

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



Commission Exhibit No. 3066

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

April 17, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, Northeast
Washington, D. C. 20002

Dear Mr. Rankin:

In response to your letter of April 3, 1964, as it pertains to Robert Ray McKeown, I am enclosing a letterhead memorandum entitled "Robert Ray McKeown" dated April 17, 1964, which sets forth McKeown's connection with a neutrality and registration act investigation conducted by this Bureau and identifies his confederates.

The neutrality and registration act investigation related primarily to the activities of Carlos Prio Socarras, who, with a number of others including McKeown, was involved in a conspiracy to ship arms, munitions, and other war materials to Fidel Castro to assist him in his efforts to overthrow the Batista regime in Cuba. There are no references to Jack L. Ruby appearing in this investigation.

Other than McKeown's connection with the above matter and material previously furnished to you in connection with the case entitled "Jack L. Ruby, Lee Harvey Oswald - Victim, Civil Rights" there is no other material in Bureau files concerning McKeown.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 3066



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

April 17, 1964

ROBERT RAY McKEOWN

Information concerning reported contact between Jack L. Ruby and Robert Ray McKeown was furnished the President's Commission on March 2, 1964, by report of Special Agent Manning C. Clements at Dallas, Texas, dated February 18, 1964, entitled "Jack L. Ruby, Lee Harvey Oswald - Victim." FBI files reveal no other contact or association of Ruby and McKeown.

FBI files reveal that McKeown was one of the subjects in an extensive investigation conducted by this Bureau since 1952 concerning the activities of Carlos Prio Socarras. This investigation involved neutrality matters and possible violation of the Registration Act. Prio, a former President of Cuba and supporter of Castro, was engaged with others, including McKeown, in attempting to assist Castro in his revolutionary action against the Batista regime in Cuba. McKeown is reported to know Prio and Castro personally.

A summary of McKeown's admitted participation in efforts to procure guns, ammunition and other war material for Castro's use prior to Castro's overthrow of the Batista regime is set forth in the above-mentioned report of Special Agent Clements and in an interview with McKeown which was conducted on January 24, 1964, and also included in this report.

Inasmuch as the investigation by the FBI did not develop violations within the jurisdiction of this Bureau by individuals involved in the smuggling activities on behalf of Castro, the information developed in our investigation was furnished to the Bureau of Internal Revenue. We subsequently received information that Agents of the

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 3066—Continued

ROBERT RAY McKEOWN

Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit, Bureau of Internal Revenue, continued the investigation in this matter and charged various individuals, including McKeown, with conspiracy to smuggle guns and related equipment to Cuba. The defendants in this action were as follows:

Dr. Carlos Prio Socarras, also known as Carlos Prio, age unknown, male, resident of Miami, Florida, citizen of Cuba.

Jorge Enrique Sotus Romero, also known as Jorge Soto, Commander Jorge, S. Romero, age 24, male, resident of Miami, Florida, citizen of Cuba.

Orlando Garcia Vasquez, also known as Orlando Vasquez, F. Valdez, Ramos, age unknown, male, resident of Miami, Florida, citizen of Cuba.

Angel Banos, age unknown, male, resident of Miami, Florida, citizen of the United States.

Robert R. McKeown, also known as Dick McKeown, Max, J. T. Brown, H. J. McAllister, age 47, male, resident of Galena Park, Texas, citizen of the United States.

Mario Silverio Villamia, also known as Frank Guzman, Frank George, John Jordan, R. Castillo, age 34, male, resident of Miami, Florida, citizen of the United States by naturalization.

Manuel Arques, also known as Manny, age 23, male resident of Miami, Florida, citizen of the United States.

ROBERT RAY McKEOWN

Evelyn Eleanor Archer, also known as Mrs. Manuel Arques, Ruby, age 36, female, resident of Keyport, New Jersey, citizen of the United States.

Pedro Luis Chaviano Reyes, also known as Luis Chaviano, F. Castillo, Gilbert Pawtoja, age 44, male, resident of Miami, Florida, citizen of Cuba.

Abelardo Pujol Earrera, also known as Joe Sanco, Jose Saucó, Jose Alonzo, age 42, male, resident of Miami, Florida, citizen of Cuba.

Francisco Gonzales Obregon, also known as T. Gonzales, F. Gonzales, age 38, male, resident of Cerro, Cuba, citizen of Cuba.

Mrs. Ethel Jane McKeown, age unknown, female, resident of Galena Park, Texas, citizen of the United States.

Our investigation in this matter did not reveal any contact by Ruby with the individuals listed above.