

## F. PROFILES OF JACK RUBY ASSOCIATES \*

## INTRODUCTION

(865) The committee undertook an extensive review of Jack Ruby's friends, associates, and contacts in an effort to develop information relating to his background, activities, and possible criminal associations. The committee made an effort to examine more closely the full dimensions of Ruby's life, focusing in greater detail on his associations than was attempted by the Warren Commission or the FBI. In this connection, staff papers were prepared containing investigative profiles of a number of his associates and contacts, some of whom had organized crime connections.

(866) The following biographical summaries of these individuals are intended to provide a more complete picture of the range of Ruby's associations and activities, with emphasis on various criminal associates.\*\* These staff papers were prepared at various times over the life of the committee. The information in them was taken from law enforcement and other files.

(867) It was not in all cases independently verified and should not necessarily be taken as the truth. Further, not all of the staff papers were updated as new material was developed or depositions of the subjects were taken. Consequently, they should be read as what they are: working documents summarizing relevant and irrelevant information, not all of which could be or was verified.

## i. Andrew Armstrong, Jr.

*Biographical Summary*

(868) Andrew Armstrong, Jr., was born on March 20, 1937, in Pittsburg, Tex. He left school after completing 11th grade and moved to Dallas.(994) He was then 16 years old and has resided in Dallas ever since.(995) He has had a variety of occupations since leaving school. His first job was as a caddymaster at River Hills Golf Course.(996) When Armstrong left there he went to work at Wilson's Cafeteria in the Republic Bank Building.(997) He then worked at Vick's Restaurant.(998) From there he went to Vinson Steel Corp. where he filled orders for cut stainless steel and magnesium.(999) From 1958 to March 18, 1961, Armstrong was in prison on a narcotics charge. After his release, he began working at the El Rancho Hotel as a night clerk.(1000) Following this he worked as a maintenance man at the Holiday Hills Apartments, which belonged to the Hunt Oil Co.(1001) Armstrong said he never met H. L. or Lamar Hunt.(1002) He worked at the apartments until Christmas 1961.(1003) In January 1962, he got a job at the Marilyn Belt Factory.(1004) While working there, he also took a part-time job at the

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\*Prepared by T. Mark Flanagan, Jr., Leslie H. Wizelman, Ann F. Taylor, staff researchers, Howard Shapiro, research attorney, and Donald A. Purdy, Jr., senior staff counsel.

\*\*A number of profiles are followed by the depositions of the individuals taken by the committee. In one case, a copy of the staff summary of the interview with the individual has been included.

Carousel Club for Jack Ruby.(1005) During June 1962, Armstrong began working full time for Ruby(1006) who employed him as a bartender and general maintenance man for a salary of approximately \$45 per week plus tips.(1007) Armstrong worked at the Carousel until February 1964.(1008)

(869) Armstrong had an arrest record, although it was not extensive.(1009) During the 1950's, he was arrested for burglary and received 2-years probation.(1010) He also had one narcotics arrest, for which he received a 5-year sentence.(1011) On March 18, 1961, he was released from the State penitentiary after 3 years.(1012) There was no indication of any association or connection with organized crime figures or involvement in organized illegal activities.

*Statements by Armstrong*

(870) The Warren Commission's examination of Armstrong was extremely comprehensive. He was interviewed by the FBI on several occasions and also testified before the Commission.(1013)

(871) As stated earlier, Armstrong was employed by Ruby from 1962 to February 1964. Armstrong testified before the Warren Commission that he first met Ruby in May 1962 when he asked him for a job.(1014) During an interview with the committee, however, Armstrong indicated that his first contact with Ruby had actually occurred during the 1950's while he was part of a song-and-dance group that performed in the vicinity of the Vegas Club.(1015) Nevertheless, he said that the first formal meeting occurred during mid-1962.(1016) In his deposition before the committee, Armstrong further explained that he had sung with a group called the Vinos who had appeared at the Vegas Club.(1017) At that time, he did not know Ruby well, and when he subsequently asked Ruby for a job, Ruby did not remember him.(1018)

(872) Armstrong's relationship with Ruby was that of employee to employer. When Armstrong first went to work for Ruby, he worked as a bartender and general maintenance man.(1019) Gradually, according to Armstrong, his duties and responsibilities increased.(1020)

\* \* \* my responsibilities grew in putting down the receipts in the books, going to the bank, things like that, and making sure that there was enough girls, there are enough waitresses, going and putting ads in the paper. They just grew.(1021)

(873) Armstrong told both the Warren Commission and the committee that Ruby operated the club on a cash basis.(1022) Ruby would go to the bank "once or twice a week,"(1023) but Armstrong believed Ruby kept most of his money "in his purse on his person."(1024) Employees and purchases for the club were paid in cash.(1025) The rent was paid with a cashier's check.(1026)

(874) In Armstrong's opinion, the financial condition of the Carousel was "not good."(1027) He stated that the average receipts were \$900 to \$1,000 per week.(1028) In his deposition, Armstrong said that in the fall of 1963 the club was "doing a little better than we had been in the past year."(1030) Armstrong stated that Ralph Paul had a financial interest in the club, but that Ruby did not.(1029) Regarding Paul, Armstrong stated that

\* \* \* if anybody gave him [Ruby] money, he probably would have got it from Ralph. That's the only place I know of him ever getting money. (1031)

(875) In another interview with the committee, Armstrong stated that during the weeks immediately prior to the assassination, Ruby had accumulated \$6,000, \$3,000 of which he had planned to give Paul. (1032) When Ruby was arrested, the \$3,000 was confiscated, and Armstrong gave the remaining \$3,000, which was in his possession, to Paul. (1033)

(876) Armstrong indicated that Ruby kept a pistol in a Merchants State Bank money bag. (1034) He did not recall ever seeing Ruby with the pistol in his pocket or stuck in his waist belt. (1035) After the club closed in the evenings, the receipts were turned over to Ruby, (1036) who would put the money in the money bag along with the pistol and take it with him. (1037)

(877) Armstrong stated that the Carousel Club was in good standing with the Dallas police, but there were no specific policemen who visited the club. (1038) Patrolmen would stop in to check on the club and have a cup of coffee. (1039) Armstrong told the Warren Commission that the policemen were given a discount on beer, the same price charged to newsmen, bellboys, and hotel clerks—40 cents. (1040) Armstrong stated that he had never seen members of the vice squad take anything to drink when they came to the club. (1041) When asked in his deposition if Ruby ever gave discount rates for beer Armstrong stated:

If he did, it wasn't that often; we could have had 40 cents. You know, I could have charged somebody less than I did the regular customers, like they would come and sit at the bar or something, if Jack OK'd it. I can't remember who all got the rates. It's been too long. (1042)

(878) When Armstrong was asked if the strippers employed in Ruby's club engaged in prostitution, he stated that there were a few who did, but they acted without Ruby's knowledge or consent. (1043) Ruby did not gamble, as far as Armstrong knew, although he did participate in a few poker games. (1044) He did not know of any other participants in these games, except for Ruby's roommate. (1045)

(879) Ruby was described by Armstrong as "always on the make." (1046) Ruby dated often, although Armstrong knew of no specific details. (1047) Armstrong denied that Ruby was a homosexual or that he had any sexual perversions. (1048)

(880) Armstrong also described Ruby as "worried and disturbed always." (1049) He stated that Ruby was often angry and threatened to fire him on several occasions. (1050) He had told the Warren Commission that Ruby never hit anyone but always gave the impression that he might do so at any time. (1051) Armstrong never knew Ruby to use any physical violence except to throw people out of the club. (1052)

(881) The only trips Armstrong could recall Ruby taking were to New York and New Orleans. (1053) He stated that the New York trip was to secure the services of a dancer named Jada. (1054) Armstrong

stated in his interview, however, that Ruby told him this trip was to sell a gun for a friend of his in Cuba. (1055) Armstrong indicated in his deposition that Ruby went to New York to visit a friend. (1056) Armstrong added that "it might have been the time when he [Ruby] bought those guns." (1057) When Armstrong was questioned further about the guns, he stated that Ruby bought three guns, but he did not know what kind. (1058) He bought one for Eva Grant, his sister, and one for "his friend" who was in Cuba. (1059) Armstrong added, "I don't know how he got it over." (1060) Armstrong had no knowledge of any trips to Cuba. (1061)

