

- There is no record that Hyman and Jack were prosecuted by Federal authorities in the narcotics case.
- Jack, Hyman, and Eva denied any participation in any narcotics activities.
- Jones and his co-conspirators also denied Ruby was involved.
- One of Jones' confederates stated that Jones propositioned Hyman and Jack concerning the narcotics, but they refused to participate.
- One of the conspirators implicated Jones, but not Ruby or his brother.
- According to Jack Ruby, he moved to Dallas to help Eva operate the Singapore Club and because his merchandising business had failed in Chicago.
- George Butler stated Ruby was not involved in the bribery case.
- The 22 recordings of the Guthrie, Jones, and Butler meetings failed to mention Ruby and indicated that only one "confederate" would be brought in and he would not be Jewish. (1519)

(1052) The Warren Report does state that Ruby was friendly with "numerous underworld figures" and included Jones among them. (1520) The Commission concluded, however, that there was no significant link between Ruby and organized crime. (1521)

(1053) The Warren Commission decided to discount Steve Guthrie's statement that Ruby was mentioned during the 1947 bribery case and to accept Butler's statement instead. The Warren Commission did not review the actual recordings of the meetings between Jones, Guthrie and Butler. They had the FBI review incomplete transcriptions of the recordings.

#### vii. Russell Douglas Matthews

##### *Biographical Summary*

(1054) Russell Douglas Matthews was born on July 26, 1920, in Aspermont, Tex. When he was 7, he moved to Dallas. (1522) He served in the Marine Corps from December 1941 to October 1945. (1523) After leaving the Marines, Matthews returned to Dallas, where he remained until 1958. From July 1958 to January 1959, he resided in Havana, Cuba; he was also there from the middle of 1959 to November 1959. (1524) He returned to Dallas and remained there until January 1971. In the early 1960's, Matthews resided in Irving, Tex. (1525) According to FBI reports, Mrs. Donna Sue Helton, a known prostitute, also resided at his Irving address. (1526) FBI reports in 1967 and 1968 list Matthews' address as 4509 Southern Avenue, Dallas. (1527) In 1971, Matthews moved to Las Vegas and, as of 1978, was residing there. (1528)

(1055) There is very little information regarding Matthews' employment prior to 1958 when he traveled to Cuba. In his deposition, he stated he could not remember the jobs he had had in Dallas. (1529) Matthews said, "I have been in business by myself most of my life." (1530) He did not elaborate on this statement except to note that he

had never been employed in a club in Dallas.(1531) Later in the deposition, Matthews stated he was in the bail bond business in Dallas before moving to Cuba.(1532)

(1056) Matthews said that he owned two bars in Cuba. One was in the lobby of the Plaza Hotel, the other on Henio Street; it was called the Sportsman's Club.(1533) He had purchased the Sportsman's Club from a Cuban in 1958.(1534) He acquired the other bar after Castro came to power, in the early part of 1959.(1535) Matthews stated that while in Cuba, he resided "for a while" in the Deauville Hotel.(1536) In two separate FBI interviews, he stated he worked in the gambling casinos at the Hotel Deauville.(1537)

(1057) After his return from Cuba, the record again is vague regarding his employment. A 1960 FBI report states that Matthews was operating a bail bond and loan company on Record Street in Dallas.(1538) On September 22, 1961, the FBI was advised that Matthews was residing in an apartment at 3918 Travis Street. Clayton Fowler owned the apartment house. Matthews was allegedly employed as a bondsman for Fowler.(1539)

(1058) A 1962 FBI report states that during 1960, Matthews was employed as a "bouncer" at the New Orleans Room, owned by Joe Slatin.(1540) The informant believed, however, that Matthews would not actually work in the Orleans Room but had arranged an agreement with Slatin so he could be downtown without being arrested for vagrancy.(1541) In his deposition, Matthews admitted knowing Slatin.(1542)

(1059) Two 1963 FBI reports state that Matthews was thought to be part owner or manager of the Redman Club in Dallas.(1543) Another FBI report indicates that Matthews frequented the Redman Club.(1544) The club was reportedly being used by its members and proprietor for gambling activities, specifically high stake poker games.(1545) In his deposition, Matthews indicated he had heard of the Redman Club and described it as a "social club for members only."(1546) He stated, "They might have had some friendly poker games occasionally between the members. It was not a gambling club."(1547) Matthews did not state that he had any interest in this establishment.

(1060) A 1967 FBI report notes that by all indications, Matthews was manager of the Skynight Club in Dallas.(1548) The report states that in 1966, for a short period, Matthews operated the Skynight Club. In his deposition, Matthews admitted having heard of it.(1549)

(1061) After Matthews moved to Las Vegas, he obtained a work permit from the Las Vegas police department on January 26, 1971, to work at the Paddock Racing Sports Club for Johnnie Lane.(1550) He worked at this club for 3½ years.(1551) In 1978, Matthews was employed by Benny Binion at the Horseshoe Club in Las Vegas.(1552)

#### *Treatment by the Warren Commission*

(1062) The FBI interviewed both Matthews and his ex-wife, Elizabeth Ann Matthews, nee Elizabeth Ann Hedlund, a Dallas prostitute.(1553) The Warren Commission conducted no further investigation of Matthews.

(1063) In the FBI interview, Matthews stated he had known Ruby for "approximately 12 years." (1554) He considered Ruby to be only a "passing acquaintance." (1555) He had never had any discussions with Ruby except "to pass the time of day." (1556) Matthews was not aware of any gambling activities that Ruby may have had in Dallas (1557) and stated he had never heard of Ruby or Oswald being in Cuba. (1558) He indicated he had no information that Ruby was involved with anyone else in the killing of Lee Harvey Oswald. (1559)

(1064) The FBI questioned Elizabeth Ann Matthews regarding a 13-minute telephone call made on October 3, 1963, from the Carousel Club to a phone listed in her name. (1560) She stated that she did not know Ruby and could not recall having received a long distance telephone call from Dallas on or about October 3, 1963. (1561) She did state, however, "it could have possibly been a call from some 'character' or some businessman with whom she is acquainted at Dallas." (1562)

(1065) R. D. Matthews was mentioned in two other FBI reports as being an associate of Ruby. Charles Duarte stated that Matthews was well acquainted with Ruby. (1563) Robert Donald Lawrence listed Matthews among a group of individuals whom he considered to be friends and associates of Ruby's. (1564) He described Matthews as a "strong arm man." (1565)

(1066) The FBI interviews of Matthews and his ex-wife are very brief. They never clearly ascertained the extent of Ruby's association with Matthews. There is no evidence that Matthews was questioned about his criminal activities and associations or the phone call made to his ex-wife.

