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Date 12/23/63

HUGH GENE SMITH, 9841 Lanshire Drive, telephone number DI 8-3820, a former Dallas police officer, voluntarily furnished the following information:

He first met JACK RUBY in 1957 at the Vegas Club which RUBY owned. He stated that the club was recommended to him by a police officer, whose name he could not now recall. He stated when he joined the Dallas Police Department in 1958 he visited the club on numerous occasions in an official capacity. He stated that RUBY always liked police officers and that a great many attended the club socially. He stated that RUBY gave numerous policemen whiskey for Christmas. He stated he had received whiskey from RUBY on three different occasions and on one of these occasions, RUBY delivered a fifth of whiskey to his home. He could not recall the names of the policemen that received whiskey from RUBY and does not believe that any policeman did any type of favor for RUBY for receiving this whiskey.

He stated a former policeman named DENBOW, first name not recalled, was very closely associated with RUBY. He stated DENBOW was a bachelor and he believes that DENBOW used RUBY's apartment on several occasions. He does not believe that DENBOW ever did any favors for RUBY in an official capacity or that DENBOW ever took any money from RUBY. As far as he knew, the relationship between RUBY and DENBOW was strictly social. DENBOW once told him that RUBY knew a number of Chicago hoodlums but he does not recall any names that DENBOW mentioned that RUBY knew.

He stated that he understood that RUBY had a bad temper but that he never saw RUBY get violent or angry at any time. As far as he was concerned, RUBY was always friendly and he believed that RUBY would do a favor for any friend if he could. He recalled that about three years ago, RUBY asked him to fix a \$3.00 parking ticket for him. He explained that any Dallas police officer could pay a \$3.00 parking ticket for \$1.00. He told RUBY this and RUBY said never mind that he would pay the parking ticket.

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He stated that RUBY always liked police officers and he believed the newspapers had it wrong when they stated that RUBY killed OSWALD because of his affection for JACQUELINE KENNEDY and the KENNEDY children. He believed that the reason RUBY killed OSWALD was because OSWALD had killed Officer TIPPIT.

BOB RICH, who is a regular customer at the Vegas Club, once told him that RUBY attempted to get BUDDY TURMAN, an ex-prize fighter and also a bouncer at the Vegas Club, to go to bed with him. He stated that RICH lives on Reagan Street some place and his father owns some parking lots in Dallas and his father resides some place in Irving, Texas. He stated that he does not believe that RUBY ever paid any Dallas police officer and he believed that no officer would accept any money from RUBY as the Police Department is a very "tight outfit".

He stated that he has never worked for JACK RUBY nor does he know of any other Dallas police officer that has been so employed.

He does not know LEE HARVEY OSWALD nor does he know of any association between RUBY and OSWALD. SMITH summarized by saying that he believed RUBY was a very friendly and sincere person as far as he knew. SMITH stated that he had never seen RUBY outside of his clubs and knew nothing concerning his background or any of his close associates. He added that he had not seen RUBY in four or five months.

on 12/20/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639
by Special Agent LANSING P. LOGAN and ALTON E. BRAMBLETT - g Date dictated 12/23/63

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1646

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1646-Continued