(882) In an FBI interview, Armstrong described his activities on November 22, 1963. (1062) He took a bus from his home and arrived in downtown Dallas at approximately 12:25 p.m. (1063) He walked to the Carousel, arriving there at approximately 12:30 p.m. (1064) While in the men's room, he heard sirens. (1065) Becoming curious, he turned on the radio and heard the announcement that the Presidential motorcade had been fired upon. (1066) He then attempted to awaken Curtis "Larry" Laverne Craford, who was sleeping in a room at the club. (1067) Unable to do so, he listened to the radio for a few more minutes. (1068) He then returned to Craford's room and this time woke him up. (1069) According to Armstrong, Ruby telephoned approximately 5 or 10 minutes later. (1070) He believed Ruby was calling from the Dallas Morning News because he could hear typewriters in the background, and it was Ruby's habit on Friday mornings to go to the newspaper offices to place his weekend advertisements for the club. (1071) Ruby talked to Armstrong for 3 or 4 minutes and informed him that: "If anything happens, we are going to close the club." (1072) Armstrong heard the official announcement of the President's death at approximately 1:30 p.m. (1073) About 15 or 20 minutes later, Ruby arrived at the club. (1074) Armstrong believes this was at approximately 1:45 or 1:50 p.m. (1075) Ruby informed him that the club would be closed for the next 3 days (1076) and then made several phone calls. (1077) Both heard over the radio that an Officer Tippit had been killed, and Ruby mentioned that he knew him. (1078) Armstrong told the FBI that Ruby remained at the club until approximately 4 p.m. (1079) In his Warren Commission testimony, however, Armstrong stated that Ruby left at approximately 2:35 p.m., returning at approximately 4 p.m. (1080) Armstrong indicated that Ruby was on the phone almost the entire time he was in the club. (1081) He claimed he heard Ruby make phone calls to Ralph Paul and to people in Detroit, Chicago, and Los Angeles. (1082) He also remembers that Ruby called Eva Grant and Dr. Coleman Jacobson. (1083) He stated that some time between 2 and 3 p.m., a woman called asking for Ruby and gave the name of Alace. (1084) Ruby was on another phone at the time of this call. (1085) Armstrong stated that when Ruby left the club, he took the money bag with the gun in it. (1086) Armstrong left the clubs at approximately 4:30 p.m. (1087).

(883) In his Warren Commission testimony, Armstrong stated that on Saturday, November 23, 1963, he spoke to Ruby at approximately 1 p.m. regarding Larry Craford's leaving the club. (1088) Ruby arrived at the club at about 6 or 7 that evening. (1089) He stayed for a

short time, leaving between 7 and 7:30.(1090) Armstrong closed the club and left at approximately 8 p.m.(1091) In an FBI interview, however, Armstrong had stated that his last contact with Ruby before the Oswald shooting was about 9 p.m. on Saturday evening.(1092) (884) Subsequent to Ruby's arrest, Armstrong talked to Melvin Belli, but did not testify at the trial.(1093) Belli did not use Armstrong because of his previous criminal record.(1094)

(885) Armstrong did visit Ruby in jail, but he stated they never discussed the killing of Lee Harvey Oswald.(1095) Rather, they discussed the business at the club, as Armstrong continued operating it after Ruby's arrest. Armstrong also delivered Ruby's mail and relayed any messages from Ruby's employees.(1096)

(886) Deposition before the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

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United States Federal Building  
U.S. Magistrate Courtroom 16-F23  
1100 Commerce Steet  
Dallas, Texas

Tuesday, May 23, 1978  
3:00 p.m.

APPEARANCES:

DONALD PURDY, Staff Counsel  
Select Committee on Assassinations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

LESLIE WEIZELMAN, Research Analyst  
Select Committee on Assassinations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

SWORN TESTIMONY OF

ANDREW ARMSTRONG, JR.

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Committee Rules and Resolutions

tendered to the witness.)

Whereupon,

ANDREW ARMSTRONG, JR.

was duly sworn and testified as follows:

## EXAMINATION

BY MR. PURDY:

Q Please state your full name for the record.

A Andrew Armstrong, Jr.

Q Please state your date and place of birth.

A March 20, 1937, Pittsburg, Texas.

Q What is your present address?

A 13512 Montfort, 1048.

Q That's in Dallas?

A Dallas.

Q How long have you resided at that address?

A Four years.

Q Where did you live before that?

A Pleasant Grove, Dallas.

Q And how long have you lived in Dallas all

together?

A Since 1948.

Q What is your current employment?

A S&amp;D Oyster Company.

1 Q And that's in Dallas?

2 A That's in Dallas.

3 Q How long have you worked there?

4 A A year and seven months.

5 Q Are you married?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Do you have any children?

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q What is your wife's name?

10 A Mary Ann Armstrong.

11 Q How long have you been married to her?

12 A Six years.

13 Q Following the assassination the Carousel Club

14 was closed.

15 When was that?

16 A February, the first of February.

17 Q It was closed in February, 1964?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q What did you do for employment after that?

20 A Sold wigs.

21 Q You sold wigs in Dallas?

22 A Yes.

23 Q What was the name of the company?

24 A I just thought of it the other day. I was

25 telling somebody about it.



1                   A friend of mine named Clint  
2 Patrick had it. Maybe I will think of it down  
3 the line, the name of the company.

4                   It was one of those things where  
5 you put a bunch of wigs on and you peddle them,  
6 you know, peddle wigs up and down the street.

7                   The Crown and Glory Wig Company.

8   Q           It is a matter of public record in the Warren  
9 Commission Report the arrest that you had prior  
10 to the assassination.

11                  I guess the most significant one  
12 was in terms of sentence was the three years  
13 you served for marijuana; is that right?

14   A           That's right.

15   Q           The record indicates that you got out of  
16 prison on March 18th, 1961; is that record  
17 correct?

18   A           March 18, 1961? I would have to check my  
19 records, but I am pretty sure that is probably  
20 pretty close.

21   Q           Who did you go to work for when you got out of  
22 prison?

23   A           Jack.

24   Q           And what --

25   A           No, no, no. I went to work first for -- the first

1           job I had was at a little motel up on Harry  
2           Hines. I don't remember the name of it, but it  
3           should be in the records there somewhere.

4       Q     What were the circumstances surrounding your  
5           arrest for the marijuana?

6       A     Well, the circumstances were, a friend of mine  
7           was dealing, and I was with him.

8       Q     So they arrested you for dealing or for possession?

9       A     They arrested me for dealing.

10      Q     And they convicted you of dealing?

11      A     The guy -- they only picked up one. They only  
12           remembered one name, and that was mine, you know.

13                   It was just the circumstances where I  
14           never could get him to come down and tell them  
15           that he was the one and it wasn't me.

16      Q     Has he subsequently gone to prison for any  
17           offenses?

18      A     Been in there ever since.

19      Q     What is his name?

20      A     His name is Leon Adams.

21      Q     Was he part of a larger operation or was he  
22           pretty much a one-man --

23      A     One man.

24      Q     Do you know where he was obtaining the drugs?

25      A     No.

1 Q Did he have a regular supplier?

2 A I don't know.

3 He kept grass all of the time, you  
4 know.

5 Q Was any kind of criminal organization in Dallas  
6 in terms of like franchising drug sales or  
7 was it disorganized and loose?

8 A Disorganized.

9 Q You don't think your friend had to pay off anyone  
10 to conduct his business?

11 A No, I doubt it. He never did have no more than  
12 a little dab of it, anyway, you know.

13 Q It was not a major operation?

14 A The only thing I ever seen really was cigarettes  
15 around on the street, you know.

16 Q In 1955, you were arrested for burglary.

17 Were you involved with anyone else  
18 in that event?

19 A Well, that was the case where we was out one  
20 night and we came upon a recreation center and  
21 it was open.

22 Q You came up on what?

23 A Recreation center, and the recreation center  
24 was open.

25 Apparently somebody else had went

1 in there, so it was -- it was a neighborhood  
2 recreation center. We knew the place ver well,  
3 so instead of going home we just stopped and  
4 baked some cakes and things like that.

5 The guys that was in it, that was  
6 in the recreation center, had broke in the  
7 school house. I think that's the way it was.

8 Okay. Now, I caught up with them  
9 after the schoolhouse, so I got put in for both  
10 of them. There wasn't nothing I could tell  
11 them, you know, so we baked cakes, I think,  
12 from supplies that was brought over from the  
13 schoolhouse.

14 Q Had they been involved in previous burglaries  
15 or breakins?

16 A I don't know. I doubt -- I don't know.

17 Q Do you know if they were involved in any such  
18 subsequent to that time?

19 A I believe so.

20 I don't recall what, but most of  
21 them stayed into trouble, you know.

22 Q So you believe they were arrested for similar  
23 incidents later?

24 A I think. I think I am the only one that has  
25 stayed out of trouble since, you know, that is,

1 big trouble.

2 In fact, I don't even remember all  
3 of them's' names.

4 Q Do you remember some of their names?

5 A Let's see. I think Jones was with us.

6 Q What is his first name?

7 A Curlie or something like that. Curlie Jones,  
8 and I think that -- who else was it. I don't  
9 recall.

10 Q In your Warren Commission testimony you indicated  
11 that you were considering trying to get a  
12 pardon for the marijuana arrest, and I believe  
13 it also indicated that you had to get a sponsor  
14 who was a member of the police or sheriff's  
15 department.

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Do you remember that?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q Did you ever obtain such a sponsor?