(1067) Matthews stated in his committee deposition that he had never heard of this phone call. (1566) He also stated that, although he remembered being interviewed by the FBI, he did not remember being asked when he first met Ruby. (1567) When he was shown the FBI interview of December 15, 1963, he indicated he did not remember saying he had known Ruby for 12 years. He stated, "Twelve years; I don't remember saying that. No, sir, I don't remember saying that I'd known him 12 years and I don't think I had." (1568)

(1068) There is also nothing to indicate that the FBI questioned Elizabeth Ann Matthews regarding any knowledge of Ruby's association with her ex-husband or of his involvement in criminal activity. Matthews stated in his deposition that he could not remember exactly when he was divorced, but it was right about the time of the assassination or in the late 1950's. (1569) Elizabeth Ann Matthews presumably may have had additional information regarding Matthews' activities in Dallas and Cuba during the 1950's.

### *Legal Activities*

(1069) Matthews' only apparent legitimate vocation and source of income was the management of bars, clubs and restaurants. He also was allegedly involved in the bail bond business. (1570) Based on his numerous arrests, (1571) financial ventures in Cuba and relatively recent move to Las Vegas, Matthews' financial and social position appears to be somewhat unstable.

(1070) Matthews only known law-enforcement connection was with Sheriff J. E. Decker of Dallas County. In an FBI interview on September 29, 1959, Decker stated he had known Matthews all of his adult life. (1572) There is no information to determine exactly the nature of Matthews' relationship to Decker. One FBI report states, "Matthews has always been known to be very 'closed mouth' and is known to have a deep dislike for all law-enforcement agencies." (1573)

### *Illegal Activities*

(1071) Matthews had been actively engaged in criminal activity since the 1940's. He was described in one FBI report as a burglar, armed robber, narcotics pusher and murderer. (1574) Another described him as armed and dangerous, stating that he had been known to carry firearms and to use explosives in the past. (1575) Among other violations, Matthews was arrested in 1949 in Cleburne, Tex., for burglary; he was arrested and convicted in 1950 for violating the Federal Narcotics Act; in 1966 he was arrested in Oklahoma City for possession of a concealed weapon; and he was arrested in 1967 in Garland, Tex., for bookmaking; in 1976, he pled guilty in Las Vegas to a violation of the Wagering Act. (1576)

(1072) *Hollis de Lois Green gang*.—An FBI report stated that subsequent to World War II in 1948, Matthews joined up with surviving members of the Hollis de Lois Green gang. This gang specialized in burglaries of pharmaceutical houses and large drugstores for narcotics and cash. (1577)

(1073) In 1959, Sheriff Decker reported that past associates of Matthews are "underworld characters" Hollis de Lois Green, Jettie Bass, Nick Cascio, James Robert Todd and Angelo Thomas Casten. (1578) In his deposition, Matthews admitted knowing James Robert Todd. (1579) He described Todd as an acquaintance from 25 years ago who, to his knowledge, was not involved in gambling activities or safecracking. (1580)

(1074) There is also evidence that Matthews was associated with Angelo Thomas Casten. (1581)

(1075) In a 1963 FBI report, Matthews is included among a group of people considered the higher echelon in Dallas bookmaking. (1582) A 1964 report states that Matthews was known to have been involved in bookmaking activities in the Dallas area following his management of a private club which catered to small-stake poker games. (1583) Matthews was described by three informants as "a strongarm man for the collection of gambling debts, hired by Dallas bookmakers John Eli Stone and Isadore Max Miller." (1584) The same report (1585) lists three separate groups of bookmakers who could be considered the major operations in the Dallas area. (1586) One was composed of John Eli Stone, Isadore Max Miller and James Woodrow Stone. (1587) It was reported that on March 9, 1964, John Eli Stone and Matthews left Dallas together, via Delta Airlines, for Las Vegas. (1588) This report also states that Matthews was considered as one of the less significant Dallas bookmakers. (1589) A 1967 FBI report states that Matthews was currently operating a bookmaking operation in Garland, Tex. (1590) Mat-

thews also was arrested several times for bookmaking activities. (1591) (1076) In his deposition, Matthews admitted knowing John Eli Stone for 30 years, but said he had no business dealings with him. (1592) He did not recall taking a trip with Stone from Dallas to Las Vegas. (1593) Matthews did admit knowing Max Miller and described him as an "old acquaintance." (1594) Matthews stated he never saw Miller involved in any gambling activities. (1595) A 1973 application for a wiretap listed Isadore Max Miller and John Eli Stone, along with R. D. Matthews, as allegedly being involved in illegal gambling activities. (1596)

(1077) A 1964 FBI report states that James Henry Dolan and R. D. Matthews were "notorious hoodlums." (1597) Dolan was described by an informant as a strong-arm man who had been employed by Santos Trafficante, Jr., a leading Florida organized crime leader. (1598) Dolan was also described as a strong-arm man employed by John Eli Stone and Isadore Max Miller to collect gambling debts. (1599) A 1962 FBI report states that Matthews was a Dallas hoodlum who visited Dolan regularly. In his deposition, Matthews admitted knowing Dolan, but said it was only a casual relationship. (1600) (1078) The FBI files indicate that Matthews had been the subject of investigation by the Dallas FBI office over a period of years, going back to 1963 for possible violation of the antiracketeering statutes and more recently the Federal gambling statutes. (1601) The record does not make clear whether these investigations led to an arrest or conviction. They probably at least contributed to Matthews' arrest in 1966 for failure to pay for a gambling tax stamp and his guilty plea in 1976 for violation of title 18, U.S.C. section 1084 (ITWI). (1602)

(1079) In 1973, an FBI airtel from Dallas reported that an application had been made for an order authorizing a wiretap of Matthews, along with several others. (1603) This application stated that there was probable cause to believe Matthews was involved in illegal gambling business. Again, it was not clear whether the wiretap led to an arrest or conviction, although Matthews was arrested in 1975 and 1976 on gambling charges. (1604)

(1080) On December 13, 1960, Matthews was observed by the Dallas criminal intelligence section. He was seen at the New Orleans Room, 1513 Commerce Street, Dallas, in conversation with its owner and operator, Joe Slatin. This report also states that Matthews was then employed at the New Orleans Room as a "bouncer." (1605)

(1081) On January 29, 1961, Matthews was arrested on a vagrancy charge at the Parkering Motel in Dallas. The police ascertained that James Robert Todd had been at the motel with Matthews just prior to the arrest. (1606) In March 1960, Matthews was seen in the company of Jack Todd at Fitzgerald's Bar in Dallas. (1607)

#### *Organized Crime Connections*

(1082) A 1976 Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) report states that in 1946 or 1947, Joe and Sam Campisi bought the Idle Hour Bar in Dallas and were known to be associated with Joe Civello and Russell Matthews. (1608) This report also states that

when Matthews visited Dallas, he frequented the Egyptian Restaurant owned by Joe Campisi. (1609) An FBI report, dated June 23, 1969, states that Matthews was "hanging out" in the Egyptian Lounge with Sam and Joe Campisi. (1610) Another FBI report states that Matthews may have had some contact and connection with Joe Campisi, since Matthews frequented the Egyptian Lounge. (1611)

(1083) While in Las Vegas to depose Matthews in early April 1978, two committee staff attorneys observed Matthews in the company of an individual they believed to be Joe Campisi. On April 16, 1978, Dallas intelligence reported to the two staff investigators that Matthews and Joe Campisi had been observed together at an exclusive restaurant in Dallas.

