

Date 12-2-63

Date

MEMORANDUM

TO: Files DATE: September 22, 1964

FROM: S. R. Pollak

The Commission is in receipt of a letter from Francis Adams Cherry, Chairman, Subversive Activities Control Board dated January 9, 1964, which reads in part as follows:

*January 9, 1964

Mr. J. Lee Rankin
Room 401, Veterans of Foreign Wars Building
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
Washington, D. C. 20002

Dear Mr. Rankin:

I have received a letter from Chief Justice Earl Warren dated January 2nd, 1964, requesting that we send to you all information that we have relating to Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack L. Ruby, as well as any other information which we believe may be relevant to your investigation.

A careful search of our files reveals that we have no information relating to either Lee Harvey Oswald to Jack L. Ruby.

I assure you that should any pertinent information develop in the future which relates to these principals or the assassination, it will immediately be directed to you.

You have our very best wishes for success in your undertaking.

Sincerely,

/s/ Francis A. Cherry

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WESTLEY ARTHUR WISE, 10026 Lake Dale Drive, was interviewed at his residence, at which time he was advised that he did not have to make a statement and that any statement he did make could be used in a court of law. He was advised of his right to consult with an attorney. Mr. WISE stated that he would be glad to volunteer any information in his possession to the interviewing Agents of the FBI and stated his willingness to cooperate with the FBI in any way that he could.

WISE stated that he is employed as a sports announcer for Station KRLD Radio and TV, Channel 4, Dallas, Texas, and as such handles news assignments out of the KRLD News Department in addition to sports assignments.

In the afternoon on the day following the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY, November 23, 1963, WISE was assigned by the News Director of Station KRLD, EDDIE BARKER, to conduct a motion picture camera survey of the route taken by LEE OSWALD from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository to the place of his subsequent arrest by authorities on the day of the assassination. In connection with this assignment, WISE drove to the Texas School Book Depository in the Station KRLD station wagon news unit. WISE endeavored at the door of the Texas School Book Depository to enter the building for the purpose of going to the sixth floor where it was his understanding the assassin had stood at a window with the weapon which killed the President. WISE was confronted at the back doorway on the north side of the building by a Secret Service Agent whom he could not identify who advised him that no one was being authorized to go to the sixth floor. WISE thereupon returned to the KRLD news unit which he had parked previously across the street from the building and was in the process of radioing to Station KRLD to contact JIM UNDERWOOD, KRLD newsman, to have UNDERWOOD make an effort to obtain permission for WISE to take pictures on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository. WISE estimated the time as approximately 3:00 P.M. when he observed a man in a navyblue suit approaching

12-1-63

Dallas, Texas

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on _____ at _____ File # _____
by Special Agent WILLIAM G. BROOKHART & GEORGE T. BINNEY/bjd: md. Date dictated 12-2-63

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the KRLL TV unit from the rear of the Texas School Book Depository along Houston Street on the east side of the building.

When this man came to the door of the station wagon, WISE recognized him as JACK RUBY, however, WISE at that moment had the window of the station wagon rolled up so that this person could not hear his radio transmission to station KRLL. Upon rolling down the window following this radio transmission, RUBY introduced himself, stating, "Hi Wes, I'm Jack Ruby, do you remember me?" engaging WISE in general conversation concerning the assassination of President KENNEDY. They talked about how terrible the assassination was and RUBY volunteered how terrible it was for the President's wife and children. At this point, WISE noted that RUBY's eyes filled with tears and he appeared to be emotional regarding this particular point. WISE informed RUBY that he had gone to the Dallas Trade Mart that morning for the purpose of photographing the wrapped packages, gifts for the KENNEDY children, which were Western saddles to be presented to the President for the children.

WISE then informed RUBY that he had heard RUBY's name mentioned on the radio the night before and RUBY replied to the effect that he had furnished the information, however, he would have given it to him, WISE, or any other newsman.

WISE recalled that he had heard on the late news emanating from Station KLIF on the night of the President's assassination that KLIF had learned exclusively from a source which WISE could not definitely identify but believes was the Dallas District Attorney or the Chief of the Dallas Police Department, or possibly some other authority, that night club owner JACK RUBY had taken a newsman whose name WISE was not sure of, to the authorities with information that RUBY had obtained.

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WISE commented that it was his distinct impression that at the time of his conversation on November 23, 1963, at approximately 3:00 pm with RUBY that RUBY was endeavoring to be interviewed by WISE and WISE paid no particular attention to his conversation with RUBY on that date and their conversation was very casual. WISE noted that from past experience he has determined that RUBY is the type of individual who welcomes newsmen and likes to receive publicity, and would endeavor to be interviewed by newsmen.

WISE noted that he has an acquaintance with RUBY as a local Dallas figure whom he has observed at various public functions such as prize fights and sports events. WISE has also been to RUBY's club, the Carousel Club, and on occasion has seen RUBY at the Dallas City Hall and present in the audience at trials in local Dallas courts. WISE stated that he did not consider it unusual to see RUBY at a location of news interest such as was the Texas School Book Depository Building on the day following the assassination of President KENNEDY. He stated that RUBY impressed him as the type of person who could be characterized as a "news hound". WISE further pointed out that there were numerous persons gathered in the vicinity of the Texas School Book Depository on the afternoon following the assassination of the President, and he assumed that RUBY was sightseeing that afternoon at the Texas School Book Depository Building vicinity.