20 A Yes. I obtained him, and I knew you was going  
21 to ask me his name, but I can't remember it.

22 He used to be on the corner up there  
23 on Akard up in front of the Adolphus Hotel.

24 Q Do you remember considering a number of people  
25 for a sponsor before you picked one?

1 A. No. He was the one that told me about it, the  
2 policeman. He was the one that told me about  
3 it. He said that, you know, he would work on  
4 it, go talk to the Judge.

5 He said, "I will sign them," you  
6 know. "I will sign the papers for you."

7 Q How did you get friendly with him?

8 A. Just by being on the corner all the time. I  
9 would eat there at the drugstore at the  
10 Adolphus. He was always there.

11 He and I was on the same corner every  
12 day, you know, all day.

13 Q Does it refresh your recollection to know that  
14 in your Warren Commission testimony you indicated  
15 that you were considering a Lieutenant Gilmore  
16 and a Sheriff Decker?

17 A. I could have said I considered them, yes.

18 Q Were they, either one, individuals you finally  
19 decided upon?

20 A. I don't recall. I would have to go get those  
21 papers.

22 Maybe somebody else signed those  
23 papers other than that policeman. I almost  
24 called his name then.

25 He used to bring me fish when he

1           went fishing.

2   Q       Well, we can come back to it or talk to you at  
3           a subsequent time and see if you can recall that.

4   A       Okay.

5   Q       There was a minor difference of facts in between  
6           your Warren Commission testimony and the  
7           previous interview you had with our staff  
8           concerning the first time you met Jack Ruby.

9   A       Uh-huh.

10   Q       The Warren Commission indicated that you met him  
11           in the spring of 1962 when you first went into  
12           the Carousel for a job.

13                       Was that the first time you met  
14           Jack Ruby or had their been a previous contact  
15           in the late 1950's?

16   A       Yes. I used to go over to -- with a group that --  
17           we came out of West Dallas, and we used to go  
18           over there and sing. We used to take them  
19           over there and they would sing and make money  
20           by people pitching pennies and quarters to them,  
21           you know.

22   Q       Would you sing near the club or in the club?

23   A       In the club. In the Vegas Club.

24   Q       And that was when Jack Ruby ran the Vegas Club?

25   A       That was when Ruby ran the Vegas Club.

1 I knew Jack -- I didn't know him  
2 that well.

3 Q But you knew who he was and he knew who you were?

4 A Yes.

5 No. No. He didn't know who I was.  
6 I am sorry.

7 When I went up to get a job, he  
8 didn't know who I was. I told him that I used  
9 to come over there with the Vinos, and he  
10 remembered me but I could have been with them,  
11 because there was a guy always with them. I used  
12 to pick the money up.

13 Q The group was called the Vinos?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Was there any particular reason you hadn't  
16 mentioned that incident to the Warren Commission?

17 A I don't know why I didn't mention it to them.  
18 Maybe it was just -- out of all of the things  
19 that was happening then, you know, man, you know,  
20 everybody was shook up.

21 Q You mentioned that you had visited the Vegas  
22 Club.

23 Did you ever visit the Longhorn  
24 Ranch Club?

25 A The Longhorn?



1 Q At Corinth and Industrial Streets?

2 A Yeah. I have been to the Longhorn.

3 Oh, what did I got to the Longhorn  
4 for? For some reason a couple of times.

5 Q Do you remember the part of the club called the  
6 Plantation?

7 A Yes. The Old Plantation, sure.

8 Q Did you go there for entertainment?

9 A No. I don't think we ever went there for  
10 entertainment.

11 Yes, we did. We sure did. It was  
12 in the '50's sometime, but I don't remember.

13 Q In other words, you went there just for  
14 enjoyment?

15 A No, no. I went there with the group.

16 Q With the group?

17 A They was singing there. The same group, the  
18 Vinos.

19 Q Did you know who was running the Longhorn Ranch  
20 Club at that time?

21 A Not unless it was Pappy.

22 Q Pappy who?

23 A Pappy Dolson.

24 Pappy is the only one I can think  
25 of right now.

1 Q Do you remember Jack Ruby operating the Longhorn  
2 Ranch Club?

3 A No.

4 Q Do you remember Dewey Groom operating the  
5 Longhorn Ranch Club?

6 A Yeah, I remember Dewey operating it.

7 Q Did you know him personally?

8 A No.

9 Q You just knew who he was?

10 A I just knew who he was.

11 Q Did you know of any of his other activities  
12 besides that?

13 A No.

14 Q Did you ever visit the Colony Club?

15 A Sure.

16 Q Was that with this group?

17 A I visited the Colony Club when I worked for Jack.

18 Q What caused you to visit the Colony Club then?

19 A Well, because I knew the bartender there.

20 Q Who was the bartender?

21 A Let's see. Danny's brother. Let's see.

22 , Danny was the bartender at the  
23 Theatre Lounge, and he had a couple of brothers  
24 that did the bar at the Colony Club, and I don't  
25 remember their names.

1 Q Do you remember Danny's last name?

2 A No, I don't.

3 Q Did you ever work in the Colony Club or the  
4 Theatre Lounge?

5 A No.

6 Q Did you ever apply for a job there?

7 A No.

8 Q Did you know the owners of those clubs?

9 A Sure. Barney and Abe.

10 Q Weinstein?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Did you know them personally?

13 A Not personally. I just knew them, you know.  
14 They knew my name and I knew theirs.

15 I would visit their boys and they  
16 would come down to visit me sometimes, you know,  
17 when we didn't have anything to do.

18 Usually we all got down to the  
19 clubs fairly early, 10:00 o'clock, you know, to  
20 let the beer in and get cleaned up and everything,  
21 and then in the afternoon before business started  
22 we didn't have anything to do, you know, and  
23 I would walk up to the liquor store or go across  
24 the street to the drugstore, you know, and we  
25 would visit each other, you know.

1 Q Was there any strict limitations on blacks  
2 going to some of these clubs in the late '50's?

3 A Oh, sure.

4 Q Were there special sections within the club or  
5 were there just certain clubs you couldn't go  
6 to?

7 A Well, the problem was, you know, you just didn't  
8 go, you know.

9 Q But you said that you visited Abe's Colony Club  
10 and the Theatre Lounge?

11 A Yes, but that was all right because I worked  
12 in the business.

13 I didn't go in to drink or have a  
14 beer or anything.

15 Q You just went in to see people there?

16 A Yes. Holler at the band, you know. I knew the  
17 girls.

18 Q Did you ever visit the Egyptian Lounge?

19 A Not then. I have recently.

20 Q You didn't in the late '50's or early '60's?

21 A No.

22 Q When would you say, approximately, the first  
23 time was when you visited the Egyptian Lounge?

24 A In the '70's, '72, '73.

25 I met Corkie, and I might have seen

1 Joe a few times before that. I don't remember  
2 where.

3 Q You are talking about the Campisis?

4 A Yes, but I met Corkie when I worked for Arthur's  
5 Restaurant on McKinney starting in -- oh, what  
6 was it -- '73, so I have been knowing Corkie  
7 since '73.

8 Now, I have been asked this before.  
9 I might have seen Papa Joe before that, and  
10 Joe could have been in the Carousel. I could  
11 have seen him at the Vegas Club.

12 Q When you say Papa Joe, you are talking about Joe  
13 Campisi?

14 A I am talking about Corkie's father, because Joe  
15 seemed to have remembered me from somewhere, and  
16 the only other place he could remember -- I know  
17 I didn't meet him at Arthur's, because I don't  
18 ever remember him coming in there with Corkie.

19 The only other restaurant I know  
20 he had been, so the only other place I could have  
21 met him -- as a matter of fact, I just talked  
22 to him two or three months ago.

23 My little nephew got out of prison  
24 and went to work over there, and I didn't want  
25 him to work over there, so I went over there and

1           talked to him about it.

2       Q       Went over to work at the Egyptian Lounge?

3       A       Yes.

4       Q       Why didn't you want him to work there?

5       A       Well, you know, you have got a lot of hooks  
6               working there and, you know, I am hip on Joe's,  
7               what they say about the Campisis, you know, so  
8               I just figured it was the best thing for him  
9               not to work over there, you know.

10      Q       In other words, your nephew had been in trouble,  
11               and --

12      A       Yeah, he was before, and I went by and talked to  
13               the parole officer, and she said that she had  
14               thought about it after she okayed him to work  
15               over there, so we all got together and decided  
16               he should quit.

17                       That was just here recently.

18      Q       So he did quit?

19      A       Yeah. He is working at a car wash now.

20      Q       The Warren Commission record is a little unclear  
21               on exactly the nature of your responsibilities  
22               working for Jack Ruby.

23                       Apparently they began, as you  
24               described, where you began working as a part-time  
25               bartender?

