



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Chicago, Illinois
June 9, 1964

JACK L. RUBY;
LEE HARVEY OSWALD - VICTIM
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Mr. D. C. Currie, President of the Waste Material Handlers Union, Local 20467 (Local 20467), 72 East 11th Street, Chicago, Illinois, on June 8, 1964, advised that this union was formerly the Scrap Iron and Junk Handlers Union, Local 20467. He said that he had been associated with this union for several years, but that Mr. John Yancy of the AFL-CIO at 608 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, would be in a better position to furnish historical information about this union.

Mr. John Louis Yancy, Field Representative of the AFL-CIO, Room 1025 at 608 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, furnished the following information on June 8, 1964:

Local 20467 was first issued a federal charter during the 1930's because Local 20467 was not affiliated with any international union. Mr. Yancy explained that at the time the AFL combined with the CIO in approximately 1956, there were 800 such federally chartered unions in the United States. About half of these have now become affiliated with some international union and today there are only about 400 such federally chartered unions still in existence.

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Local 20467, about 2½ years ago, became affiliated with the International Union of the United Transport Service Employees, AFL-CIO, 444 East 63rd Street, Chicago, Illinois, and, therefore, it is no longer a federally chartered union.

Mr. Yancy explained that the original seal and charter are now at the AFL-CIO headquarters at the AFL-CIO Building, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., under the custody of Mr. William Schutzler, Secretary. Several years ago when Local 20467 was investigated by a United States Congressional Committee, all of Local 20467 records were shipped from this office to the AFL-CIO headquarters. As a result, none of the old records are available in Chicago.

Concerning the general nature of the activities of Local 20467, Mr. Yancy cited page 7 of the "Report and Recommendations of AFL-CIO Vice President Joseph A. Beirne, Hearing Officer to President George Meany, Regarding Charges Against Waste Material Handlers Local 20467 and Paul Dorfman" dated July 30, 1957, which reads as follows:

"Dorfman's testimony was quite lengthy. According to his testimony, the Waste Material Handlers Union, then known as the Scrap Iron Handlers Union, was in existence before he was connected with it. Prior to 1939, Dorfman had been a business agent for the Retail Clerks Union in Chicago and had also worked for the Painters Union and other unions in the Chicago area. In 1939, the Local Union, which had been largely a shake-down operation, collapsed as a result of a fight between the two men who were running it. Dorfman was asked by the Regional Representative of the American Federation of Labor to take over the Local and attempt to reorganize it. He went

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to work in the industry and was subsequently elected as Secretary-Treasurer of the Local. At that time, the Union had no assets and virtually no organization."

Mr. Yancy pointed out that subsequently, Paul Dorfman was removed as Secretary-Treasurer of Local 20467 and the Local was placed in trusteeship.

Mr. Yancy stated that he has never been a member of Local 20467, and he is not personally acquainted with Jack Ruby. The only individuals he could suggest who might be helpful are Mrs. Gladys Walsh, the Office Manager of Local 20467, and Harry Young, an original member of Local 20467 who is now working for the Lissner Paper Grading Company in Chicago.

Mrs. Gladys Walsh, Insurance Administrator, Local 20467, 72 East 11th Street, Chicago, Illinois, furnished the following information on June 8, 1964:

She has been employed as a clerk in the office of Local 20467 since 1939.

Mrs. Walsh made available a copy of the second charter issued to Local 20467 by the American Federation of Labor on August 19, 1941. This charter was issued to the Waste Material Handlers Union, Local 20467, for the purpose of changing the name of the union from that of Scrap Iron and Junk Handlers Union, Local 20467, which union was originally chartered by the American Federation of Labor on March 11, 1937.

The names of the following officers, without title designation, are contained on the face of the above charter:

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James Logan
Charles Jones
Alf Johnson
Paul J. Dorfman
Charles Strickland
Albert Bryant
E. D. Buchanan.

She does not know the whereabouts of any of the above listed individuals with the exception of Dorfman and Buchanan. The latter is presently employed by the Sangamon Paper Company, 1613 West 15th Street, Chicago, Illinois. However, she does not believe that Buchanan knew Jack Ruby.

She explained that on February 21, 1961, Local 20467 became affiliated with the International Union of the United Transport Service Employees, AFL-CIO, Chicago, and a third charter was issued Local 20467 on that date.

She recalled Jack Ruby as an organizer for Local 20467 along with Joe Medill in about 1939. There are no records available on any of these early employees, and if any do exist, they would be at the AFL-CIO Chicago office of Mr. John L. Yancy. She recalls that these records were turned over to Mr. Joe Briegel of the AFL-CIO office about five years ago, but that Mr. Briegel is deceased.

She recalls how Ruby and Medill would come into the office once a week at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon to turn in their cash and make reports. This would be just at about the time she was leaving the office and, therefore, she never got to know Ruby or Medill very well. She believes that Ruby was an organizer for about a year, and she never did learn why he left Local 20467. As she recalls it now, Ruby and Medill just disappeared for unknown reasons. She

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further recalls the talk in the office at the time was that Joe Medill was the name of a west side boxer, and there was speculation in the office that the individual who was working with Ruby as an organizer was using the name of Joe Medill as an alias. She has no idea where Medill is today, and she never heard of him after he and Ruby left the union. She suggested that perhaps Ruby might know Medill's present whereabouts.