Following his conversation with RUBY, WISE observed RUBY to return in the same direction from which he had previously come, as he walked down Houston Street on the East side of the Texas School Book Depository toward some railroad tracks that WISE knows to be located in the rear of the building. WISE stated that he could not understand why RUBY would walk toward the back of the building unless he had parked his car in a parking space located in that area.

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WISE stated that he had not seen RUBY on any other

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occasion prior to the time that LEE OSWALD was shot. He noted that on the morning of November 24, 1963, he was assigned to go to the Dallas County Jail with the KRLD news unit for the purpose of covering the transfer of LEE OSWALD from the Dallas City Jail to the County Jail. On the way to the jail, WISE dropped GEORGE PHENIX, KRLD cameraman, off at the Dallas City Jail. He and PHENIX went in the Main Street entrance on the North side of the City Jail and went into the basement of the building. In the basement of the Police Department, WISE noted there were ten or twelve persons gathered. He noted that they were newsmen and other people. He estimated the time as being approximately an hour and a half prior to the time that OSWALD was shot. He noted that BOB HUFFAKER, newsman of KRLD, was present and he, HUFFAKER and PHENIX were the only newsmen that WISE could identify as being in the Police Department basement at the time that WISE was there.

WISE noted that in bringing GEORGE PHENIX to the City Jail, he had driven the news unit right into the basement of the Police Department and he was not checked or challenged in this regard by members of the Dallas Police Department. It did not appear to him that there were any security measures being taken at that time. He further advised that he could not recall observing any unauthorized persons present at the basement of the Police Department at the time that he was there. WISE proceeded to the Dallas County Jail where he was assigned with other newsmen to cover the OSWALD transfer. He noted that at the County Building the Dallas Police Department had taken measures to provide security around the entrance of the County Building by roping off the area across the street from the building. He noted further that there were police officers present as well as TV cameramen and other newsmen. The fact that OSWALD was to be moved was announced to the newsmen by BILL DECKER, Sheriff, Dallas County, who came to the door of the Dallas County Jail.

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A few minutes later, DECKER again came to the door at which time he announced that OSWALD had been shot. In the meantime, the newsmen had obtained the fact of OSWALD's being shot at the Dallas Police Department by viewing portable television monitors set up in the television news units.

WISE advised that the only associate of RUBY that he could suggest was RUBY's roommate whose name was unknown to WISE. WISE pointed out that he had recently talked to SAM CAMPISI, operator of the Egyptian Restaurant, Dallas, who advised WISE that JACK RUBY had following his arrest for the murder of LEE OSWALD asked to see JOE CAMPISI, SAM CAMPISI's brother and co-owner of the Egyptian Restaurant. On November 30, 1963, SAM CAMPISI told WISE that RUBY had told JOE CAMPISI in connection with his shooting of OSWALD "someone had to do it, so it might as well have been me."

WISE stated that he had heard from an unrecalled source that JACK RUBY at one time was associated with JOE BONDS, former operator of the Sky View Club in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas which is no longer in operation. WISE stated that BONDS approximately three years ago was charged with and arrested for a sex offense in Dallas and might now be in custody at the penitentiary in Huntsville, Texas.

WISE stated that he had never heard of or seen LEE HARVEY OSWALD before, was not acquainted with OSWALD and had no information as to his activities prior to the assassination of President KENNEDY.

WISE stated further that from his past knowledge of JACK RUBY he has determined that RUBY is rather an emotional type of man as evidenced by WISE's observations of RUBY following prize fights when RUBY disagreed violently with the decision of the judges as to the winner of the contest and

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

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would behave in a very angry and overly emotional manner. He stated that it was RUBY's general nature to want to be in on activities that were going on in Dallas and WISE has observed him in the past at many sports events. WISE pointed out that on the occasion of WISE's transfer from TV Channel 5 to TV Channel 4, he was given a going away party which was held at the Carousel Club. On this occasion, WISE was given a bottle of champagne for having won first prize in a twist contest at the club. A man took the bottle of champagne and RUBY observed him take it and became very angry with the man and actually was violent in his reaction to the man having taken the champagne. WISE thought at the time that RUBY was going to strike this man and WISE interceded in an effort to calm RUBY down.

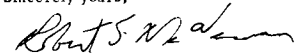
Honorable Earl Warren
Chairman, President's Commission
on the Assassination of
President Kennedy
Washington, D. C. 20002

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with your letter of September 10, 1964, attached is my affidavit that Lee Harvey Oswald was never an informant or agent of any intelligence agency under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense.

There is also attached a copy of a report concerning Lee Harvey Oswald which does not appear to have been previously furnished the Commission. Otherwise, all known information that the Department of Defense has that is pertinent to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy has been sent to the Commission. The Department of Defense does not have any information suggesting that the assassination of President Kennedy was caused by a domestic or foreign conspiracy.

Sincerely yours,



Enclosures

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