- 1 A Uh-huh.
- 2 Q How often did you work in the early stages for  
3 Jack Ruby, how often each week?
- 4 A I worked regular each week.
- 5 Q So it wasn't just a part-time bartender job?
- 6 A No.
- 7 Q You started out, when you went in that night  
8 you started full time?
- 9 A Maybe they mistook my cleaning up and bartending,  
10 too, as being part time.
- 11 Q Oh, I see. You worked for him full time, but  
12 some of your job was bartending and you did other  
13 things?
- 14 A My job was doing everything there, getting all  
15 of the beer and stuff, everything.
- 16 Q Did your responsibilities change over the time  
17 you were there or --
- 18 A No. My responsibilities grew.
- 19 Q How long were there, about 18 months?
- 20 A I was there up until the time he -- until, well,  
21 January of -- I mean February of '74.
- 22 Q How long did you work for him, then?
- 23 A From '61, from the time I got out of prison,  
24 after about three months, I imagine. I don't  
25 know how long I had been out.

1 I didn't work at that motel long. I  
2 don't recall, but like I say, around three  
3 months.

4 After that I was just passing the  
5 Carousel one day when I was downtown looking  
6 for a job, and I just walked up there.

7 Q So you say your responsibilities grew.

8 What extra responsibilities did you  
9 get other than bartending and cleaning everything  
10 up?

11 A Well, my responsibilities grew in putting down  
12 the receipts in the books, going to the bank,  
13 things like that, and making sure that there was  
14 enough girls, there was enough waitresses, going  
15 and putting ads in the paper.

16 They just grew. Then, it was just  
17 like you would be a manager of a club, you know.

18 Q So they grew up until the time of the assassina-  
19 tion, and then you were actually in charge after  
20 the assassination for awhile?

21 A Sure. Sure.

22 There wasn't anybody but me in charge  
23 after the assassination.

24 Q What dealings did you have or did Jack Ruby  
25 have with the American Guild of Variety Artists,



1 the entertainment union the strippers were a  
2 member of?

3 A Well, he got his strippers through them.

4 Q How would that work?

5 A Well, they was members of the union, and the  
6 union girls got paid more than non-union girls,  
7 you know.

8 The union girls were considered to  
9 be the best. They was considered -- you know,  
10 they traveled all over the country.

11 Some of them had big names. Some  
12 of them had billboard names.

13 Well, Jack would call his -- the  
14 girls' booking agent, some of the agents, and  
15 tell them who he wanted, and they would send  
16 them over, you know, they would get together  
17 and book the girls in there, you know.

18 Q Would he only book union girls?

19 A At one time we did have mostly union girls.  
20 He wanted mostly union girls, because that's  
21 what Abe and Barney had, and he wanted it like  
22 Abe and Barney.

23 Q You are talking about the Weinstains?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Did the union have a rule that if you hire some

1 union you have to hire all union?

2 A. You had to call the girls amateurs. You couldn't  
3 have them as professionals.

4 Q. Unless they were members of the union?

5 A. Yeah. It worked that way sometimes.

6 Listen, it's been so long on some  
7 of these things that they have slipped my mind  
8 as to how these things worked.

9 Q. Did he have to pay the union a fee for getting --  
10 you said he had to contact them about getting  
11 strippers.

12 Did he have to pay the union a fee?

13 A. Yeah, we had to send the union money for using  
14 the girls, or you had to pay half of the girls  
15 as long as they worked for you. There was  
16 something we had to pay the union for so many  
17 girls.

18 If we had four girls, it was so  
19 much for each girl that we had to pay the  
20 union.

21 Now, I don't recall how much it was.

22 Q. So it wasn't just a one-shot deal? When you  
23 first hired one you would pay them something  
24 else; it would be kind of a regular thing that  
25 ever so often you would pay them something

1           and --

2     A.     Yeah, once a month or whatever it was.

3     Q.     Did you ever have to do any work in contacting

4           the union?

5     A.     I have carried money over there to the union.

6     Q.     Prior to the assassination?

7     A.     I would say yes. Both probably after and --

8           I don't recall going afterwards, but yeah.'

9     Q.     Did you pay them in cash?

10    A.     Most all of our business was transacted in cash.

11    Q.     The business with the union was in cash also?

12    A.     Yes. That's all we had was cash.

13    Q.     Was there anything that was paid by check?

14    A.     No, sir.

15    Q.     Was the rent paid by cash?

16    A.     Cashier's check. I went to the bank and got it.

17    Q.     In other words, you didn't use a cashier's check

18           for the --

19    A.     If we used a check it was a cashier's check.

20           It would either be a cashier's check or -- well,

21           mostly cashier's check.

22    Q.     But the money you took to this union, you took

23           in cash?

24    A.     I can't remember.

25    Q.     Approximately how much money was involved that

1           you would take on a visit to the union?

2   A       Oh, a couple of hundred dollars, 175, things  
3           like that.

4                       The biggest bill I had was the lights,  
5           the electric bill. That usually would run  
6           seven or eight or five hundred dollars a month.

7                       I remember paying all of -- I don't  
8           know whether I paid the rent or not. Yeah, I  
9           did pay the rent at times.

10   Q       When you took the money to the union, did you have  
11           to itemize, like did you have to list the number  
12           of people or did you just pay them a general  
13           amount of money or --

14   A       Yeah, I just gave it to them. They knew how  
15           much they had coming anyway. If we had so many  
16           girls, they had so much money coming.

17   Q       Who was the person you would see over at the  
18           union?

19   A       I have forgotten his name. He used to come down  
20           to the club a lot. I don't recall.

21   Q       Is his name Tom Palmer?

22   A       Tom Palmer? I couldn't say.

23   Q       How about Vincent Lee?

24   A       Call another one.

25   Q       James Henry Dolan?

1 A No.

2 Q But you remember somebody who worked at AGVA,  
3 at the union, came to the club a lot?

4 A Yeah. They had their offices over where the  
5 Greyhound Bus Station is now. I mean Continental  
6 Bus Station.

7 Q Did they have a big office?

8 A No. 'It was no bigger than the rest of the  
9 offices over there. They was all basically the  
10 same.

11 Q Basically one or two or three people? How many  
12 people including secretaries?

13 A One secretary to a guy. That's all I remember.

14 Q So whoever was the AGVA person was the one who  
15 came over occasionally?

16 A Right.

17 Q What would be his purpose in coming to the club,  
18 just to see how things were going?

19 A Yeah, to just come in and have a few beers and  
20 holler at the girls.

21 Q Would he get special treatment? Would he get  
22 free drinks and things?

23 A No.

24 Q Would he be on the rate that a number of  
25 different categories of people were on, like

1       clerks and policemen or whatever were able to  
2       buy beer at a cheaper rate? Would he be on that  
3       cheaper rate?

4       A.   No. The beer was 60 cents, if I remember right.  
5       The beer was 60 cents, and if anybody went in  
6       their pocket, they paid the same thing.

7               Very seldom Jack told me he got  
8       somebody's tab. You know, we was open for  
9       business. We wasn't open to give away anything.

10              I can recall Jack picking up, buying  
11       a round of drinks, but I can't remember who it  
12       was for, you know, at times.

13       Q.   Your Warren Commission testimony indicated there  
14       was a discount rate of like 40 cents a beer  
15       for certain types of people, policemen, some  
16       clerks, or something like that.

17              Do you remember that?

18       A.   Well, like bartenders and cocktail waitresses  
19       and things like that?

20       Q.   Yes.

21       A.   If we did, it wasn't that often. We could have  
22       had 40 cents. You know, I could have charged  
23       somebody less than I did the regular customers,  
24       like they would come and sit at the bar or  
25       something, if Jack okayed it.

1 I can't remember who all got the  
2 rates. It's been too long.

3 Q In the fall of 1963, do you remember Jack Ruby  
4 or your club having any problems with the union?

5 Do you remember any problems about  
6 the amateur night policy that they changed  
7 sometime in the fall?

8 A It was something like -- I don't recall. I  
9 think it was something about the amateurs, but  
10 I don't recall what it was about.

11 Q How did the amateur nights work that you had?

12 A Well, these girls would come in and they would  
13 get so much money, whatever it was, \$10 or  
14 \$15 a piece, to get up there and do their little  
15 thing.

16 Sometimes it was -- the audience  
17 thought it was people just coming out of the  
18 audience, you know.

19 They didn't go up in a gown. They  
20 just went up there in regular street clothes.

21 Q The idea was to let them think that it was  
22 a girl off the street?

23 A Yeah, but a lot of times we had the same  
24 customers, and a lot of the customers knew that  
25 they wasn't off the street.

1 Q But they kind of liked them going up in their  
2 street clothes and taking their street clothes  
3 off?

4 A Yes. And it was funny, too.

5 Q But by the word "amateur," obviously you meant to  
6 convey the impression that these were people who  
7 just came off the street and decided to take  
8 their clothes off?

9 A Yes. That was the whole idea. And all the clubs  
10 used the same girls. They would leave the  
11 Colony Club and come to the Theatre Lounge and  
12 leave the Theatre Lounge and come to the Carousel.