(1084) In his deposition, Matthews admitted knowing both Joe and Sam Campisi. (1612) He said he had known Sam Campisi all his life, but that they had never had any business dealings. (1613) He had also known Joe Campisi for a long time. (1614) Matthews stated, however, that he did not know Joe Civello, though he had heard the name. (1615)

(1085) In 1960, Sheriff Decker reported that in 1958 Matthews visited a gambling casino operated by Nick Cammata. (1616) Cammata was allegedly being investigated by the District Attorney's Office in New York City. In his deposition, however, Matthews stated he did not know Nick Cammata. (1617)

(1086) A 1959 FBI report states Matthews had visited Cuba prior to the revolution, for Santos Trafficante. (1618) In his deposition, Matthews stated he did not know Trafficante, but he had heard the name. (1619) He also stated he had no association with the Sans Souci, a casino operated by Trafficante in Havana (1620) (it was operated by Trafficante).

(1087) Three FBI reports state that Matthews was associated with Salvador Amarena, aka Sammy Paxton. (1621) A February 1963 New Orleans Crime Commission report states that Matthews and George Lewis (or Louis), both of Dallas, visited Sammy Paxton at the Black Magic Lounge. The informant stated that it appeared Matthews had come to New Orleans especially to see Paxton, to offer him an opportunity to open a business in Dallas. According to this report, Matthews told Paxton he could pick his own place and type of operation and he would not have to worry about "heat" because Matthews had Dallas all wrapped up (according to Matthews, "It is my town."). (1622) The informant also indicated that they talked a lot about gambling and racketeers in various cities and their close affiliations with them. (1623)

(1088) The same report indicates that on Monday, December 17, 1962, two uniformed police officers came into the Black Magic Lounge. Paxton introduced Matthews and Lewis to them calling them "friends from Dallas." (1624) The informant gathered from the conversation that Matthews and Paxton had worked for Santos Trafficante in the Embers Club in Havana. The Sans Souci was also mentioned. Matthews said the name Raoul Gonzales and indicated Gonzales had been in Cuba and was then in Las Vegas. Matthews also mentioned Tommy Ranzoni (phonetic spelling) as being an associate of "Chile"

Mendoza and Gonzales in Havana. The informant stated that it was apparent Matthews and Lewis were partners or affiliated in the Dallas rackets, and that Matthews had worked a big-time gambling house in Havana. (1625)

(1089) In his deposition, Matthews admitted knowing Sam Paxton and described him as an acquaintance. (1626) He did not know if Paxton was associated with Trafficante.

(1090) In 1978, Matthews was employed by Benny Binion, who operated the Benny Binion Horseshoe Club in Las Vegas. During the late 1930's and the 1940's, Binion had been involved in illegal gambling activities in the Dallas area. He had admitted killing two individuals during this period. (1627) Matthews stated that he had known Binion for 20 or 25 years, (1628) but that he had never had any business dealings with him aside from his current employment. (1629)

(1091) Matthews admitted knowing Lewis J. McWillie prior to his trip to Cuba. McWillie had been associated with a club in Dallas prior to going there. In Cuba, McWillie was employed as a pit boss at the Tropicana Casino. In 1978, McWillie was living in Las Vegas. Matthews originally stated he had never met McWillie in Cuba, but later indicated he might have "just run into him." (1630) He claimed he had not maintained contact with McWillie and had had no business dealings with him. (1631)

(1092) When asked if there had been a crackdown on gambling activities in 1947 in Dallas, Matthews responded:

I suppose there might have been. I wasn't involved in it so I don't know, but I have heard this, yes, that they had an election and there might have been something going on before that that was no longer allowed. I have heard this, yes. (1632)

(1093) When Matthews was questioned about gambling in Dallas from 1960 to 1963, he responded that he was not aware of any gambling or drug trafficking in Dallas in that period. (1633) He also stated he was not aware of any gun smuggling or narcotics trade with Cuba or Mexico. (1634)

#### *Relationship With Ruby*

(1094) In interviews of Ruby associates after the Oswald shooting, Matthews was cited as a friend and associate of Ruby. (1635) In an FBI interview, dated December 15, 1963, Matthews stated he had known Ruby for about 12 years and probably met him through Ruby's operation of the Vegas Club. (1636) He characterized Ruby as a "passing acquaintance." (1637) On October 3, 1963, a long-distance telephone call of 13 minutes was made from the Carousel Club to Matthews' ex-wife. (1638) Elizabeth Ann Matthews could not recall receiving the call. (1639)

(1095) When asked when he first met Ruby, Matthews replied:

I can't really tell you that. I don't know him that well. I don't really know how to answer that. I can't answer that. I don't know. How I really met him, I don't know. (1640)

Matthews later guessed that he met Ruby in the late 1950's. (1641) He did not recall ever meeting with Ruby. (1642) He stated, "I knew

him to speak to him on the street but I don't remember ever having any meetings with him." (1643) When asked what was the nature of his interaction with Ruby, Matthews responded:

Nothing. He was a man that was well-known around on the streets of Dallas. If you pass by him on the street he's liable to introduce himself to you, so if I'd pass him I'd say hello. I don't know what else to tell you. (1644)

(1096) Matthews did not recall the names of Ruby's clubs and stated he could not remember ever being in any club owned by Ruby. (1645) Matthews could not state when he had last seen Ruby. (1646) He maintained he did not see Ruby in Cuba. (1647)

#### *Associates Known by Both*

(1097) Matthews admitted being acquainted with James Robert Todd for 25 years. (1648) Todd's phone number was found in Ruby's automobile. Todd had admitted knowing Ruby for about 10 or 12 years. (1649) Todd was also associated with the de Lois Green Gang.

(1098) A 1958 DEA report suggests that R. D. Matthews and Juanita Phillips (aka Candy Barr) were involved in drug trafficking. (1650) The report states that Matthews served 2 years for possession of cocaine. (1651) In 1957, Phillips was sentenced to 15 years for possession of marijuana, and at the time of the report was out on an appeal bond. (1652) Ruby was also associated with Phillips. On November 13, 1963, a call was made from the Carousel Club to Phillips; it lasted 14 minutes. (1653) One FBI report states that in 1956 Ruby had had a girl friend named Candy Barr. (1654) Another FBI report states that Ruby approached a pilot for the Texas Department of Corrections regarding assistance in obtaining an early parole for Candy Barr. (1655) Matthews admitted knowing Joe Campisi. (1656) Ruby also knew Campisi. On Friday, November 29, 1963, Campisi was advised that Ruby wanted to see him. (1657) Campisi visited Ruby in jail on November 30, 1963. (1658) He stated that his last contact with Ruby had been the Thursday before Thanksgiving, when Ruby came into the Egyptian Lounge. (1659) Matthews also allegedly frequented the Egyptian Lounge. (1660)

