

Commission Exhibit No. 1184

Date June 29, 1964

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PAUL ROWLAND JONES, 1416 Eastcrest Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina, home telephone 536-1907, was interviewed at the Charlotte office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, where he had come in response to telephonic request.

At the outset of the interview, he was advised by Agent UNDERHILL that some of the items to be covered would probably have reference to past criminal activities on his own part, and that he was not required to furnish any information or make any statement, that he had a right to talk to a lawyer before making any statement, and that anything he did say could be used against him in court.

JONES stated he was willing to answer questions under these conditions.

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JONES stated that he himself had started in gambling operations in Dallas, Texas, about 1942. He continued in this, primarily handling juke boxes and slot machines, until the end of 1946. During this time he was connected with Southwestern Amusement Company, Western Amusement Company, and Delta Amusement Company. He owned approximately 30% of these companies and other owners were:

BUDDY SATCHER, who had some interest in all three companies, and who was subsequently killed in Chicago, Illinois;

SAM YAROS, who owned part of Southwestern Amusement Company and is now deceased, having died a natural death;

MARK LIPSKE, who had part ownership in all three companies and is believed now living in Los Angeles, California;

NICK DE JOHN, who had part ownership in all three companies and is now dead, having been killed in San Francisco in an apparent gang murder.

JONES stated that all of these individuals were connected in one way or another with the "Chicago syndicate" of gangsters.

Also connected with illegal activities in Dallas and Dallas County had been other representatives of the "Chicago syndicate", including FAY MANNO, who handled policy gambling and is believed now living in Chicago; the FISCHETTI Brothers, who handled whiskey and beer and are believed now living in Chicago; and PAUL MANN, who produced wire systems for juke boxes and pinball machines and who was understood to have control of the market on this material. Also in general charge for the "Chicago syndicate" slot machine operations was EDDIE VOGEL, who did not live in Dallas but visited there occasionally. He is believed now living in Chicago.

On 5/23/64 at Charlotte, N. C. File # Dallas 44-1638
Charlotte 44-826
by SAS JAMES M. UNDERHILL, JNR and JAMES P. MORAN, JR. Date dictated 6/26/64

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According to JONES, illegal operations in Dallas of an organized nature had been carried on with the consent of Sheriff SMOOT SCHMID and various members of the Dallas Police Department. JONES said he had no knowledge that any payments were made to either Sheriff SCHMID or Police Department members by any of those persons including himself operating illegal activities. Payments were made to Attorney T. K. ERWIN of Dallas, who is believed to be still living, and it was understood that ERWIN then transmitted the payments to appropriate persons.

In about June 1946, STEVE GUTHRIE won the Democratic primary for the office of Sheriff of Dallas County, to take office the beginning of 1947. Also, at the same time the man who had been District Attorney of that county for many years was retiring, and a "reform" candidate was coming into office. JONES said he had become convinced that it would not be possible to operate illegal operations under the new administration as in the past, and he had planned to discontinue his. However, sometime during the summer of 1946, JONES was contacted by GEORGE BUTLER of the Police Department Vice Squad, who said that Sheriff-elect GUTHRIE wanted to talk to him. JONES said he had after more than one contact by BUTLER agreed to see GUTHRIE and contacted GUTHRIE at the latter's home, together with BUTLER. He stated all his subsequent contacts with GUTHRIE had been in the presence of BUTLER.

JONES said GUTHRIE had indicated he was interested in receiving money and was willing to let JONES and others continue their illegal operations as in the past. JONES said he had talked to the others concerned in illegal operations in Dallas and had also gone to Chicago and talked to the "top people" in charge of these matters and they had decided to go ahead and deal with GUTHRIE.

JONES had continued negotiations with GUTHRIE and PAT MANNO and JACK NAPPI had also taken part in these talks. JONES emphasized that these individuals represented

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different portions of the illegal operations and were spokesmen for their sections. He said he himself had always been present at all conversations with GUTHRIE, and BUTLER had also.

This period of discussions and arrangements covered a period of about four months during which time he had made some direct payments of cash and gifts to GUTHRIE in anticipation of more regular arrangements after GUTHRIE took office. During this period of time there had been other "Chicago syndicate" representatives in and out of Dallas, apparently in anticipation of operations that would begin later. He emphasized that these were not considered the "top men" but were representatives of various sections.

Among those who had been in Dallas were:

PAUL "NEEDLE NOSE" LABRIOLA;
 JIMMY WEINBERG;
 JIMMY BERCELLO, known as "JIMMY The Bee";
 DANFY LARDINO;
 MARTY OCHS, known as "MARTY The Ox";

And others whose names are not recalled.