13 Q So what was the difference between those girls  
14 and the union's girls? Were the union strippers  
15 just better or --

16 A Yeah, they was better, better trained, prettier,  
17 more sexier, you know.

18 Q Better pay, too?

19 A It was strictly art, yeah. Better pay. You  
20 know, their job is to get up there and tease  
21 somebody.

22 Well, the amateur was funny. It  
23 was something for the people to laugh at.

24 Q Well, in the teasing by the strippers was there  
25 any problem of, you know, the men getting out



1 of hand, the men wanting to take the teasing  
2 seriously?

3 A. No. Very seldom. There might have been a few  
4 times. I couldn't recall the exact incident,  
5 but there might have been a few times when a  
6 guy would try to reach up and grab one of the  
7 girls.

8 If he did, Jack would throw his butt  
9 out, you know.

10 Q. Was there any problem with the strippers being  
11 engaged in prostitution?

12 A. There was a few on their own, but Jack didn't  
13 know anything about it. If he had, he would  
14 probably have killed them. He didn't allow that.

15 Q. He didn't allow it?

16 A. No.

17 Q. So he didn't allow the strippers to solicit the  
18 customers?

19 A. No. The only thing he wanted them to do was  
20 sell the champagne, sell as much champagne as  
21 they could, get their fees and get out of there,  
22 you know. That was it, you know, and if he  
23 knew one of the girls had told some guy to  
24 follow her home or go across the street to the  
25 hotel, and Jack used to watch. He used to leave

1           early and go watch where the girls were going.  
2           They knew where he was, you know.

3                       I mean, if any one of those girls  
4           got anything to pull the wool over Jack, it  
5           wasn't too hard to pull it over Jack's eyes  
6           because he was such a nice guy.

7   Q       So, you knew some of them were --

8   A       Sure, I knew.

9                       Well, heck, they would give me  
10          \$10 or \$12 or put a few bucks in my pocket every  
11          now and then, you know, to keep me quiet, and  
12          I didn't say anything.

13                      You know, I needed it. Jack didn't  
14          pay me that much.

15   Q       Were any of the involved with any of the  
16          policemen?

17   A       No. Well, one girl went with a policeman.  
18          Kathy Kay, but that was known to everybody,  
19          you know.

20   Q       What is the policeman's name she went with?

21   A       Harry or something like that.

22   Q       Harry Olson?

23   A       Yeah.

24   Q       Did he come in the club a lot?

25   A       No, he didn't come in a lot, but he waited on

1 her downstairs most of the time to take her home,  
2 you know, if he wasn't on duty.

3 I mean, you know, it was a thing  
4 where they was going to get married.

5 Kathy was one of the cleanest --  
6 Kathy and Tammy True was probably two of the  
7 straightest girls there that I can recall.

8 The rest of the girls did a little  
9 nipping every now and then, you know, but those  
10 two girls hit that door and got in their car  
11 and was gone to their man, you know.

12 Q Do you remember Karen Bennett Carlin?

13 A I don't recall.

14 Q That went by the name of Little Lynn?

15 A Little Lynn, yes.

16 Q Was she involved in any of that kind of activity?

17 A Well, if she was that kind of girl -- Little  
18 Lynn wasn't there that long for me to get to  
19 know her that well.

20 Q Were any of these women or any of the other  
21 employees involved in any other illegal activities?

22 A Not as I know of.

23 Q Were there any drugs around?

24 A No. There wasn't any. I never did smell the  
25 smoke of grass or anything.

1 I have seen my share of dope addicts,  
2 and I don't think any of them was on dope, you  
3 know, heavy stuff.

4 I could have told, I would have  
5 known if they had of been.

6 Q Did you have any problem with pushers or pimps  
7 coming into the club?

8 A No pushers. Maybe a few pimps.

9 Q But they didn't try to solicit --

10 A Oh, no. No. They were probably trying to see  
11 what they could pick up, you know.

12 Q Did you know Joyce McDonald?

13 A Joyce McDonald? I can't say. There was three  
14 or four thousand girls that went through that  
15 place when I worked there, the little time I  
16 did, and I probably couldn't call 15 of them's  
17 names.

18 Q Do you remember Jada?

19 A Yeah, I remember Jada. How can you forget Jada?

20 Q Do you know how Jack went about hiring her?

21 A Well, all I remember is Jack got a contact  
22 out of New Orleans, and he probably -- being in  
23 the business he was in, he knew that she was one  
24 of the top-billed girls, and at the time he needed  
25 him a top-billed girl because the Colony Club

1           and the Theatre Lounge both had top-billed girls,  
2           and he was trying to bust through the rank, you  
3           know. He was trying to get up there with them,  
4           so he got Jada to come in.

5   Q       So Jack's club wasn't as successful like the  
6           Colony Club or the Theatre Lounge?

7   A       I would say it wasn't. They probably did more  
8           than we did, but as far as I am concerned, I  
9           don't think Jack should have even been thinking  
10          about being in competition with them, because I  
11          thought we were doing pretty good ourselves, you  
12          know.

13   Q       But it was something that worried him?

14   A       It was something that worried him, yeah.

15   Q       It was something that got him to go to New Orleans  
16          to try to hire this Jada?

17   A       Yeah. He was always worrying about not letting  
18          the Weinsteins get away from him, maybe not  
19          trying to be bigger than they was, but he sure  
20          didn't want to lag behind, you know.

21   Q       Was his primary concern financial or was it  
22          like status --

23   A       Status rank.

24   Q       Well, how was he doing financially in the fall  
25          of 1963?

1 A Well, we was doing about the same thing. We  
2 maybe had -- doing a little better than we had  
3 been the past year. Just like know, it's hard  
4 to tell how I am doing because I make cash money  
5 every day.

6 When you are just dealing in cash  
7 and you have got a partner, a silent partner and  
8 you have to pass on to him some of that cash  
9 it's pretty hard to tell.

10 Q Well, was he making his payments; was he paying  
11 the rent?

12 A Yeah, we was making most of the payments. We  
13 was never behind on the rent or anything. We  
14 didn't get the lights cut off.

15 Q Were you ever behind in the union payments?

16 A Not that I can recall. Maybe Jack might have got  
17 mad a few times and didn't want to pay them and  
18 didn't send it over there on time, but I think  
19 he always eventually paid them.

20 Q What might he have gotten mad with the union  
21 about?

22 A You see, when the girls, whenever they would  
23 have a squabble with Jack, they would take it  
24 up with the union, you understand, and then the  
25 union would call up Jack.

1                   You know, he got into squabbles with  
2                   the girls sometimes. Some of the girls tried  
3                   to pull their G-string back and he didn't want  
4                   that, you know.

5                   He would get on them pretty heavy.

6       Q       Did he have any problems with Jada in the fall  
7                   of 1963?

8       A       Yeah. Jada was one of the ones that pulled the  
9                   G-string back.

10      Q       Do you remember the circumstances around the  
11                  particular occasion when a talent scout might  
12                  have been in the audience?

13      A       If it was the same night that Jack and Jada got  
14                  into it, I don't recall the talent agents being  
15                  in the audience, but I know eventually we wound  
16                  up in Judge Richburg's office, in Bill Decker's  
17                  office with Judge Richburg under a peace bond.

18      Q       How did that get settled, that dispute between  
19                  Jada and Jack? It didn't go to a trial or  
20                  anything, did it?

21      A       No.

22      Q       How did it get settled?

23      A       I guess it got settled after Jada left town, you  
24                  know, after she was gone.

25                  I don't remember if Jada kept working

1 after that or not. I don't remember whether she  
2 finished her contract out or not. I just don't  
3 recall.

4 Q She had a pretty expensive contract with Jack,  
5 didn't she?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Do you remember how much it was?

8 A It was over 300, I think. I don't remember how  
9 much it was.

10 Q Was he hard pressed to meet that payment?

11 A No.

12 Q Did he mind paying her that much? Did he think  
13 she was worth that much?

14 A Listen, if Jack could have gypped her down, he  
15 would have. I am pretty sure he probably asked  
16 her two or three times or more, you know. If  
17 he had thought he could have, you know, to take  
18 less money he would have gypped her down.

19 He was always teasing the girls that  
20 they made too much money. Not teasing, but  
21 serious.

22 Q Well, was there a time in the fall of 1963 that  
23 Jack got particularly upset with the large contract  
24 of Jada because of the financial situation of  
25 his club, because the competition was doing so



1 much better than him?

2 Do you remember that?

3 A I don't remember him getting -- repeat that again.

4 What reason?

5 Q That the club was in financial trouble because  
6 the competition was doing a lot better because  
7 of their use of amateur nights?

8 A No.

9 Q They were drawing a lot more customers in and  
10 Jack's business was hurting. Do you remember  
11 that in the fall of 1963?

12 A No. We was using amateurs, too.

13 Q But at some point the union put a stop to the  
14 use of amateur nights in the fall of 1963.

15 Do you remember Jack being mad because  
16 the union made him stop and didn't make the  
17 Weinsteins stop?

18 A There could have been something like that  
19 happened.

20 Q What would an explanation be?

21 A I couldn't be sure.

22 Q What would an explanation be as to why the union  
23 would make Jack stop but they wouldn't make the  
24 Weinsteins stop?