(1099) Matthews also admitted knowing McWillie. Ruby, too, was associated with McWillie. In 1959, McWillie had invited Ruby to visit him in Cuba. (1661) Ruby did subsequently visit McWillie in Cuba. (1662)

(1100) Matthews admitted knowing Joe Slatin but did not know if Ruby knew Slatin. (1663) One FBI report states that Slatin may have employed Matthews as a bouncer in his club. (1664) Ruby had also been associated with Slatin in the formation of the Sovereign Club. (1665) They were, in fact, partners in the S & R Corp. during the early part of 1960. (1666)

#### *Other Information*

(1101) On June 6, 1964, Earl Manchester, an employee in the Service Department for Braniff Airways, Newark Airport, discovered a letter in a Braniff plane. It was typewritten, dated May 22, 1964, to "Don Jansen" from "S. Martin." Within the letter, the following passage, attributed solely to a "Texas reporter," appeared in quotations:



For God's sake, don't tell the FBI, but back about February (1963) when I was working for H. L. Hunt, some very prominent Texas men, R. D. Matthews, and I discussed the possibility of doing away with Cheddie [sic] Jagan or Castro or both. Not by the U.S. Government, you understand, but on a private basis. Hunt said we could have all the cash we needed, the others were in it, too, on a cash basis. We were going to get Castro sometime when he (Castro) went to Mexico. Understand now, we dropped it. R. D. didn't go for it. Meanwhile, we understood there was a group in Florida with the same idea. Also, the Government knew all about it. (1667)

(1102) Lonnie Hudkins, a reporter for the Houston Post in 1963, allegedly told Shirley Martin, a Warren Report critic, that while he was employed as a public relations man for Hunt Oil Co., Hunt personally approached him about going to Mexico to help kill either Castro or Cheddi Jagan, former Prime Minister of Guyana. (1668) According to Hudkins, the project never went forward because he and two other individuals believed the operation was dangerous. (1669) In 1967, Hudkins revealed the identity of one of the other participants to be R. D. Matthews. (1670)

(1103) In his deposition, Matthews denied being present at any meeting where the possibility of killing Castro was discussed. (1671) He stated he had never heard people discussing the assassination of Castro. (1672) Matthews did admit hearing the name of H. L. Hunt. (1673)

(1104) Deposition taken by the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
2 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
3 SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS  
4

5 DEPOSITION OF RUSSELL DOUGLAS MATTHEWS, a witness  
6 produced, sworn, and examined on Monday, the 3rd day of  
7 April, in the year of our Lord 1978, between the hours of  
8 8 o'clock in the forenoon and 6 o'clock in the afternoon of  
9 that day, in Room 4-003, Federal Courthouse, 210 Las Vegas  
10 Boulevard, in the City of Las Vegas and in the State of  
11 Nevada, before the Select Committee on Assassinations, House  
12 of Representatives of the United States of America.

13 APPEARANCES:

14 For the Committee:

15 JAMES WOLF,  
16 Deputy Chief Counsel,  
17 Select Committee on Assassinations,  
18 U. S. House of Representatives,  
19 Washington, D. C.

20 DONALD A. PURDY,  
Staff Counsel,  
Select Committee on Assassinations,  
U. S. House of Representatives,  
Washington, D. C.

For the witness:

HARRY E. CLAIBORNE,  
108 South Third Street,  
Las Vegas, Nevada.

1 NAOMI BOLSTAD was sworn to accurately and correct-  
2 ly report in stenotypy the complete proceedings had in the  
3 taking of the deposition of Russell Douglas Matthews.

4 - - -

5 RUSSELL DOUGLAS MATTHEWS

6 of lawful age, being produced, sworn, and examined on the  
7 part of the Committee, deposeth and saith:

8 MR. WOLF: For the record, it should be noted  
9 that the Magistrate was Joseph L. Ward, and we are current-  
10 ly in Las Vegas, Nevada, on April 3, 1978

11 My name is James Wolf, Mr. Matthews. My co-coun-  
12 sel is Donald Purdy. We both, pursuant to House Resolution  
13 222 and Committee Rule 4, have been designated counsel em-  
14 powered to take your statements under oath.

15 DIRECT EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. WOLF:

17 Q would you please state your name for the record?

18 A Russell Douglas Matthews.

19 Q What is your current address?

20 A 4412 Lilliput Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada.

21 Q Mr. Matthews, have we given your counsel a copy  
22 of the Committee rules and the Committee resolutions prior  
23 to the commencement of this deposition?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And, Mr. Matthews, you understand this deposition  
on your behalf is being taken at your request as opposed to  
an appearance in Washington, D. C., is that correct?

A Yes, I guess you could say that, yes.

1 Q And, for the record, you are accompanied by coun-  
2 sel today?

3 A Yes.

4 MR. WOLF: Could counsel please identify himself  
5 on the record?

6 MR. CLAIBORNE: Harry E. Claiborne, 108 South  
7 Third Street, Las Vegas, Nevada.

8 BY MR. WOLF:

9 Q Mr. Matthews, the entire record today will be  
10 transcribed. After the Committee has received a copy of  
11 the transcription, we will send you a copy of that record  
12 and ask you to sign and verify that, that it is a true,  
13 complete, and accurate account of the testimony you have  
14 given.

15 We will then ask you to sign a statement to that  
16 effect and return it to us at the Committee's offices.

17 If you desire to make any changes in the trans-  
18 cription, I would request that you contact us and we will  
19 make the appropriate arrangements.

20 If you do sign and verify the transcript, we will  
21 then provide you a copy for your permanent records of the  
22 transcript.

23 MR. Matthews, where were you born and what was  
24 the date of your birth?

25 A July 26, 1920; Aspermont, Texas.

1 Q How long did you live in Aspermont, Texas?

2 A Until I was seven years old.

3 Q Where did you move at that time?

4 A Dallas, Texas.

5 Q How long did you reside in Dallas?

6 A The rest of my life until the last seven years.

7 I moved here a little over seven years ago.

8 Q You moved here in approximately 1971?

9 A Yes; January of 1971.

10 Q And in Dallas, Texas, what was the first job  
11 that you held while you were living there?

12 A I don't remember. I have had a lot of jobs  
13 there. I don't remember the first one really. I was just  
14 a kid. I worked in filling stations. I don't remember.

15 Q Could you run through a chronology for us of some  
16 of the jobs you currently remember in Dallas that you held?

17 A No, no, not that long ago I can't. I have been  
18 in business for myself most of my life.

19 Q You are self-employed?

20 A Yes.

21 Q While in Dallas, do you remember ever working  
22 for any other person? Were you ever employed at a club?

23 A No, sir, not--no, sir.

24 Q When did you first meet Mr. Jack Ruby?

25 A I can't really tell you that. I didn't know him

1 that well. I don't really know how to answer that. I  
2 can't answer it. I don't know. How I really met him I  
3 don't know.

