



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Los Angeles, California  
June 11, 1964

1Date 6/4/64

Mrs. ESTHER MILLER, 3786 Northview, Dallas, Texas, related the following information:

On the night of November 22, 1963, following the death of President KENNEDY, she attended special services at Congregation Shearith Israel Synagogue. The services concluded at approximately 11:00 P.M., and she, her daughter, Mrs. LEONA LANE, and grandsons, SEYMOUR and CARY LANE, went to the room where refreshments were being served. They had been there for only a few minutes, when Mrs. LANE noticed JACK RUBY, and they all went over to talk with him.

Mrs. LANE introduced Mrs. MILLER to JACK RUBY, and reminded him they had met previously several years before. Mrs. MILLER said she did not engage in any conversation with JACK, but Mrs. LANE and JACK talked for about five minutes. Something was said about the death of President KENNEDY, but Mrs. MILLER does not remember just what was said. She does recall that JACK RUBY seemed very sad over the assassination, and seemed nervous and upset. She does not recall seeing anyone else talking with JACK RUBY before they spoke to him, and did not see him again after they left him.

Mrs. MILLER said she formerly lived in Chicago, Illinois, and she knew an aunt of Mrs. PHYLLIS RUBY. This aunt suggested that Mrs. MILLER look up PHYLLIS RUBY when Mrs. MILLER arrived in Dallas, and she did so, thereby becoming acquainted with the SAM RUBY family in Dallas, and meeting JACK RUBY.

INTERVIEW OF ALEXANDER PHILIP GRUBER REQUESTED  
BY PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE ASSASSINATION  
OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, BY LETTER TO THE DIRECTOR,  
FBI DATED JUNE 1, 1964

Alexander Philip Gruber was interviewed at his residence, 5222 West Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, on June 11, 1964.

Gruber furnished the following information:

He is presently employed as a scrap metal dealer in the Los Angeles area.

He knew Jack L. Ruby in the late 1920's in Chicago, and associated with him for approximately four years when both he and Ruby were in their late teens. During this time, they resided together at a boarding house for a little less than a year.

Gruber left Chicago about 1929 or 1930, and went to New York, at which time he lost contact with Ruby. He has never been very interested in politics and did not even bother to vote while living in New York. He was too busy trying to make a living because during this period, a depression was in progress. During his younger days, he was a member of the Boy Scouts.

He was married in New York and came to Los Angeles with his wife about 1942. He is currently registered as a Democrat, and has never been a member of any organization other than the Democratic party or the Boy Scouts of America.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2284

on 6/4/64 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639  
by Special Agent C. RAY HALL/ds Date dictated 6/4/64

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2283

INTERVIEW OF ALEXANDER PHILIP GRUBER REQUESTED BY PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, BY LETTER TO THE DIRECTOR, FBI DATED JUNE 1, 1964

He made a trip to Chicago, Illinois, in 1946 or 1947, and stopped in Dallas, Texas, en route to see Ruby. During the course of a conversation with Ruby in the latter's club in Dallas on this particular occasion, three male patrons were observed by Ruby to be bothering a woman in the club, and Ruby engaged all three of these persons in a fight. Ruby was successful in knocking out all three of these individuals. Gruber left Dallas shortly thereafter and had no contact with Ruby until about two weeks prior to the assassination of former President Kennedy.

On this occasion, two weeks prior to the assassination, while en route to Los Angeles from New York, where he had attended a relative's wedding, he stopped at Joplin, Missouri, to get some information on a car wash facility. Since Dallas, Texas was about 100 miles from Joplin, he decided to visit Ruby in Dallas. While in Dallas, he stayed at a hotel just across the street from Ruby's club and visited Ruby for several days. He did not visit Ruby at his home, but saw Ruby at the Club Carousel, from about 6:00 P.M. in the evening until closing time early the following morning. He and Ruby talked of their past experiences shared in Chicago, and Ruby, on a number of occasions, expressed concern about his business being poor. Ruby mentioned that he had been forced by the union to stop having amateur night at his club, and indicated that his competitors had continued having their amateur night programs. Ruby did mention that he always opened and closed his show at the club with something patriotic, but Gruber could not recall the nature of these patriotic acts mentioned by Ruby. They did discuss business during the course of their conversations, including Gruber's interest in the car wash operation. Politics was never discussed.

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About 20 minutes after former President Kennedy was assassinated, he received a long distance call in Los Angeles from Ruby in Dallas. Ruby seemed upset and they talked about a number of things including the car wash business. Ruby said that he would send him (Gruber), a dog, and he subsequently did. Ruby asked if he had heard about the President being killed and then started crying, terminating the conversation by saying that he could not talk any more. He does not know exactly why Ruby called him and can only speculate that Ruby wanted to talk to a friend at a time when he was emotionally upset.

He received a letter from Ruby earlier this year postdated February 4, 1964, with the return address of 505 Main Street, Dallas, Texas. In this particular letter, Ruby acknowledged receipt of a prior letter which he (Gruber), had written earlier to Ruby expressing his sorrow over Ruby's predicament. In his letter, Ruby thanked him for his expression of sympathy, mentioned the dog which he had sent to Gruber and said that he was sorry the phone call to Gruber immediately following President Kennedy's death had caused Gruber so much trouble in that Gruber had been contacted by the FBI. Ruby also mentioned receiving numerous letters and wires from people throughout the country during his confinement.