25 A I don't know.

1 Q Do you know if there was any special relationship  
2 between the Weinstains and the union? Did he  
3 have some inside track?

4 A Well, they used more girls than Jack.

5 Q So they would make more money for the union?

6 A Yeah. You know, there might have been something  
7 like that happened but I just can't go back that  
8 far.

9 Do you know how long that's been?  
10 I'm sorry. I just can't, you know, it just don't  
11 come to me that way.

12 Q Do you remember who Jack's contact was in  
13 New Orleans?

14 A No, I don't.

15 Q Do you remember a Harold Tannenbaum?

16 A No. I know he had a contact, but I don't know  
17 who it was.

18 Q Was it one that ever came to visit the club?

19 A No. Could have. A lot of people came and  
20 visited, you know.

21 When you are busy you don't ever get  
22 a chance to . . . .

23 Q Were there any problems that Jack and the club  
24 were encountering in the fall of 1963 that was  
25 different from before? Were there any special

1 things that were bothering Jack Ruby or bothering  
2 the club?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Were there any particular financial problems of  
5 the club then?

6 A. Not that I know of.

7 Q. Do you know if he was in debt at all?

8 A. No more than usual.

9 Q. Did Jack Ruby ever discuss the possibility of  
10 him moving to a new apartment shortly before the  
11 assassination?

12 A. He could have.

13 Q. Do you remember him talking about the possibility  
14 of moving to the Turtle Creek area?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Were there any times prior to the assassination  
17 that the club was doing particularly well,  
18 whether Jack Ruby seemed to be doing particularly  
19 well financially?

20 A. Well, that's kind of hard to say. We was always  
21 doing a little bit better and a little bit  
22 better.

23 Dallas was getting more conventions,  
24 and as Dallas got more conventions, we did a  
25 little better.

1                   Fridays and Saturdays was family  
2                   night, but we depended on the single guys at  
3                   the convention for Sunday, Monday, Tuesday,  
4                   Wednesday and Thursdays.

5                   Things were picking up. More people  
6                   was coming in to Dallas.

7                   I would say, yes, I think that Jack  
8                   was doing better than, I believe he was doing  
9                   better in '63 than he was in '62. I think he  
10                  done better in '62 than he did in '61.

11                  Beer didn't go up that much during  
12                  that period of time. I mean from the wholesaler.

13               Q    Did you ever meet or did you ever know of  
14                  Martin Gimble?

15               A    I don't recall that name.

16               Q    Did you meet or did you know of Mike Shore, a  
17                  public relations man from Los Angeles?

18               A    No.

19               Q    Did you know or did you know of Mr. Frank  
20                  Goldstein?

21               A    (Shakes head.)

22               Q    Did you know of Jack being involved with any  
23                  partners in the Carousel Club?

24               A    Just his old buddy partner.

25               Q    Ralph Paul?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. You stated in your Warren Commission testimony  
3 that Ralph Paul had invested money in the club  
4 but that Jack had not invested money in the  
5 club, correct, that Jack was the manager and not  
6 an owner?

7 A. If I did that then, that was true.

8 Q. In other words, you don't have a specific  
9 recollection of Jack Ruby ever having invested  
10 money in the club himself?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Did you know or do you know of Mr. Joe Slayton?

13 A. Joe Slayton? He could have been in there. The  
14 name sounds familiar, but I don't recall.

15 Q. Do you know or do you know of Joe Bond?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Did Jack Ruby ever tell you why he moved from  
18 Chicago to Dallas?

19 A. Let's see. If he did, I don't remember now.

20 No, I don't recall whether he told  
21 me why. I don't recall.

22 Q. Did he ever mention any ongoing business he  
23 had in Chicago even after he moved to Dallas?

24 A. No. The only thing he ever talked about was his  
25 prize fighting friends, his boxing friends.

1 Q Do you remember any of their names?

2 A No, not offhand I don't.

3 Q Let me ask you a few names and see if you can  
4 recall them.

5 Do you know or do you know of Lennie  
6 Patrick?

7 A No.

8 Q Dave Yar<sup>a</sup>os?

9 A No.

10 Q <sup>1/</sup>Erwin Weiner?

11 A No.

12 Q Marty Fields?

13 A No.

14 Q Sam<sup>o</sup> Yar<sup>o</sup>os?

15 A No.

16 Q Lawrence Meyers?

17 A Wait a minute. Marty Fields.

18 Q Marty Fields also went by the name of Marty  
19 Schwartz. A boxer.

20 A Yeah. That is the one he was talking about.

21 Q He talked about being involved in the promotion  
22 of some of his fights?

23 A No. He would just tell stories about it, you  
24 know, when he and Marty did this or he and Marty  
25 did that.

1                   We would sit down and he used to tell  
2 stories, you know, when he was in a real good  
3 mood about things that happened in Chicago, but  
4 I don't recall any of the stories, you know.

5 Q Did you know or do you know of Paul Dorffman?

6 A No.

7 Q Or Allen Dorffman?

8 A No.

9 Q Or W. W. Litchfield?

10 A No.

11 Q Or David Elatkin?

12 A No.

13 Q Or Gus Alex?

14 A No.

15 Q Do you remember any times when Jack Ruby returned  
16 to Chicago?

17 A The only time Jack left when I worked for him,  
18 that I can recall, was when he went to New Orleans  
19 and when he went to New York.

20 Q The time of the New Orleans trip was to hire  
21 Jada?

22 A I believe so, to go down and see her.

23 Q What was the New York trip for?

24 A The New York trip was to go see a friend, and  
25 it might have been the time when he bought those

1 guns.

2 Was that during the time when the  
3 Cuban thing was hot?

4 I don't know whether Jack bought  
5 the guns then or he just went up there to visit a  
6 good friend of his.

7 Q Do you remember the man's name he went to visit?

8 A No, I don't.

9 Q Do you remember him going to New York because of  
10 his disputes with the entertainment union?

11 A No.

12 Q Do you specifically recall that he didn't mention  
13 the reason he was going to New York was to try to  
14 clear up the union problems?

15 A No. I don't recall him saying that was the reason  
16 why he went.

17 He might have went up there to talk  
18 to the union, to talk to them, but I don't recall  
19 that that was the main reason.

20 Q Did Jack Ruby ever mention George Butler to you?

21 A No.

22 Q Of the police department?

23 A No.

24 Q Did you know George Butler?

25 A No. What would he have been, a lieutenant or a



1 sergeant or what?

2 Q Yes. Lieutenant Butler.

3 A Lieutenant Butler. I think I remember a Lieutenant  
4 Butler, but I don't remember anything specific  
5 about him, you know.

6 Q Did Jack Ruby ever mention Santo Trafficante to  
7 you?

8 A No.

9 Q Do you know him?

10 A No.

11 Q Do you know Louis McWillie or did Jack ever  
12 mention him?

13 A No.

14 Q Do you know or did Jack mention Russell D. Matthews?

15 A No, not that I remember.

16 Q Do you know or did Jack mention Sammy Paxton,  
17 also known as Salvatore Amaranio?

18 A No.

19 Q Did Jack Ruby know J.D. Tippett, the police  
20 officer slain on the day of the assassination?

21 A No, not as I know of.

22 Q Did you know him?

23 A No. The officers stopped by there, and if  
24 Mr. Tippett ever patrolled downtown and had a  
25 reason to stop up there, he might have, but we

1           didn't know those officers by their first names  
2           because the same officers didn't always patrol  
3           down there at night.

4   Q     Do you remember any of the officers that patrolled  
5           in the area of the club?

6   A     I don't remember them.

7   Q     Did Jack Ruby have any particular policemen who  
8           you could call were his juice or people he could  
9           turn to in the police department for help if he  
10          needed it?

11  A     I would imagine if Jack would trust anybody it  
12          would be Lieutenant Gilmore because he was so  
13          afraid of him.

14  Q     He would trust him because he was afraid of him?

15  A     Yeah, you know, because Jack always kept his  
16          nose clean in front of him.

17                 In other words, Lieutenant Gilmore,  
18                 his business was vice.   Right?

19                 Okay.   That means if we are not pouring  
20                 out champagne -- you know, pouring out champagne,  
21                 that means you are cheating the customer.   If  
22                 we are not pouring out champagne or got  
23                 prostitutes hanging around, then he has got his  
24                 nose clean with Lieutenant Gilmore, and he made  
25                 sure that that didn't go on.   That wasn't it.

1                   He knew the girls was pouring out the  
2 champagne, but they better not let Lieutenant  
3 Gilmore catch them.

4   Q   Was Jack Ruby under any particular pressure  
5       besides what you have mentioned from Gilmore?  
6       Were there some violations that were going on --

7   A   No. No. That was the only thing he was worrying  
8       about, because he knew Gilmore would slap a  
9       lock on that door if he caught anything going on.

10                  That man would arrest his mother,  
11       you know, and Jack knew it.

12   Q   How did Alice Alexander know about Lieutenant  
13       Gilmore?

14                  She mentioned in one of the reports  
15       that you had to watch out for Lieutenant Gilmore  
16       because he would arrest his mother if he had to.