4 Q Do you remember approximately when you met him?

5 A Let me see. I guess maybe the late '50s, some-  
6 where around there I suppose. I am just guessing because I  
7 wasn't that close an acquaintance that it sticks out in my  
8 mind.

9 Q What were the circumstances of the first meeting  
10 you recall with Jack Ruby?

11 A I don't recall any. I didn't have any meetings  
12 with him. I knew him to speak to him on the street but I  
13 don't remember ever having any meetings with him.

14 Q What was the first time that you remember ever  
15 speaking to him on the street?

16 A That is impossible for me to say. I don't know.

17 Q How do you estimate it was the late 1950s?

18 A Well, I am just guessing. It seemed like he had  
19 been around Dallas or I'd heard his name or seen him on the  
20 street for a few years before this Kennedy assassination.  
21 I am just assuming it was the late '50s. I don't really  
22 remember.

23 Q Do you recall ever being asked by FBI agents  
24 when you first met Jack Ruby?

25 A No, sir.

1 Q You have no memory of FBI agents interrogating  
2 you?

3 A I remember FBI agents talking to me about it. I  
4 don't remember that they asked that particular question.

5 Q In response to the FBI interview, would you have  
6 told them in 1963 or '64, I would assume that would be--

7 A I suppose; '63, whenever it happened.

8 Q (Continuing) '63, would you have told them at  
9 that time a true account of your recollection of when you  
10 first met Jack Ruby?

11 A If I told them it was a true account. I don't  
12 recall what I told them.

13 Q Mr. Matthews, let me show you, for the record--

14 A All right.

15 Q (Continuing) --a copy of an interview conducted  
16 with you by the Federal Bureau of Investigation dated De-  
17 cember 15, 1963, and ask you to read that at this time.

18 A Twelve years; I don't remember saying that. No,  
19 sir, I don't remember saying that I'd known him 12 years  
20 and I don't think I had.

21 Q If you had known him 12 years, that would have  
22 meant you first met him in 1951, is that correct?

23 A Yes, sir, I suppose that is true, but I don't re-  
24 member saying this.

25 I remember some of these other things I said. I

1 don't recall saying that I'd known him for 12 years. I  
2 don't remember that. It has been some time ago, you know.

3 Q Is your testimony today that that statement--

4 MR. CLAIBORNE (interrupting): Counsel, could I  
5 have a copy?

6 MR. WOLF: Surely.

7 BY MR. WOLF:

8 Q Is your testimony today that that statement would  
9 be incorrect?

10 A I can't really say, sir, to tell you the truth.  
11 It has been some time ago and if I said I'd known him 12  
12 years--like I say, some of those things that they asked me  
13 I remember saying. I don't remember saying I'd known him  
14 12 years.

15 I was not a close friend of his. I never had any  
16 mix with him socially or anything. I just don't remember  
17 how long I'd known him. You go a year or two and don't see  
18 somebody sometimes. I didn't know him that well.

19 Q What was the nature of your interaction with  
20 Jack Ruby?

21 A Nothing. He was a man that was well known around  
22 on the streets of Dallas. If you pass by him on the street  
23 he's liable to introduce himself to you, so if I'd pass him  
24 I'd say hello. I don't know what else to tell you.

25 Q Were you familiar with the clubs in Dallas that



1 Jack Ruby visited?

2 A I've heard that he had some clubs. I have never  
3 been in one of them.

4 Q You have never been in the Carrousel Club?

5 A I don't know where the Carrousel Club was actual-  
6 ly.

7 Q Did you know of any other clubs that Jack Ruby  
8 had?

9 A He has had several clubs around Dallas but I  
10 don't recall the names. Now, where the Carrousel Club--I  
11 didn't know he had--I don't recall the names of any of  
12 them. I don't remember ever being in any club Jack Ruby  
13 had.

14 If I have been, I don't remember it.

15 Q Did you ever live in Cuba?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q What period of time was that?

18 A 1958 and '59.

19 Q Was that continuous that you lived there during  
20 that time?

21 A No; I went to Cuba in 1958 and when Castro, they,  
22 had the revolution, I came back for a few months and then  
23 went back and stayed until November 1959.

24 Q Do you recall what time you returned to the  
25 States? You said Castro had the revolution.

1           A     Castro took over in the revolution, I think it  
2 was January 1, 1959, which I returned to the United States  
3 and I stayed--I don't remember the exact date that I went  
4 back; maybe a month or so.

5           Q     Did you come to the United States directly after  
6 the revolution, would it have been January of '59?

7           A     Yes, sir.

8           Q     And you stayed in the United States approximately  
9 how long?

10          A     I'd say a month or two. I don't remember now;  
11 until things got settled down. I had a place of business  
12 there.

13          Q     And then you returned to Cuba?

14          A     Yes, sir.

15          Q     What did you do in Cuba upon your return?

16          A     I owned two bars there.

17          Q     Which bars were those?

18          A     I owned a bar in the Plaza Hotel in the lobby and  
19 I owned a bar on Henio Street. H-e-n-i-o or something, I  
20 don't remember how you spell it.

21          Q     What was the name of that bar, do you recall?

22          A     No; Sportsman's Club, I think.

23          Q     While in Cuba did you know Mr. Lewis McWillie?

24          A     Yes, sir.

25          Q     How did you know Mr. McWillie?

1           A    He lived in Dallas. I had known him for several  
2 years in Dallas.

3           Q    Was that prior to your going to Cuba?

4           A    Yes, sir.

5           Q    When you first went to Cuba, did you have a job  
6 before you left for Cuba?

7           A    No, sir.

8           Q    Upon your arrival in Cuba, who did you stay with  
9 or who did you first meet?

10          A    I stayed in a hotel by myself.

11          Q    Did you have any meetings with Mr. McWillie at  
12 that time?

13          A    No, sir. Mr. McWillie wasn't even in Cuba when  
14 I went there.

15          Q    And you established the bars by yourself?

16          A    Yes, sir.

17          Q    During the period of time you were in Cuba, 1959,  
18 did you meet Mr. McWillie often?

19          A    No.

20          Q    What was the first time that you met Mr. McWillie  
21 in Cuba?

22          A    I don't know how to answer that question. You  
23 are talking about something that happened 18 or 19 years  
24 ago and I really can't truthfully answer.

25          Q    Well, Mr. McWillie was a friend of yours from

1 Dallas, isn't that true?

2 A I knew him in Dallas, yes, sir.

3 Q Did he call you when he arrived in Cuba?

4 A No.

5 Q How did you first find out he was in Cuba?

6 A I don't know. I might have just run into him.

7 You're talking about something that happened 18,  
8 19 years ago. I don't really remember.

9 Q I understand that.

10 Do you recall any of your discussions with Mr.

11 McWillie?

12 A No. I didn't have that many discussions with him.

13 Q Approximately how often did you see him?

14 A Oh, I'd probably pass by him once every two or  
15 three months or so. I don't know.

16 Q Do you know, did Jack Ruby ever visit Cuba?

17 A I didn't see him.

18 Q Have you heard that he visited Cuba?

19 A I have heard since this thing came out that he was  
20 there, yes, sir.

21 Q He did not visit you while he--

22 A (Interrupting) No, sir, I did not see him. I  
23 didn't even know he was there.

24 Q Did you ever discuss with Mr. McWillie the fact  
25 that Jack Ruby visited Cuba?

1 A I don't remember that I have.

2 Q Do you know Mr. Tony Zoppi?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q How do you know Mr. Zoppi?

5 A Mr. Zoppi used to be the entertainment writer or  
6 critic for the Dallas Morning News before he came to work  
7 here in Las Vegas. I knew him very casually.