JONES said these individuals did not have any conversations with GUTHRIE, but were hanging around Dallas in his opinion making a bad impression, so he had requested the "top men" in Chicago to have them leave Dallas, which they did.

Just before Christmas 1946, JONES was indicted on Bribery charges and learned that recordings had been made of most of his conversations with GUTHRIE and BUTLER. JONES expressed the opinion that BUTLER and GUTHRIE

had been in earnest and actually wanting a pay-off when the conversations first started, but he believed, although he offered no proof of this, that their efforts had been found out by some representative of the Texas Rangers and that they had then been persuaded to go along to build up a Bribery case against JONES and others. JONES said that PAT MALHO and JACK NAPPI had been indicted along with JONES, but they were never brought to trial.

JONES said that positively during these conversations he had never mentioned the name JACK RUBY, and that he could be sure of this, because he had never heard of JACK RUBY at this time. He said that he is sure that neither MANN nor NAPPI had mentioned RUBY during the conversations and negotiations with BUTLER and GUTHRIE, as JONES had been present at all of them.

He stated in addition the conversations had not had to do with exactly who would be operating what in the Dallas area, and thus there would have been no occasion for discussion of RUBY or anyone else as the person who was to operate a restaurant at Industrial and Commerce Streets. According to JONES, the substance of the arrangements made was simply that the syndicate group would run the county and the Sheriff was to take their orders and that the syndicate group would provide sufficient people to handle the operations.

JONES said that at the time of his trial in early 1947 the recordings had been played and it took several days to play them, as they were very extensive. He repeated he was sure that the name RUBY had not been mentioned at any time during these recordings and that he had never to his knowledge even heard the name at this point.

JONES stated that although the recordings had been played they had never been officially entered in

evidence, and accordingly no transcripts of them had been made at his trial and when the case was appealed the information in the recordings was not made a part of the appeal record since it had never been a part of the official trial record.

Concerning the manner of his becoming acquainted with JACK RUBY and RUBY's sister, EVA GRANT, he related as follows:

Following the conviction of JONES in early 1947 on the Bribery charge, he was released on appeal bond and shortly thereafter while making a business call on South Irving Street had noticed a building being renovated. On casual inquiry of the man he was talking with, he was told this was to be a big supper club and that it was to be operated by a woman from Chicago who was in Dallas selling salt and pepper shakers and who had a lot of money, in partnership with a Dallas Chiropractor named DUNCAN. It was JONES' recollection that the man who told him this was a labor organizer. JONES said in view of his slot machine and juke box operations he had a general interest in such places and he made some casual inquiries about DUNCAN, since he had never heard of his having any previous connection with the restaurant business. He said his inquiries had developed that DUNCAN was not respected and was considered a dishonest individual. From the same motives of general interest and curiosity, JONES had gone to where the place was being built and had met the woman who told him she was EVA GRANT from Chicago. Either from her or later he learned that she had come to Dallas as a representative of her brother, HYMIE RUBENSTEIN, who had a plant in Chicago that manufactured salt and pepper shakers, and he did a very good business throughout the country. It was his impression she had been in Dallas less than a year at that time, but that she liked Dallas and wanted to settle there.

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A short time later JONES went to Chicago in connection with the appeal on his trial and had been in company with PAUL LABRIOLA and JIMMY WEINBERG and possibly DANNY LARDINO. They had been in the Congress Hotel to see a man there and met RUBY, whom JONES did not at that time know, coming across the lobby of the hotel. Those with JONES had addressed RUBY by name and introduced him to JONES. JONES commented he did not know whether RUBY lived in that hotel or not. When the comment was made that JONES was from Dallas, RUBY had said that his sister, EVA GRANT, was there and that she was in a business enterprise with a "phony" doctor, and RUBY did not like it. RUBY had asked JONES what he knew about the doctor. The others accompanying JONES had told him that RUBY was "O.K.". JONES told him that the doctor had a bad reputation and also in the opinion of JONES this was a poor location for a supper club.

RUBY had expressed gratitude for this information and said that he was planning to go to Dallas to straighten his sister out and asked if JONES would help him if he came. One of those accompanying JONES had again repeated that RUBY was all right and urged JONES to help him, which JONES had agreed to do.

So far as JONES knew, this was strictly a chance meeting with RUBY.

JONES commented that he had taken these assurances that RUBY was all right to mean that he was known to the other individuals to have some acceptance at least by "the syndicate". JONES said he never did know and had never asked, as it was not good policy to ask, exactly what relationship RUBY may have had but did understand that RUBY had been working in Chicago as some kind of organizer for the Scrap Iron Workers Union. He knew that "the syndicate" had an interest in this union and presumed

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this was RUBY's connection. He emphasized this did not mean that RUBY was in any way a top man or a dominant figure in the syndicate but merely that he was accepted and to a certain extent his business operations controlled by the syndicate, at least during the time he was in Chicago. He added that so far as he knew RUBY had not had any direct connections with the syndicate after he went to Dallas. He added that he would consider RUBY to have been at a bottom position in the very broad pyramid representing "the syndicate", and that persons in such a position very frequently were completely unknown to others, who also occupied low positions in some other phase of "the syndicate" operations.