17                  How did she know that?

18   A   Well, that was just a figure of speech.

19   Q   Yea, but it is one that she quoted also.

20   A   Well, we all said that, you know.

21   Q   How did you know? Did he ever arrest anybody  
22       in the Carousel?

23   A   You know, he -- no, he never arrested anybody  
24       in the Carousel, but you would read about it in  
25       the paper that Gilmore was going to bust somebody

1 down, you know, before the night was over, Friday  
2 and Saturday night.

3 Q Did you know any of the FBI agents that worked  
4 in Dallas?

5 A No.

6 Q You didn't know any of them?

7 A The only FBI agent that I ever met was that guy  
8 that took that thing from me, and if I recall,  
9 he wasn't -- well, he wasn't very nice, and he  
10 ran through it so fast. He ran over questions,  
11 you know. He had me nervous. I remember that.  
12 Over in the old post office building where the  
13 old courthouse used to be.

14 I never will forget that.

15 Q Did Jack Ruby take any guns to New York on that  
16 visit you were talking about?

17 A Now, that's what I don't know. I don't know if  
18 Jack bought those guhs, bought a gun up there.  
19 Let's see.

20 No. Jack had -- I was just thinking  
21 about it. He didn't take any guns. No, he didn't  
22 take any guns.

23 Q Did he bring any back with him?

24 A No, I don't think he -- Jack had that pistol  
25 before he went to New York.

1                   Now, when he bought the guns -- I  
2       remember Jack buying guns. He said he bought  
3       these guns. He bought three guns.

4   Q       Were they Cobras?

5   A       I don't know what they was. One of them was the  
6       one, I imagine, that he shot Oswald with.

7                   Now, he bought Eva a gun. He bought  
8       his friend one that was in Cuba. I don't know  
9       how he got it over there.

10  Q       Were you working for him at the time he bought  
11       the gun to send to the friend in Cuba?

12  A       That I don't remember. I don't remember. I don't  
13       remember if it was right after that that I started  
14       working for him, but I know there was still talk  
15       about the Cuban deal.

16  Q       Did Jack ever mention his trip to Cuba?

17  A       No. I don't even remember him going to Cuba. I  
18       don't think he went to Cuba.

19  Q       He didn't go to Cuba, at least during the time  
20       you were with him?

21  A       No, at least during the time I remember.

22  Q       Did he ever mention having gone before you came  
23       to work for him?

24  A       No.

25  Q       Did you ever see Jack Ruby with any gun other than

1 the one you mentioned in the Warren Commission  
2 Report being in the money bag?

3 A. That was it.

4 Q Was anything unusual about that gun?

5 A. No.

6 Q Do you remember whether or not it had a shroud  
7 over the hammer?

8 A. No, I don't.

9 Q Do you know whether or not you could even see the  
10 hammer of the gun?

11 A. All I remember about that gun is, I think it had  
12 a brown handle on it, but that gun was always  
13 in a little sack, a money sack. Okay.

14 Now, we had two money sacks. Jack  
15 would put the gun in his money sack most of the  
16 time, if he was leaving there at night. If he  
17 just left there in the daytime he wouldn't put  
18 it in there, like if he was just going over to  
19 the bank he wouldn't take it with him. He would  
20 leave it there in the money sack in the desk  
21 drawer.

22 Now, that day that, that night --  
23 the day, and I have told everybody this. I  
24 recall the day that the, that President Kennedy  
25 was killed. Jack was crying, and he told me to

1 get everything ready and close up, that he was  
2 going to be closed, to call all of the girls and  
3 tell them that we was going to be closed that  
4 night, the next night, and he would call them  
5 back Monday to let them know what was going on.

6 Now, I took some money with me. I  
7 don't know whether I told the Warren Commission  
8 about this. I had some money with me.

9 Now, I said, "Jack, which one of these  
10 sacks do you want the -- " I didn't know Jack  
11 was going to tell me to take the money. I said,  
12 "Which sack do you want me to put the money?"

13 He said, "I don't care. Put it in  
14 either one of them."

15 Okay, and I recall, if I am recalling  
16 correctly, he said -- when he got ready to go the  
17 sack that he picked up had the gun in it, but  
18 they was both laying up there on the bar, but  
19 he didn't know which one of the sacks the gun  
20 was in, but I didn't want the sack with the gun  
21 in it anyway.

22 But he didn't know which one of those  
23 sacks the gun was in because I was working behind  
24 the bar and he was there on the telephone crying  
25 talking to his brother.

1                   When he got ready to go, he just picked  
2 up one of the sacks. Maybe he felt it in there.  
3 I don't even think he felt it, because the man  
4 was broke up, you know. He was broke up.

5                   What we was going to do was split the  
6 money up because I was going to pay some bills,  
7 you know.

8 Q     Were you going to go to the bank?

9 A     I was going to go get some checks. I had receipts  
10 and everything. The same thing I was going to  
11 do that day, that afternoon, we was going to  
12 wait and do it Monday.

13 Q     So what did he take a bag of money for?

14 A     Well, he took just the regular receipts from the  
15 night before.

16 Q     You didn't normally take those to the bank?

17 A     He took the regular receipts from the night  
18 before. It didn't make any difference. You see,  
19 the envelope was laying up there with the bills  
20 in it. Okay.

21                  The only thing that was in the sack --  
22 no. The receipts and all and the bills was in  
23 the brown envelope. Okay.

24                  There was money and a gun in one sack  
25 and there was money and a gun in the other sack,



1 and there was a slip in each sack saying how much  
2 money it was. That was it.

3 If you check your record there you  
4 might find there was a slip in that sack.

5 Now, if Jack had any other papers or  
6 anything, you see, he put them in there later.

7 Q But you had particular bills you were going to  
8 pay with some of the money?

9 A Yes. I had particular bills I was going to pay.

10 Q Were the bills in the sack, or were the bills  
11 separate?

12 A The bills were separate.

13 Q How did you know that you would have enough money  
14 in the sack to pay the bills?

15 A There was enough money in the sack. There was  
16 enough money. I knew that.

17 So what happened was I left my sack  
18 down there. I was, you know -- but at first I  
19 was going to take it home. I was, you know, all  
20 confused. I said, well, I should take the money  
21 home with me, because I had carried money home  
22 with me before.

23 But when I was getting ready to close  
24 up and getting everything ready to go, I decided  
25 I was going to leave the money down there.

1                   When I heard that Jack shot Oswald,  
2                   that's when I went down there and got the rest  
3                   of the money and took care of the dogs, because  
4                   I didn't want anybody to find that money in there,  
5                   because I knew that was what Jack would want me  
6                   to do.

7           Q       Where was Sheba after Oswald was shot?

8           A       Now, that's another thing that I don't -- where  
9                   was Sheba after Oswald was shot?

10                   Now, I am told that Sheba was in the  
11                   car.

12                   Now, I remember going and getting  
13                   Sheba, and I don't remember whether I went to  
14                   the police station and got Sheba or whether I  
15                   went to the Carousel and got Sheba, but I remember  
16                   going and getting Sheba.

17                   Now, I could have went to the police  
18                   station. If I did, I would have to get somebody  
19                   to carry me, and I don't remember getting anybody  
20                   to carry me to pick up Sheba, because I didn't  
21                   have a car.

22           Q       But you ended up with Sheba?

23           A       Yes. I ended up with Sheba.

24           Q       Because we are running short of time, let me ask  
25                   you a few more questions.

1 Did Jack Ruby ever mention Gordon  
2 McLendon to you?

3 A. No.

4 Q Did you know Gordon McLendon?

5 A Yes. Gordon McLendon radio station. He might have  
6 mentioned Gordon McLendon at times.

7 Some of the disc jockeys came down  
8 there. Russ Knight and some of the other guys  
9 came down just to watch the strip shows sometimes.

10 Jack was always trying to corner them  
11 to get him a spot, you know, get something free.

12 Q Did Jack Ruby ever mention General Walker to you,  
13 Edwin Walker?

14 A Yeah, he mentioned something about that, you  
15 know, putting the signs in the yard over there.  
16 He went over there and made some pictures of that  
17 sign, I think, not too long before the  
18 assassination.

19 Q Do you remember him ever knowing General Walker  
20 personally?

21 A No.

22 Q Did you ever meet Lawrence Meyers who was a  
23 friend of Jack Ruby?

24 A No.

25 Q Who came from Chicago on business?

- 1 A No.
- 2 Q Did Jack ever mention him?
- 3 A I could have met him. I have forgot the name.
- 4 Q A sporting goods salesman who brought Jack Ruby
- 5 some barbells?
- 6 A Could have.
- 7 Q Did you ever meet Jean Aase, A-a-s-e, or Jean
- 8 West who was a friend of Lawrence Meyers and
- 9 met Jack Ruby?
- 10 A Not that I know of.
- 11 Q When you visited Jack Ruby in jail, did you ever
- 12 ask him why he shot Oswald?
- 13 A No. I don't think I did.
- 14 Q Did you ever ask him prior to the time he died
- 15 whether he shot Oswald?
- 16 A I didn't see him but one time and that was in
- 17 jail.
- 18 My main concern was asking Jack what
- 19 should I do with the rest of that money that I
- 20 had.
- 21 Q Did Jack volunteer anything about why he shot
- 22 Oswald?
- 23 A No.
- 24 Q Did he mention anything about President Kennedy?
- 25 A No, he didn't. Not that I know of. I think I
-

1           only had about five minutes with Jack, and I  
2           think he said something about, "I got us in a  
3           mess," or something like that, you know.

