belli says it is untrue that Jack Ruby met secretly with Fidel Castro in 1963 to plot the assassination of President John Kennedy.

Belli, who knew Ruby as a friend and client, says Ruby may have been in Cuba six months before the assassination of Nov. 22, 1963, but he never met Castro and would not have joined any scheme to kill Kennedy.

"Jack (Ruby) was an intensely

loyal American," said Belli. "He worshipped Jack Kennedy."

Ruby, a Dallas nightclub owner, killed Lee Harvey Oswald, the man believed to have assassinated Kennedy, in Dallas on Nov. 24, 1963, while millions watched on television. Belli later was one of Ruby's defense attorneys.

A FORMER CIA agent mentioned the alleged Ruby-Castro talks to the Senate Intelligence Committee. He

said Ruby met Castro while in Cuba trying to make a drug deal.

The ex-agent said Ruby offered guns in exchange for permission to use Cuba as a base for drug shipments to the United States.

Belli recalled that Ruby had referred to a visit to Cuba six months before President Kennedy was shot.

"He started to go over. I don't know if he got there," said Belli.

The Cincinnati Post, Wednesday, July 7, 1976

37

No way, says lawyer

Ruby's mission, the attorney recalled, was gunrunning, not drugs, and definitely not the assassination of a president.

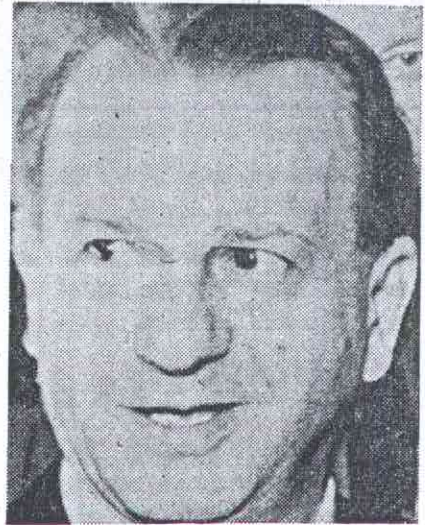
HE SAID RUBY'S gunrunning deal never materialized and reiterated that "Jack never saw Castro."

Belli said no one would have hired Ruby in such a plan because "he was impossible to work with. No one in his right mind would hire him

to do anything.

"He was immature in judgment, erratic and emotionally involved. Within five minutes of meeting him, you knew he could not carry out any plan. He was just a fellow trying to scrounge and get by."

Belli said Ruby never worked for the FBI or CIA and attributed the latest account of the Kennedy assassination to "CIA bull—."



JACK RUBY