A few days later, JONES returned to Dallas, Texas, and about the same time RUBY appeared in Dallas. He apparently was planning to stay in Dallas, because he contacted JONES and asked for assistance in locating an apartment, and he did settle down there. RUBY persuaded his sister to disassociate herself from the chiropractor and RUBY took over and completed the remodeling of the club and operated it himself. JONES believed this had been under the name "The Silver Spur". RUBY had changed it from a supper club to a regular night club, featuring hillbilly bands and had made a success of it. RUBY later opened several other clubs. JONES emphasized that most of RUBY's operations occurred after JONES left Dallas.

JONES said that he himself had been indicted in 1947, while he was still on appeal from the Bribery conviction, on a Narcotics conspiracy charge. He said he had actually not been guilty in his mind of anything in this matter, but that two individuals had approached him for help in selling some sixty pounds of raw opium they allegedly had brought in from Mexico. He said he refused to have anything to do with it, but when they were later arrested, they told of having talked to him concerning

selling it and he was charged with Conspiracy. He was tried in Federal Court in Laredo, Texas, and received a three year sentence, serving something over two years in Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary. His Bribery appeal was lost, and after leaving Leavenworth he went to Texas State Prison at Huntsville on the Bribery conviction and served about eighteen months, being released in March 1952.

He stated that during this period of approximately five years while he was in prison he had no contact with RUBY or EVA GRANT. He further stated that he had never considered RUBY other than a business acquaintance and had only limited contact with EVA GRANT. Sometime during the period JONES had been in the penitentiary, RUBY had opened a restaurant at Industrial and Commerce Streets, but JONES repeated he was sure no discussion about this had been had at all during his Bribery negotiation with STEVE GUTHRIE.

After JONES was released from the penitentiary in 1952, he contacted representatives of "the syndicate" in Chicago, seeking some help in getting himself established. He said he had no desire to go back into the slot machine or gambling business, but wanted to get into the food brokerage business. He said he had been in the egg and poultry producing and brokerage business since the time he was about 30 years old and had continued some dealings in this business in Dallas while he was also operating slot machines from 1942 to 1946. With support of the Chicago group he had briefly operated a shrimp brokerage business in 1952, but closed this out and opened about six small beer taverns in Dallas. At this time RUBY was doing well in his night club business, and had been of some assistance to JONES in getting established in his taverns. He had recommended some waiters and had given some general advice about the tavern business, which JONES had never actually operated before. He said RUBY had no financial connection with him, but just a friendly interest. JONES had discontinued the tavern business after

some six months and left Dallas about 1953. Thereafter, JONES had been in Moab, Utah, for about a year promoting uranium mines; then in Birmingham, Alabama, about two and one half years, and then was in Charlotte for about three years, where he operated a chicken farm, which was primarily concerned with research into production of disease free eggs. He returned to Birmingham, Alabama, about 1960, and has just recently returned to Charlotte.

Beginning about 1960 his business interest had primarily been promotion of low cost housing developments for rental to low income families. His operation while in Birmingham was under the name, Vulcan Homes Company.

During the time from about 1953 to the present he said he has been back in Dallas only three to four times a year briefly. On most such occasions he would stop by once at a club being run by JACK RUBY and see him casually. He said he had no business connections with him. He would also occasionally see EVA GRANT at one of the clubs, which at least a part of the time she has been running on behalf of JACK RUBY. He said he does not recall the names or locations of the various clubs.

He said he has never had any personal or social dealings with EVA GRANT, but did on one occasion some years ago at her request furnish some business assistance without charge to her brother, HYMIE RUBENSTEIN, who was operating the salt and pepper shaker factory in Chicago. RUBENSTEIN wanted to get into the bootlegging business, and JONES had furnished him the name of a large customer in Oklahoma, whom he declined to name, to whom RUBENSTEIN shipped whiskey purchased in Chicago and transported in cases labeled to indicate they were salt and pepper shakers.

JONES said he does not know whether RUBY had or attempted to have any control in Dallas in gambling or the rackets. So far as he knew RUBY did not have any

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connection with gambling. He emphasized that he himself had been away for five years in the penitentiary and thereafter had spent most of his time away from Dallas and does not know just what the operations there have been. He commented that very probably RUBY must have had to make some kind of pay-off to operate the "strip shows" at his night club, but he does not know what the arrangements were.