4       Q     Were you alone with him at the time?

5       A     There was a policeman standing about five or  
6           six feet away.

7       Q     Were you surprised when he shot Oswald?

8       A     Yeah, I was surprised.

9       Q     Did Jack Ruby ever do a violent act that you have  
10          seen?

11      A     I have seen him go into a rage.

12      Q     Have you ever seen him hit anyone?

13      A     Yeah, I have seen him grab somebody. Not really  
14          just decked them, but I have seen him grab them  
15          and throw them out of there.

16      Q     You never saw him beat anyone up?

17      A     No.

18      Q     There have been a lot of accounts of reports of  
19          people who worked in the Carousel, and people  
20          who knew Jack Ruby, who say it was commonplace  
21          that he would beat up people who were drunk or  
22          rowdy or whatever.

23      A     Anybody that was naughty or messing with the  
24          girls, I mean Jack would -- I have never seen him  
25          actually beat anybody, but I have seen him grab

1           guys and just literally throw them out.

2                       You might call that beating up a  
3           guy, you know. I am sure if a guy got loose and  
4           hit Jack he would fly back on him, you know.

5                       One time there was a scuffle out in  
6           the hallway. I never did get a chance to see it.  
7           Jack said he decked the guy, but I didn't see it.

8    Q       Did Jack Ruby ever mention Myra Lansky to you?

9    A       No.

10   Q       Do you know Myra Lansky?

11   A       No.

12   Q       Did he ever mention Jake Lansky, or do you know  
13       Jake Lansky?

14   A       No. Now, if -- look here. If we was sitting  
15       down here in the summer of '74 and you asked  
16       me some of those names I might remember some of  
17       them, you know.

18                       I have got customers that I have fed  
19       at one restaurant and didn't see them for three  
20       or four years in another and, you know, their  
21       names just pass me by, you know.

22   Q       Do you remember Candy Barr?

23   A       I remember she used to work there. Yeah, I  
24       remember her.

25   Q       Do you remember what kind of a relationship Jack

1 Ruby had with her?

2 A He didn't have any. He just tried to get her back  
3 after she got out of prison.

4 Q He tried to get her to perform?

5 A He tried to get her to perform for him.

6 Q But she never did?

7 A He called her a couple of times, carried her a  
8 couple of dogs down there, as I recall.

9 Q Did Jack have a normal relationship with women?

10 A I don't know. I can't say that.

11 I heard a couple of the girls say that  
12 Jack was too quick, if you know what I mean, but --

13 Q Do you mean sexually?

14 A Yeah, but that's all I ever heard, you know.

15 I know he tried to get the girls to  
16 go with him, you know.

17 Q You got the impression that he made love to some  
18 of the girls at the club?

19 A Oh, sure.

20 Q And they weren't real satisfied with his  
21 performance?

22 A Yes. That was it.

23 Q Did you get the impression as to whether or not  
24 they told him they were not satisfied with him?

25 A No, but they would sit around and snicker about it,

1           you know.

2   Q       Did you ever discuss whether or not he might be  
3           gay?

4   A       No.

5   Q       Never that allegation?

6   A       No. Never that allegation. That never even came  
7           up in any conversation.

8                       The girls really liked Jack. They  
9           really did.

10   Q       In your Warren Commission testimony you said that  
11           he fired you all of the time.

12   A       Yeah.

13   Q       It was just his way, when he got mad he would  
14           fire you and that would be it and you would come  
15           back to work?

16   A       Yeah. Sometimes I didn't even leave. Sometimes  
17           he would leave before I could go get my stuff.

18                       I would be back getting my stuff  
19           and he would leave, and he knew I wasn't going to  
20           leave, you know, the place there after he was  
21           gone.

22   Q       You also mentioned that he had a lot of spats  
23           with Eva Grant, his sister.

24                       Did you ever see some of that?

25   A       Yeah. It was verbal on the phone. He would slam



1 the phone down, you know.

2 Q Did she ever loan him money or try to help him  
3 out financially?

4 A She didn't have any money. She was running the  
5 Vegas Club.

6 Q Who did he turn to for money?

7 A You see, Jack, if anybody gave him money, he  
8 probably would have got it from Ralph. That's  
9 the only place I know of him ever getting any  
10 money.

11 Q Ralph Paul?

12 A Yeah.

13 Q To your knowledge, was there ever any gambling  
14 in the Carousel Club?

15 A No.

16 Q Was there ever any gambling in any of the downtown  
17 clubs?

18 A Not that I know of.

19 The only gambling I ever heard of was  
20 in the hotel rooms.

21 Q In private hotel rooms?

22 A If you are talking about big games, yeah.

23 Q They had some big games in some of the hotel  
24 rooms?

25 A Yeah. Some of the guys around town. You know,

1           there was a lot of gambling going on in those days.

2   Q       Was it pretty open or was it kind of a closed  
3           city?

4   A       No. The only way I would know about it would  
5           be like some of -- one of the black dudes might  
6           be going to serve drinks there and would say,  
7           "We have got a game," you know.

8   Q       Were there any numbers going on at the time?

9   A       No. I never seen any numbers.

10   Q       Would you have known of it? You were talking  
11           before that maybe the strippers could pull the  
12           wool over Jack's eyes, but you would probably  
13           find out about things.

14   A       Yeah.

15   Q       Do you know if there were any policy --

16   A       No. No policies, no numbers. Policy left  
17           Dallas long years ago.

18                       I mean, the police had that all  
19           covered up. There wasn't any racketeering going  
20           on in Dallas. The only thing that was going on  
21           here was a little gambling and a little weed  
22           smoking. It wasn't even that much heavy stuff  
23           in town.

24   Q       Did Jack ever gamble?

25   A       Not as I know of.

1 Q You have said in one of your interviews with one  
2 of our staff members that he did gamble.

3 A (Shakes head.)

4 Q Did he ever play dice or cards or whatever for  
5 money?

6 A No. I mean -- well, Jack and his roommate --  
7 what is his name -- they might have had a few  
8 poker games or something, but nothing big. That's  
9 not gambling. Just passing the time away.

10 Q Do you know of your personal knowledge whether  
11 or not Jack Ruby ever had a card game for money  
12 in his apartment?

13 A I don't know for sure.

14 Q Do you think he did?

15 A I imagine he did. I would be safe to say that,  
16 yeah, they had a few poker games sometimes.

17 Q Who would have attended, which of Jack's friends?

18 A Probably just the guys in the apartment there.  
19 They would lay out around the swimming pool  
20 together.

21 Q Who else besides Jack and his roommate was it?

22 A That's all. That's all I could say, you know.

23 Q You don't know who the people in the apartment  
24 were?

25 A No. I don't know. I just seen them all laying

1 out around the pool together when I went over  
2 there at times, you know.

3 Q Well, I have seen we have run over a little bit  
4 on our time.

5 A Yeah, and I am going to have to go.

6 Q I wanted to give you the opportunity, if there  
7 is anything you want to add or say to put your  
8 testimony in context, please feel free to do it  
9 now.

10 A No. The only thing I want to say is I am sorry  
11 that I couldn't remember, recollect more than I  
12 can, because I would state very seriously that  
13 you probably would have had more information in  
14 your Warren Report from me if the interview had  
15 been conducted the way this one was, you know,  
16 but I am sure they didn't have all of the names  
17 and didn't have all of the information that they  
18 have now on different things, so consequently --  
19 in other words, it seems like the guy that took  
20 the interview didn't want to talk to me because  
21 I am black, and he just rushed through whatever  
22 he was going to ask me, you know.

23 Q In the event that we need to ask you some more  
24 questions, would you be available if we can work  
25 out a mutually convenient time?

1 A Sure.

2 MR. PURDY: All right. Thank you very  
3 much.


4 THE WITNESS: You are welcome.

5 (Whereupon, at 4:10 p.m., the hearing  
6 in the above-entitled matter was  
7 closed.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, GARLIN ATTAWAY, a notary public  
in and for Harris County, Texas, being the notary  
public before whom the foregoing sworn testimony of  
JOSEPH CAMPISI was taken, do hereby certify that the  
witness was first duly sworn by me to tell the truth,  
the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and that  
the above and foregoing is a true and correct  
transcript of said testimony.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF  
OFFICE on this the 27th day of May, 1978.

  
GARLIN ATTAWAY  
Notary Public in and for  
Harris County, Texas