

Date 1/6/64

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BARNEY BAKER is a former organizer for the Central States Conference of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Union and was a reported muscle and bagman for Teamster President JAMES HIDDLE HOFFA.

BARNEY BAKER was interviewed at his residence, 5900 Sheridan Road, Apartment 5E. He advised that he was released from Sandstone Penitentiary June 7, 1963, and is presently employed as field representative for the Chicago Loop Auto Refinishing Company, Incorporated, paint factory, 3216 South Shields Avenue, Chicago.

BAKER advised that on November 11, 1963, his wife CAROLINE called him at his office and told him that he had just received a long distance telephone call from Dallas, Texas, at his home phone of RA 8-4031. His wife stated that it was requested that he return the call and ask for LOU. BAKER advised that he cannot recall the telephone number that he called in Texas, but stated he did return the call the same day from his office telephone which is Chicago number 225-0560. He stated that upon completion of the call to the Dallas number he told the person who answered that he was BARNEY BAKER and that he was returning a call to someone at that number. He stated that the person on the other end of the line said "That's me. My name is (BAKER could not recall the first name) RUBY." This person then told BAKER "You don't know me but we have mutual friends." BAKER said he asked who the mutual friends were but RUBY simply said "We got friends but I don't want to talk over the phone." According to BAKER, RUBY then related that he was in the burlesque and strip show business in Dallas and that competitors were "attempting to knock me out." He advised that he needed a favor and BAKER asked what the favor was. RUBY related that he had several strip shows operating in the Dallas area and said that the American Guild of Variety Artists (AGVA) "are giving me a headache." He told BAKER that competitors through the help of the AGVA were "giving me a fit." BAKER stated that RUBY suggested that "mutual friends" had advised that BAKER was familiar with unions

On 1/3/64 at Chicago, Illinois File # 44-645

by SAs JOHN R. BASSETT & WILLIAM F. HOOD, Jr. dictated 1/3/64

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and handling matters such as this and requested that BAKER contact the AGVA and "straighten them out."

BAKER advised that he had not known JACK RUBY prior to the call but RUBY spoke in a fast and erratic manner making it rather difficult to understand him. BAKER stated that he advised RUBY that he had been released from prison in June, 1963, and that part of the provisions of his five years probation were that he should not engage in any labor management relations activities during the probation period. BAKER recalled that RUBY attempted to persuade him to intercede with the AGVA for him but BAKER concluded the conversation by firmly declining to offer any assistance in the matter.

BAKER advised that as a result of his former capacity as union organizer, he had many friends some of whom were influential politicians and high ranking hoodlums. He stated, however, that he forgot about the conversation with RUBY and did not attempt to determine who the "mutual friends" were who had referred RUBY to him at that time. He stated, however, that after the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY and the subsequent murder of LEE HARVEY OSWALD by JACK RUBY, he made inquiry of numerous persons in an attempt to determine who referred RUBY to him. He stated the results of the inquiry were negative and he still has no idea as to the identity of the individual who suggested that RUBY contact him at Chicago.

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