8 Q Have you maintained contact with him since he came  
9 to Las Vegas?

10 A No, sir. I just knew who he was, that's all.

11 Q Have you ever met Mr. Zoppi?

12 A I think I have. I think so, yes.

13 Q Has Mr. Zoppi ever discussed with you a trip Jack  
14 Ruby took to Cuba?

15 A No, sir. Mr. Zoppi has never discussed anything  
16 with me. I guess this is a period of 20, 25 years, I doubt  
17 if I have ever spoken to him three times, three or four.

18 Q Where were you when you heard that Jack Ruby as-  
19 sassinated Lee Harvey Oswald?

20 A In my home at that address you have there; Irving,  
21 Texas.

22 Q When was the last time before the assassination  
23 that you saw Jack Ruby?

24 A I don't know, sir. I don't know, because I had  
25 no meetings with him of any consequence. There wouldn't be

1 any way--I never stopped and talked to him or anything. I  
2 might have spoken to him on the street. I really don't  
3 know.

4 Q What were your thoughts when you heard that Jack  
5 Ruby had killed Lee Harvey Oswald, given the fact that Jack  
6 Ruby was a person you knew even though casually?

7 A I just couldn't believe it actually. Probably  
8 just like anyone else, I couldn't believe that anyone would  
9 do what he did. It was unbelievable to me that someone  
10 would walk in a police station and do that. If that is  
11 the reaction you're looking for, I couldn't believe it.

12 Q Is there any way for you to determine when the  
13 last time prior to the assassination that you saw Jack Ruby  
14 was?

15 A No, sir, I can't answer that. I don't know.

16 Q Did you have any contact with Jack Ruby subse-  
17 quent to the assassination?

18 A No, sir.

19 Q Were you married to a woman known as Elizabeth  
20 Ann Matthews?

21 A Yes.

22 Q When did you divorce Ms. Matthews?

23 A I don't remember the year.

24 The questions you ask me happened 18, 20 years  
25 ago. It is impossible for me to remember the exact dates.

1 Q Was it in the early '50s, late '50s, or early  
2 '60s, can you state that?

3 A Probably the late '50s.

4 Q Late '50s?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q It was before John F. Kennedy became President,  
7 to the best of your recollection?

8 A Maybe right about that time, to the best of my  
9 recollection, right close to that time, yes, sir.

10 Q Where did your ex-wife continue to live after you  
11 divorced her?

12 A I don't have any idea.

13 Q Did you live, prior to your divorce, in Shreve-  
14 port, Louisiana?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q Are you aware, did your ex-wife ever live in  
17 Shreveport, Louisiana?

18 A I think that she could have. I might have heard  
19 that. I'm not sure.

20 Q Subsequent to your divorce, did you maintain con-  
21 tact with your wife?

22 A Before we were divorced?

23 Q After your divorce.

24 A No.

25 Q You had no contact with her at all?

1           A     I don't say that I haven't seen her or spoken to  
2 her, but as far as any contact--

3           Q     Do you know where she is living now?

4           A     I have no idea.

5           Q     What was the last address that you know she was  
6 living at, what city?

7           A     I don't have any idea, sir. I don't know for  
8 sure.

9           Q     What was her maiden name?

10          A     Flanagan.

11          Q     Have you heard of the allegation that Jack Ruby  
12 made a phone call to your ex-wife the month before the as-  
13 sassinatio

14          A     No, I didn't even know they knew each other.

15                   BY MR. PURDY:

16          Q     Mr. Matthews, was your relationship or your con-  
17 tact with Jack Ruby such that you ever made or received a  
18 phone call from him?

19          A     Not to my knowledge, no, sir, not that I ever re-  
20 call.

21          Q     What was Jack Ruby's reputation in the community?  
22 You said he was well known. What was he well known for?

23          A     I'd say he was well known because he speaks to  
24 you on the street. He was the kind of a man--I just knew  
25 he ran clubs. I don't know that much about his reputation.



1 He was a person who would make himself known if you were  
2 ever around him.

3 Q Do you know anyone who was close to Jack Ruby?

4 A No, I couldn't--I don't know that I did.

5 BY MR. WOLF:

6 Q Did Jack Ruby have a good relationship with the  
7 Dallas Police Department?

8 MR. CLAIBORNE: How would he know?

9 A Not knowing him any better than I do, I don't see  
10 how you think I could answer a question like that. I don't  
11 know.

12 BY MR. WOLF:

13 Q To the extent you knew Mr. Ruby's reputation in  
14 the community.

15 A I don't know his reputation in the community. I  
16 just knew him as a passing acquaintance.

17 BY MR. PURDY:

18 Q Did you ever have the occasion to have dinner or  
19 coffee or a drink with Jack Ruby?

20 A Not that I ever recall, I don't ever remember sit-  
21 ting down at a table with him.

22 BY MR. WOLF:

23 Q Mr. Matthews, we are going to commence a new area  
24 of questioning now which will relate to your knowledge of  
25 Jack Ruby's involvement in activities that were going on

1 in Dallas in the 1950s and early 1960s.

2 To your knowledge, was there activity in Dallas  
3 which involved gun running or smuggling of arms or narcotics  
4 to Cuba?

5 A Not to my knowledge.

6 Q Was there any gun running or smuggling of arms or  
7 narcotics to Mexico?

8 A Not to my knowledge.

9 Q Do you know a John Thomas Mason?

10 A John Thomas Mason?

11 Q Yes.

12 A No, sir, not that I remember.

13 Q Do you know a Robert Ray McKeown?

14 A I don't remember the name, sir. No, I don't think  
15 so.

16 Q Do you know a Joseph Raymond Merola?

17 A No, sir.

18 Q Do you know a Dominick Bartone?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q Again addressing the period from 1947 through the  
21 early 1960s, and breaking the periods down into categories  
22 to put Jack Ruby's activities in context--

23 MR. CLAIBORNE: '47 to '50?

24 MR. WOLF: Yes, when Jack Ruby first moved to Dal-  
25 las.

1 BY MR. WOLF:

2 Q Prior to 1947 to put Jack Ruby in historical con-  
3 text, was there in Dallas people engaged in gambling activ-  
4 ities?