JONES said he has no knowledge of any connection that EVA GRANT may have had with gambling or other underworld activities in Dallas. He said he does not know the name of RALPH PAUL, and has no knowledge of him in connection with underworld activities in Dallas.

Concerning LEWIS J. McWILLIE, he said this individual had been connected with gambling in Dallas long before 1945 and for many years thereafter. McWILLIE was associated with FRED BROWNING, and their main operation was a night club and gambling house called the "Top of the Hill Club," between Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas. So far as JONES knew, the change of county administration in 1946 did not affect McWILLIE or BROWNING and this club. JONES had never had any direct business dealings with McWILLIE, but knew him as above stated. He said he had no knowledge that McWILLIE or BROWNING had any connection with JACK RUBY or EVA GRANT. He said he has no knowledge whether or not RUBY had any connection with the Chicago underworld since coming to Dallas in 1947.

JONES said that during the time he was in Charlotte from about 1958 to 1960 he was, as previously stated, operating an egg research farm to produce disease free eggs with the aim of eventually getting control of the egg market by being able to show that he was producing the only disease free eggs from disease free and cancer free hens.

Associated with him in this enterprise had been HARRY M. HOXSEY, who operated a cancer clinic in Dallas for many years until his operations were declared illegal, and JONES would go to Dallas to consult with him. During

at least part of this time JONES maintained an apartment in Dallas because of these trips.

JONES said that he last saw JACK RUBY about a week before the assassination of President KENNEDY on November 22, 1963. JONES had been in Dallas about two days, staying at the Lynn Hotel, and on his last night in town stopped at RUBY's club and spoke to him just briefly and generally. RUBY had said something to the effect he was having some trouble with his enemies (or competitors). JONES had made a casual inquiry whether it was anything that RUBY could not take care of, and RUBY had replied that he could take care of it. JONES said nothing further was mentioned as to what it was about, and RUBY had not appeared concerned. He said RUBY always had been a nervous individual who could not sit still, and that he did not appear any different on this occasion.

JONES said he did not recall the exact date this had been, but that he had left Dallas and gone to Hereford, Texas, where he spent about one day in connection with a housing project of Vulcan Homes. Then he went to Cleveland, Ohio, to confer with his financial backers on this project, spending a day and a night, then to Birmingham, and as he recalled he arrived in Birmingham the day before the assassination. He had been traveling by plane.

Concerning his previous comment that RUBY was "capable of doing anything to accomplish what he set out to do", JONES said he could not supply anything very specific, but had always considered RUBY a fairly rough man who acted as his own bouncer in his night club. He knew that RUBY always carried a gun in the night club and presumably elsewhere. He commented that RUBY had run what JONES called a real "clip joint", in that unsuspecting customers would be charged extremely high prices for drinks they bought for girls who frequented the place. When such a customer would put up a protest,

RUBY would take charge of the run and apparently always managed to collect the amount charged. JONES commented that he had never seen any indication that RUBY ever backed away from any dispute of that nature and felt that RUBY had the self confidence to go ahead if he decided to do something.

JONES stated he could only suppose as to why RUBY had killed OSWALD. He said he had no knowledge whatsoever that RUBY had ever known OSWALD before, and that he himself had never heard of OSWALD. He said from his acquaintance with RUBY he doubted that he would have become emotionally upset and killed OSWALD on the spur of the moment. He felt RUBY would have done it for money, but had no knowledge of who might have offered such money.

JONES said that he felt if there was some underlying motive or conspiracy in connection with the killing of OSWALD by RUBY, he could develop such information by conversation with EVA GRANT and other members of the family. He said he would be willing to go to Dallas, Texas, and undertake such inquiries if the Government would pay his expenses.

He commented that one thing he would do if he went to Dallas would be to talk to JOE SAVELLA, whom he considers currently the head of "syndicate" operations in Dallas, because he said that if RUBY had been promised protection in connection with the killing of OSWALD and had been given orders by anyone to do this killing, SAVELLA would know about it, and JONES believed SAVELLA would tell him.

JONES said he himself has not been back in Dallas since approximately a week before the assassination, as previously set out.

He added that he himself is currently under indictment for Perjury by Federal Grand Jury in New York City,

which indictment was returned in 1960, and he doubts anything is going to be done about it. He said this had arisen out of the trial of over twenty individuals in New York in 1959 concerning the Texas Adams Oil Company. The motion for a new trial had been made on the basis that JONES could have provided testimony helpful to the defense. JONES had submitted an affidavit in support of this motion to the effect he had been traveling and had not been in contact with the defense attorneys and did not know his presence was desired, and he stated this was the basis for the indictment against him.