Gruber is not acquainted with Lewis J. Mc Willie, Lawrence Meyers, Ralph Hall, George Senator, Breck Wall and Joe Peterson. He recalled reading the paper several months ago about Ruby and one George Senator rooming together prior to President Kennedy's assassination. He has no knowledge of any interest in or activities on the part of Ruby concerning the sale of jeeps, guns or

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other war materials for use in Cuba, or the smuggling of refugees out of Cuba. He is not aware of and has never heard Ruby mention making any trips to Cuba. He considers Ruby to be a highly emotional person and he feels that the shooting of Oswald was a spur-of-the-moment action on the part of Ruby. Ruby comes from a very fine family, and is in his opinion, a loyal American. Ruby has never, to his knowledge, been involved in anything illegal prior to the shooting of Oswald.

The following description of Alexander Philip Gruber was obtained from observation and interview:

Sex	Male
Race	Caucasian
Date of birth	February 1, 1911
Place of birth	Chicago, Illinois
Height	5' 10 1/2"
Weight	180
Eyes	Gray
Hair	Black, greying
Social Security Number	347-09-0696

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2284—Continued

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(240-43)

PROGRAM NUMBER 131  
#17763  
SUBJECT: Free Federal Money

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**OPEN:** This is LIFE LINE, Sam Scudder from Washington.

The greatest myth in American history is the myth of so-called "free federal money." Because it is so palpable on the surface, and so utterly false in fact and truth, no stone should be left unturned in the constant effort to expose it for what it is. Every idea for exposing it should be tried, however curious or even "crazy." This is not a case where there is need for care not to slander persons or offend minority groups. Nobody can possibly be hurt by learning the truth about "free federal money."

Nobody can possibly deny that truth, even those who benefit most from the myth. There can be no argument about this kind of exposure. There is only the selfish hope on the part of the statist that the myth will survive because it is not attacked vigorously enough.

To patronize helps keep LIFE LINE on the air. Subscribe to LIFE LINES, published three times a week, 20¢ per year. Send cash or check to LIFE LINE, Washington 1, D. C., or LIFE LINE will bill you at your request.

We'll have more to say about "free federal money" following this message from our LIFE LINE sponsor. (COMMERCIAL.....45 seconds)

A deep yearning to find some way to get something for nothing is a fundamental if not very creditable element in human nature. It explains the popularity of gambling in all ages. It explains the fantastic financial hauls of famous confidence men down through the ages. Carlos Ponzi of Boston collected nine million dollars by the simple plan of promising everyone a fifty per cent profit on their investment every 45 days. He paid off the earliest "investors" with the money flooding in from later ones -- the same sort of success on a grand scale that has been obtained on a small scale by those cryptic ad saying "Last Chance to Send Your Dollar to P. O. Box 1111." Some people will always send a dollar to anybody if informed it is their last chance to do so.

This almost universal weakness, so cleverly exploited by the Carlos Ponzis and the "last chance to send your dollar" boys throughout history, is the reason so many otherwise sensible people can persuade themselves that tax money grants from Washington are a simple gift of "free federal aid" even when rationally they know better. Why look a gift horse in the mouth? In their feeling, to use an old and revealing proverb. Heavy pressure and committees which oppose federal handouts on principle, are complain vigorously against high federal tax rates, still cannot bring themselves to reject a so-called "gift" when offered it.

Consider the choice recently offered to the voters of Duluth, Minnesota. Duluth wants and needs a large new building for holding conventions in the city. It is expected to cost over six million dollars. The Area Redevelopment Administration offered Duluth an outright grant (for that word, read "gift") of three million dollars -- half the total cost -- if the city would approve a loan, spread over a period of no less than forty years, for the other three million. What an opportunity! Three million "free" dollars plus three million more not to be repaid until the majority of those voting on the issue were dead! Why not? What did the voters have to lose -- but their self-respect? They approved the plan.

The hard fact of the matter is that this project was never approved by anyone whose money was being used to pay for it. The taxpayers of the United States who were to furnish three million dollars of the cost were not consulted. The citizens of Duluth now in their childhood, or yet unborn or in other parts of the country, who will have to pay back the other three million forty years from now -- in the year two thousand and three -- were not consulted, because they can't vote yet. This is the kind of blatant intellectual dishonesty, half silly, half tragic, which can come from the great delusion about "free federal money." No money in this world is ever free. It is the product of the labor and the thought and the ingenuity of men and women. Whenever money is spent, someone, somewhere, sooner or later must pay it. And his right to be consulted and to give approval to commitments for such payment is at the very heart of the republican form of government. It was for this that we went to war against Great Britain and won the American Revolution.

There are just two sources from which any so-called "free federal money" can ever come. One is simple and obvious: taxes. Taxes are not just a matter of payments by the taxpayer. They require a vast bureaucracy to collect and administer. As a means of financing any project, they entail an enormous overhead cost. They are probably the most inefficient and costly method of investment ever known. And they are never enough. A government which accepts handouts as a way of life must always fall back upon deficit spending. This is borrowing against the future, obtaining money now from private sources which the government pledges to pay back, with interest, from future taxes which can be expected to be just as inefficient and just as costly as those we now have.

The case of the Duluth Convention Hall is a perfect example of both of those methods in their very worst forms -- a tax-money grant for a strictly local purpose of no value to the nation, and deficit years into the future.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2285