5 A I don't know that Jack Ruby ever was.

6 Q The question is prior to 1947 were people in Dal-  
7 las engaged in gambling activities.

8 MR. CLAIBORNE: Were there people involved; you  
9 are not talking about Ruby?

10 MR. WOLF: The question is whether there were  
11 people involved in gambling--

12 MR. CLAIBORNE (interrupting): '47 to '50?

13 MR. WOLF: Prior to 1947.

14 MR. CLAIBORNE: I am going to object to that and  
15 ask for a statement of materiality.

16 MR. WOLF: The statement of materiality is that  
17 Jack Ruby moves to Dallas in 1947. There is a substantial  
18 question whether the move to Dallas was in part an opera-  
19 tion of organized crime from Chicago moving into the Dallas  
20 area.

21 To determine whether or not that is correct, it  
22 is necessary that the entire picture of crime operations in  
23 Dallas, both prior to 1947 and subsequent, be put into its  
24 proper context.

25 MR. CLAIBORNE: That is rather broad and far

1 reaching. As I understand it, your theory is in 1957 that  
2 Jack Ruby moved to Dallas, Texas, and that there was people  
3 involved in gambling and crime and that you want this wit-  
4 ness to explore whether or not there was any connection be-  
5 tween Ruby and ~~gambling~~ activities, is that what your--

6 MR. WOLF: Yes, that's right. The year was--

7 MR. CLAIBORNE (interrupting): Why don't you ask  
8 him that?

9 MR. WOLF: The year was 1947, not 1957. That is  
10 why the first question addressed itself to 1947.

11 MR. CLAIBORNE: Why don't you ask him whether or  
12 not he knew--

13 MR. WOLF: We will be addressing that question.  
14 It was, first, more important to determine the general pose-  
15 ture in Dallas as to organized or lack of organized crime  
16 activity in the Dallas area.

17 MR. CLAIBORNE: All right.

18 A Sir, I was in the Marine Corps during World War  
19 II and I didn't get back to the United States until the  
20 last part of 1945, or really the first part of '46, and  
21 there wasn't any organized gambling of any kind for anyone  
22 that I knew of then.

23 BY MR. WOLF:

24 Q That was in 1946?

25 A Well, I got back from the Marine Corps I think

1 October, November of 1945, so I didn't really know about  
2 anything until 1946.

3 Q And in 1946-'47 are you familiar with, during  
4 those two years, two years prior to Jack Ruby moving to  
5 Dallas, do you know, were individuals engaged in gambling  
6 activities in the Dallas area?

7 A Well, sir, as far as people engaged in gambling,  
8 I suppose people gamble somewhere every day. I didn't see  
9 any gambling I don't think in the context you're talking  
10 about.

11 Q What type of gambling generally did you see at  
12 that time?

13 A I didn't see any gambling as far as any gambling  
14 casinos being open, if that's what you have reference to.

15 Q Generally, I would appreciate your description,  
16 and this is for historical context.

17 A I suppose anybody might bet on a football game or  
18 a boxing match on TV or something. I don't know what kind  
19 of gambling you're talking about.

20 Q Were there any gambling clubs?

21 A No, sir, not to my knowledge.

22 Q Have you ever heard of the Redman Club?

23 A The Redman's Club; yes, sir. That wasn't a gam-  
24 bling club.

25 Q What type of club was that?

1           A     It was a social club for members only, but there  
2 was no dice games or roulette or any kind of gambling there.  
3 They might have had some friendly poker games occasionally  
4 between the members. It was not a gambling club.

5           Q     Are you familiar with the Top of the Hill Club?

6           A     I've heard the name. I've never been in it.

7           Q     Do you know if in the Top of the Hill Club any  
8 gambling activities took place?

9           A     If they took place that late, I didn't never know  
10 anything about it. I'd heard of it earlier. After I got  
11 back they were talking about it used to be gambling there.

12                     If there was gambling there at the time you are  
13 asking me, I didn't know it.

14          Q     Do you know the Plantation Club?

15          A     No, sir.

16          Q     Have you ever heard of a Mr. Hyman Fader?

17          A     Not that I remember.

18          Q     Let me return for one second to a question that I  
19 asked on gun running. Do you know a Johnnie Grasaffi?

20          A     Johnnie Grasaffi; yes, I think I do know who  
21 you're talking about, yes, sir.

22          Q     How do you know Mr. Grasaffi?

23          A     Just heard his name, maybe seen him a few times.

24          Q     Where did you see Mr. Grasaffi?

25          A     I don't remember.

1 Q What period of time did you know him, when did  
2 you first meet him and approximately how often did you see  
3 him?

4 A I suppose it was in the late '40s, the best I re-  
5 member. I wasn't a close friend of his or anything like  
6 that.

7 Q Do you know what type of activities Mr. Grasaffi  
8 was engaged in?

9 A No, sir.

10 Q Had you ever heard of Mr. Grasaffi being engaged  
11 in any activities involving gun running or smuggling?

12 A No, sir.

13 Q In 1947 was there in Dallas a crackdown on gamb-  
14 ling activities?

15 A I suppose there might have been. I wasn't in-  
16 volved in it so I don't know, but I have heard this, yes,  
17 that they had an election and there might have been some-  
18 thing going on before that that were no longer allowed. I  
19 have heard this, yes.

20 Q Which election are you referring to?

21 A I think it was 1946, I guess. I don't remember--  
22 was that--I don't know. You probably have it written down  
23 in front of you there.

24 Q Is this the election involving Sheriff Guthrie?

25 A Yes, sir, I think that was the election I am talk-

1 ing about.

2 Q What was the effect of that election, to the best  
3 of your knowledge?

4 A I just heard people talk that a lot of things in-  
5 volved in gambling, whatever it amounted to, that it didn't  
6 go on any more. Like I say, that's just about the time I  
7 got back from World War II.

8 Q Do you recall, did people involved in gambling  
9 activities stop gambling or did some of them move out of  
10 the city, or what was the general result of the election?

11 A I had no way of knowing, sir. That was just about  
12 the time I got back from World War II. I don't know who  
13 was doing it.

