



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Dallas, Texas

July 9, 1964

JACK L. RUBY;
LEE HARVEY OSWALD

The investigation reported herein was based on a request in a letter of June 4, 1964, from the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy for information concerning the existence of phonographic records and papers which former Dallas County Sheriff Steve Guthrie claims were made in connection with Dallas crime investigation, 1946 - 1948. It was also requested it be determined where they are now maintained, how extensive they are, and whether or not they are indexed to show any mention of Ruby.

Records of the Dallas Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation include three transcripts of conferences held, at which Paul Rowland Jones, Steve Guthrie and George Butler were present, to explore the possibilities of opening Dallas up to gambling with a payoff to be made to Guthrie, who was to become Sheriff of Dallas County. These conferences were held in Dallas on November 1, 5 & 7, 1946. At the time, some of the material recorded on November 1, 1946, was inaudible and a detailed transcript could not be obtained. It was stated some of the records made on that date were summarized, but it was believed the transcript contained all pertinent material discussed at this meeting.

A review of the transcript of the meeting of November 1, 1946, disclosed it was concerned, in part, with a conversation in which Jones told Guthrie that the latter was to pick a local man which the "syndicate" would put in business, would rent a building for him and finance him, and that such a place would be located "in the county" rather than "in the city." The man to be selected would be a local man with a regular business and he would hire local men to run the place. The names of local men

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Bob Fletcher, Tom Cooley and Sherman Little were mentioned. No mention was made of Jack L. Ruby, no specific location was discussed, and there was no discussion concerning the opening of a restaurant at Industrial and Commerce Streets, Dallas.

Review of a transcript of the meeting on November 7, 1946, disclosed a conversation concerning the opening of a gambling establishment in the county, away from the city of Dallas, but no specifics were discussed in this regard, and Ruby's name was not mentioned.

Review of the three transcripts failed to disclose any mention of Ruby or that the discussion ever reached the stage where the particular gambling establishment would be located or who the individual would be to operate it. No mention was made of a restaurant or gambling establishment to be located at Commerce and Industrial Streets.

On June 11, 1964, Lieutenant George Butler, Juvenile Bureau, Dallas Police Department, advised the transcripts of all recordings made in 1946 of the conferences between Steve Guthrie, Paul Rowland Jones and others, at the time Jones was trying to bribe Guthrie to permit gambling in Dallas County were furnished to the Dallas Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Butler said he does not know where the original records might be, but stated the Jones case was submitted to the Texas Supreme Court and it is possible the records were retained by that court.

Butler said Jack Ruby did not arrive in Dallas until about a year after the Jones case "was made," to the best of his recollection. After his arrival in Dallas, Ruby opened his first establishment on South Ervay Street, which was frequented by Jones, along with other Chicago friends of Ruby. Jones was free on appeal at the time and told Butler that Ruby and his sister, Eva Grant, had just come to Dallas and made a lot of money in San Francisco in the "punchboard racket."

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"The Dallas Morning News" issue of April 16, 1947, included an article concerning the playing of records in the trial of Jones and a number of local persons were mentioned in the records. The name of Jack Ruby was not mentioned in the article.