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Date 12/24/63

JAMES H. (JIMMY) RHODES, presently residing at the home of his parents, 719 Brinker Street, while convalescing from recent major surgery, advised he is a photographer, producer of stage entertainment, and a bartender. He noted for the past two years he has worked mainly as a free-lance photographer, maintaining business offices at two locations, namely, 2535 Cedar Springs and 3524 Cedar Springs, both Dallas, Texas.

RHODES volunteered he served in the U. S. Army Air Corps for four and one-half years during World War II and, following discharge, moved from Sulphur Springs, Texas to Dallas, Texas. He noted subsequently, during the Korean conflict, he was recalled to active duty in the U. S. Air Force serving approximately thirteen months. Following this most recent discharge, RHODES had become employed with KRLD Radio and Television, in Dallas, and, about this time, first met JACK RUBY, who was then operating the Silver Spur Night Club located on South Ervay Street, Dallas. He said he met RUBY through one TINY GRANT, a night club Master of Ceremonies, now deceased. In 1959, upon learning RHODES was a photographer, RUBY approached him with a request RHODES do some publicity work and photographs for his night club businesses. Sometime thereafter, believed in late 1959, RHODES said he terminated his employment with KRLD and started free-lance photography work. RUBY became a client of his and would send various performers to RHODES for publicity shots.

RHODES said it was his recollection RUBY sold the Silver Spur in early 1960 and thereafter purchased the Vegas Club. At about the same time, RUBY opened a private club known as the Sovereign Club, which he later converted to a public club, changing the name to the Carousel Club. It was at this time RUBY requested RHODES to go to work for him as a "general handy man," his duties being to help RUBY book shows, train girls for dancing, ~~and~~

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supervise writing for floor shows and, on occasion, fill in as a bartender at the Carousel. RHODES stated he worked in this capacity for about three months and then moved back to Sulphur Springs, Texas, in late Summer, 1960, where he did some free-lance lighting and photography work. He noted, however, while in Sulphur Springs, he commuted back and forth to Dallas doing photography and publicity work for performers appearing at various Dallas night clubs, including RUBY's clubs. Since that time, he has had contact with RUBY on an average of about two or three times per month, always in connection with publicity work, which RUBY employed him to perform.

RHODES related in his association with RUBY he came to know RUBY as a person who is "fanatical in his beliefs;" good to his help; one who really loved to be liked by people; an individual who wanted the police as his friends; a fierce competitor; and a man with an "uncontrollable temper," but who would get over his display of temper quickly. RHODES advised close associates to RUBY known to him were TINY GRANT, mentioned above, RALPH PAUL; JOE JOHNSON, a Negro band leader; WALLY WESTON, a Master of Ceremonies; BRECK WALL and JOE PETERSON, theatrical producers; EARL NORMAN; BILL WILLIS, a drummer in various bands, and FRANK FISHER, a musician in various Dallas bands. Concerning PAUL, RHODES said he is of the opinion PAUL was the financial backer in most of RUBY's ventures and the person who would be financially able to pay for the defense of RUBY, regardless of the amount of money needed for attorneys' fees.

In the period he has been associated with RUBY and particularly during the time of his employment by RUBY RHODES observed RUBY was very friendly with members of the Dallas Police Department and, in particular, with members of the Vice Squad. RHODES said during his three-month employment he recalled many officers of the Dallas Police Department came in and out of the Carousel, including both uniformed

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patrolmen, as well as plain-clothes officers. He said RUBY always served these officers Cokes or coffee and permitted them free access to the kitchen at the Carousel, where they could help themselves to food. He said RUBY never objected to the appearance of the officers at the club and gave orders to the bartender and waitresses that the officers should never be charged for anything they received at the club. He said this was standard procedure in many of the Dallas night clubs and was not solely limited to the Carousel Club, insofar as police officers were concerned. RHODES said he recalled on occasions RUBY would take Dallas police officers out to eat at night.

When questioned, RHODES claimed an inability to recall the identity of the officers referred to above, stating although he saw the officers in the club, he was never introduced to them.

