

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date November 29, 1963

ERWIN HORWITZ, 6922 Jeffery, Chicago, Illinois, was interviewed at his office room 1702, 130 North Wells Street. He advised that he is the building commissioner of Cook County Illinois. He furnished information concerning JACK RUBENSTEIN as follows:

He knows JACK RUBENSTEIN as SPARKY and last saw him and lost touch with him approximately 15 years ago. He was born in 1911, the same year of birth for RUBENSTEIN. Both lived in the same neighborhood in the vicinity of Peoria Street and Roosevelt Road and later in an area further west near Roosevelt Road in what became known as the Lawndale area.

He described SPARKY as a likeable and personable but terribly excitable person, not stable in temperament. He said that SPARKY was active physically and was prone to engage in arguments usually about sporting events and if the argument did not go to his liking, he was liable to use his fists or pick up a stick or any other weapon that came to his immediate attention. He said, in short, that SPARKY was quickly moved to violence but when the altercation was over, he immediately returned to his usual likeable self. He said that SPARKY was always a "hustler" and a good salesman. He said that he remembers SPARKY being present at almost all sporting events and particularly at the fights which years ago, were held at Marigold Gardens in Chicago. He said that SPARKY always had tickets to every sporting event and that as long as he can remember, SPARKY scalped tickets to fights, baseball and football games, etcetera. He said that SPARKY never, to his knowledge, stole anything, never carried a gun, nor did he associate with any of the persons from the old neighborhood who later became known in varying degrees as criminals.

He recalled one instance that probably occurred when SPARKY was age 15, when SPARKY attempted to sneak into the Dempsey - Tunney fight and a police man hit him in the head causing a rather severe injury that required hospitalization. He said that his memory was indistinct but that he recalled that SPARKY had a metal plate installed in his head as a result of this injury. He said that SPARKY's older brother, TINY, is the only person that he knows that might have first hand information about this injury.

on 11/26/63 at Chicago, Illinois File # DL 44-1639
by Special Agent ROBERT L. BAKER/jn Date dictated 11/28/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2
DL 44-1639

He stated that he considered the RUBENSTEIN family to be persons of good character and the only one that he knew other than SPARKY was his older brother named TINY, whose address is now not known to him. He said that he did not know that RUBENSTEIN was even residing in Dallas until he became aware of this through recent news broadcasts.

223

224