Mrs. Walsh explained that she is the only old-time employee left at Local 20467. At about the time Ruby was there, the membership totaled an estimated 300 to 400 members. There were no business agents, just the two organizers, Ruby and Medill. The members of the union were employed by contractors handling rags, scrap and paper.

She can recall nothing concerning the reputation of Ruby except to say that she heard nothing adverse about him. Ruby seemed to her at that time to be a very normal person. Both Ruby and Medill were in their mid-20's at that time. She only recalls one strike involving Local 20467, and she believes that was during the time when Paul Dorfman was the Secretary-Treasurer. She does not believe that Ruby was with Local 20467 at the same time that Dorfman was associated with it but rather, that Leon Cook, deceased, was the Secretary-Treasurer when Ruby was there, which she believes was in about 1939.

Mrs. Walsh identified the following individuals, in addition to Cook, as possibly being the officers of Local 20467 at the time Ruby was employed there:

Jack Martin, President
(deceased)

Harry Young, who is still a
member of Local 20467.

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When she first went to work for the union, it was located at 188 West Randolph Street, Chicago, in the year 1939. Shortly after she commenced her employment, the union moved to offices at 3159 West Roosevelt Road, Chicago, also in that same year, 1939. Subsequently, the union moved to 130 North Wells Street, Chicago, year unrecalled, where it remained until April, 1958, at which time the union moved to its present address at 72 East 11th Street, Chicago.

Harry H. Young, Assistant Foreman, Lissner Paper Grading Company, 1050 North Branch Street, Chicago, Illinois, furnished the following information on June 8, 1964:

He did not join Local 20467 until Paul Dorfman became an officer in the union in about 1941. He never met or saw Jack Ruby, and he never saw or knew of a Joe Medill.

Sometime after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in November, 1963, he believes he participated in a conversation with Jerome Snyder, who is the owner of Huron Paper Stock Company, 2534 West Fulton Street, Chicago, Illinois, and Austin Sullivan, a fellow employee at the Lissner Paper Grading Company, at which time he understood Snyder to recall the following incident:

About 25 years ago, Jack Ruby was attempting to organize the employees of the Lissner Paper Grading Company at TRGIP plant at 1801 North Leavitt Street, Chicago, Illinois. Leon Cook was with Ruby and an argument developed as the result of which Ruby pulled a gun.

Other than the above, he never had any association with Ruby and did not know him by reputation. He does not know the whereabouts of any of the former officers of Local 20467 (listed above).

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Mr. Meyer Lissner, an official of the Lissner Paper Grading Company, 1050 North Branch Street, Chicago, on June 8, 1964, advised that he did not know Jack Ruby very well, but that he does recall on one occasion about 25 years ago when Ruby accompanied Leon Cook on a visit to the company office. Although Ruby just sat there during the conversation, he nevertheless left him with the impression that he was sort of "nutty" at the time. He could furnish no further basis for this impression. He never heard of Ruby pulling a gun on anyone.

He never heard of a Joe Medill, and he said that other than Leon Cook, he did not know any of the union officers (listed above) when Ruby was with Local 20467.

Austin Sullivan, Assistant Foreman, Lissner Paper Grading Company, 1050 North Branch Street, Chicago, advised on June 8, 1964, that he has been employed by the above company since 1930. He joined the union in about 1937, and he specifically recalls that Harry Young, also still employed by the Lissner Paper Grading Company, was the union steward at the time. He believes the union had a good reputation in 1942 and prior to that time.

He never knew Jack Ruby, and he does not know the whereabouts of any of the former officers of the union (listed above). He never heard of Joe Medill.

Sullivan specifically denied having had a conversation with Jerome Snyder of the Huron Paper Stock Company, and he never heard any story to the effect that Ruby had pulled a gun on anyone. He does not know a Joe Medill, or of anyone by a similar name ever being connected with Local 20467.

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Sullivan identified Forrest Williams as an old-time member of Local 20467 who is presently employed by the Lissner Paper Grading Company.

Forrest Williams, laborer for the Lissner Paper Grading Company, 1050 North Branch Street, Chicago, Illinois, advised on June 8, 1964, that he has been employed with this company since 1930, and that he joined Local 20467 sometime during the 1930's. However, he does not know Jack Ruby, Leon Cook or Joe Medill. He never heard anything about Ruby until November, 1963. He recalls that Leon Cook was a former officer of that union. He does not know the whereabouts of any of the former officers of Local 20467 (listed above), and stated that it is his belief that Local 20467 had a good reputation in 1942 and prior thereto.

Jerome Snyder, Owner of the Huron Paper Stock Company, 2534 West Fulton Street, Chicago, Illinois, advised on June 8, 1964, as follows:

He recalls Jack Ruby as an organizer for Local 20467 about 25 years ago, and he believes that Ruby worked for Local 20467 with another individual, "possibly" his (Ruby's) brother. At the time he, Snyder, was employed by the Lissner Paper Grading Company at 1801 North Leavitt Street, Chicago. Ruby did make an effort to organize the employees there on one occasion. At no time did Ruby engage in any type of violence, to his knowledge, and Ruby never pulled a gun on anyone, to his knowledge. Furthermore, he has never made a statement to anyone to the effect that Ruby pulled a gun on someone. He has not had a conversation with Harry Young or Austin Sullivan concerning Ruby.

He does not know the whereabouts of any of the former officers of Local 20467 who held their jobs when Ruby was employed by that Union. He never heard of a Joe Medill. At the time Ruby was connected with Local 20467, the union had a good reputation, as far as he can now recall.

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