RHODES said he recalled that, approximately one month after the Carousel became a public club in 1960, a large party was held there by a group of thirty or forty police officers. He said it was his recollection it was at the time a police or sheriffs' convention was being held in Dallas and a number of the officers in attendance at the party were from out of town. RHODES claimed he did not know who made the arrangements for this party, nor could he identify any of the officers in attendance, other than to state he, RHODES, was bartender for the affair and that RUBY told him "the chief" was there. RHODES pointed out he did not actually see "the chief" and he assumed he was referring to Chief CURRY, of the Dallas Police Department. RHODES said the party in question took place during regular club hours and it was his understanding RUBY "picked up the tab." When asked, RHODES was unable to furnish the identity of any other employees of the Carousel Club who were present, or otherwise corroborate his statements with respect to the party.

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In addition to the above, RHODES said he also recalled during his three-month employment at the Carousel that fourteen members of the Dallas Police Department Vice Squad also attended a party at the Carousel, which party was held after hours. RHODES claimed he was the bartender for this affair and that the officers drank "mostly Cokes." He alleged there were no waitresses present at the affair, nor could he identify any witnesses who could verify his statement concerning this party. RHODES claimed although he could remember the number of officers in attendance he could not, however, identify any of the officers, again claiming he never met any of them and only knew them by sight.

RHODES explained RUBY was "very cranky" about serving any alcohol after hours because he did not want to break the law. RHODES said RUBY "had no reason to pay off officers," as he would not tolerate law breaking in the Carousel. On many occasions rehearsals and try-outs would be held after hours because theatrical agents would bring their acts in at that time for RUBY to approve or disapprove. Sometimes there were officers, but he never saw any fraternizing between officers and members of the acts.

RHODES also stated if BOB LARKIN, former host at the Colony Club, who is now working at the Mommarie Club, were contacted, he would have no trouble identifying the names of the Vice Squad members and the other officers who were always hanging around the Carousel Club, because the same officers were also in and out of the Colony Club.

RHODES explained that there was one particular team of officers who were always coming to the Carousel Club or the Colony Club and he cannot think of their names, but they should be well known to LARKIN and ABE WEINSTEIN, owner of the Colony Club.

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RHODES readily admitted that he had sold eight negatives of RUBY to Time Magazine, but he understood that although Time paid him, they were actually for Life Magazine. He said he had been paid \$200 and that the entire matter had been handled through SHEL HERSHORN, Black Star Agency, 2936 Wondren, Dallas, Telephone EM 1-6508; or 3023 Routh, Telephone RI 7-0440. He stated they were the only photographs he had of RUBY and that they were pictures of RUBY interviewing a female entertainer, and there were some other entertainers in and out of RUBY's office. There were no pictures of customers. He said he did not know the name of the entertainer. RHODES permitted SA DRAKE to view the negatives he had prepared for mailing to HERSHORN. The negatives reflected an outline of a person resembling RUBY, and a female in shorts and a top which appeared to be a costume used by entertainers such as dancers.

There were shots of RUBY at a desk and in the other negatives there were observed what appeared to be other female entertainers. RHODES stated that these negatives were being mailed to HERSHORN. He stated that he had no other negatives, as he had searched his photography work to make sure he did not have other material which might interest some of the national publications, who, RHODES said, would buy anything picturing RUBY or his clubs.

In discussing photography, RHODES stated that at the Carousel Club there had been two amateur photographers, whose names he did not know, who more or less had the run of the place for the shooting of pictures of customers and entertainers and, if these persons were identified, he was sure that they should have some material that would depict customers in the Carousel Club. RHODES said he believed that these individuals used Polaroid cameras. He also stated that he was sure that these two amateurs could be identified by making inquiry at the Carousel Club in Dallas.

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In conclusion, RHODES stated he had never seen OSWALD and did not know OSWALD ever being in the company of RUBY or so much as ever being in one of RUBY's clubs. He did say that RUBY would receive a great deal of publicity out of what he had done, and that there were probably many people in Dallas who felt that RUBY should go free. RHODES said he had never heard the name of OSWALD mentioned prior to seeing him on television the day of the assassination of President KENNEDY.

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