14 Q Have you heard that many of the people involved in  
15 gambling left Dallas and moved to Las Vegas?

16 A No, I don't remember that I heard that.

17 Q Do you know if that is true?

18 A It possibly could be, yes, sir.

19 Q Do you know Mr. Joseph Slaten?

20 A Joe Slaten; yes, sir, I used to know him.

21 Q How did you know Mr. Slaten?

22 A He owned a club there in Dallas. He used to have  
23 clubs. There was never any gambling involved in them.

24 Q Do you know if Mr. Jack Ruby knew Mr. Joseph Sla-  
25 ten?



1 A I don't know, sir.

2 Q Do you know a James Henry Dolan?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q How do you know Mr. Dolan?

5 A I just met him. I don't remember how I met him.  
6 I knew him casually.

7 Q Do you know if Jack Ruby knew Mr. Dolan?

8 A I don't know sir.

9 Q Do you know a James Robert Todd?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q How do you know Mr. Todd?

12 A He was just an acquaintance of mine from 25 years  
13 ago or so. I don't remember how I first met him.

14 Q Do you know if Mr. Todd was involved in any gam-  
15 bling activities?

16 A Not to my knowledge.

17 Q Was Mr. Todd ever involved in activities involv-  
18 ing safe cracking?

19 A I don't know.

20 Q Do you know if Jack Ruby knew Mr. Todd?

21 A I don't know that either. They might have known  
22 each other. I don't know.

23 Q Are you familiar with the AGVA Union?

24 A What is it?

25 Q A-G-V-A.

1 MR. PURDY: American Guild of Variety Artists.

2 A I think--it has something to do with performers  
3 and that; I know what the union is.

4 BY MR. WOLF:

5 Q Were you familiar with it in Dallas?

6 A No. I mean, I don't know anything about it.

7 Q You don't know anything about it?

8 A No. I think this fellow Dolan worked for them  
9 when he was there but I don't know anything about it.

10 BY MR. PURDY:

11 Q Did you ever have any business dealings with Mr.  
12 Dolan?

13 A No.

14 BY MR. WOLF:

15 Q Do you know any of the interaction Jack Ruby may  
16 have had with people involved in AGVA?

17 A No, sir, I have no idea.

18 Q Do you know an Isadore Max Miller?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q And how do you know her?

21 A Just an old acquaintance that I have known around  
22 Dallas for years. It is impossible for me to remember how  
23 I met a man first 25 or 30 years ago.

24 Q Was he involved in any gambling activities?

25 A I never did see him involved in any. I don't

1 know.

2 Q Do you know if Jack Ruby knew him?

3 A I don't know that either.

4 Q Do you know Mr. Harry Urban?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q How do you know Mr. Urban?

7 A The same way, just that he lived in Dallas all of  
8 his life and I have. I don't know. I can't tell you how I  
9 first met him.

10 Q Did you know him socially or did you ever have  
11 any business with Mr. Urban?

12 A No, sir.

13 Q Which way did you know him?

14 A I just knew him as a speaking acquaintance.

15 Q Do you know if Mr. Urban was involved in any  
16 gambling activities?

17 A I never did any gambling with him. I couldn't  
18 say that. I don't know.

19 Q Do you know if Jack Ruby knew Mr. Urban?

20 A I don't know.

21 Q Did you know Mr. Harry Hall?

22 A Not to my knowledge.

23 Q Also known as Harry Sinclair?

24 A No, sir.

25 Q During the period of 1958 through 1960 were you

1 aware of any gambling activities in the City of Dallas?

2 A I don't know how I could have, sir. I was living  
3 in Havana, Cuba. You just established that a few minutes  
4 ago.

5 Q But you could have been aware of gambling activi-  
6 ties?

7 A No, I had no way of being aware of it.

8 Q Do you know Mr. Paul Rowland Jones?

9 A I have heard his name. I don't know him, no.

10 Q You have never met Mr. Jones?

11 A No, sir, not that I remember.

12 Q Did Mr. Ruby know Mr. Jones?

13 A I have no way of knowing that.

14 Q Do you know Mr. James Breen?

15 A James what?

16 Q Breen, B-r-e-e-n.

17 A No, not that I remember.

18 Q Was there in the period 1958 through 1960 any  
19 drug trafficking ongoing in the city of Dallas?

20 A Sir, you just established that I lived in Havana,  
21 Cuba, in those years and I don't know how you would expect  
22 me to know anything like that.

23 Q Some of your associates may have spoken to you--

24 A (Interrupting) How would any associates--I was  
25 living in Havana, Cuba. I don't even know if I saw anyone

1 from Dallas in that period of time.

2 Q You stated you saw Mr. McWillie, who was from  
3 Dallas.

4 A McWillie was living in Havana, Cuba, when I saw  
5 him, sir.

6 Q After your return to Dallas in 1961--is that  
7 right?

8 A 1960, November of 1960.

9 Q And how do you recollect that date?

10 A I just remember that it was just about the time  
11 of Kennedy's election. That's the reason I remember.

12 Q After your return to Dallas from 1960 to 1963  
13 were you aware of any gambling activities in the City of  
14 Dallas?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q Were you aware of any drug trafficking involving  
17 people in the City of Dallas?

18 A No, sir.

19 Q Do you know a Helen Alfonse Roan?

20 A No, sir.

21 Q Had you ever heard that Jack Ruby was involved in  
22 gambling activities in the City of Dallas?

23 A No, sir.

24 Q Had you ever heard that he was involved in drug  
25 trafficking?

1 A No, sir.

2 Q Had you ever heard that he was involved in pros-  
3 titution activities?

4 A No, sir.

5 Q You have already testified that you could not  
6 characterize Jack Ruby's general relationship with the Dal-  
7 las police. However, let me ask, was it practice, to your  
8 knowledge, in Dallas to have individuals give kickbacks to  
9 the Police Department, individuals who ran particular clubs?

10 A No, sir, not to my knowledge.

11 Q Do you know if Jack Ruby ever gave any kickbacks  
12 to the police?

13 A I would have no way of knowing that, sir.

14 Q Do you know if Jack Ruby was ever a police in-  
15 formant?

16 A I have no way of knowing that.

17 Q Do you know Mr. Sam Campisi?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q How do you know Mr. Campisi?

20 A I went to school with Campisi, Sam Campisi, when  
21 we were kids. I have known him all my life.

22 Q Have you ever had any business dealings with Mr.  
23 Campisi?

24 A Business dealings, no, I don't remember that we  
25 ever had any business dealings. He was a friend of mine.

1 I knew him until the time he died. I went to his funeral.

2 Q Do you know if Jack Ruby knew Mr. Campisi?

3 A I don't know. They could have. They were both  
4 in the kind of business that they're in the public eye.  
5 They could have known each other. One of them had clubs.  
6 The other had a restaurant. I don't know anything about  
7 their relationship.

8 Q Do you know Mr. Joe Campisi?

9 A Yes, sir; he is Sam's brother. I know him well.

10 Q Was your relationship with Joe Campisi the same  
11 as your relationship with Sam?

12 A Joe was a little older, but yes, sir, I've known  
13 him for years.

14 Q Do you know if Mr. Ruby knew Mr. Joe Campisi?

15 A They could have, sir. I don't know anything  
16 about their relationship.

17 Q Do you know Mr. Joseph Civello?

18 A No, sir. I've heard his name.

19 Q You have never met him?

20 A I might have met him at some time. I can't say  
21 that I haven't met him but I wasn't a friend of his or  
22 close associate.

23 Q Do you know if Mr. Ruby knew Mr. Civello?

24 A No, sir, I don't know that.

25 Q Do you know Mr. Dusty Miller?

- 1 A No, sir.
- 2 Q Have you ever heard that name?
- 3 A I don't remember that I did. I don't remember.
- 4 Q Do you know Mr. Lenny Patrick?
- 5 A No, not to my knowledge.
- 6 Q Have you ever heard the name?
- 7 A Not that I remember.
- 8 Q Do you know Mr. David Yaras?
- 9 A No, sir.
- 10 Q Have you ever heard the name?
- 11 A Not to my knowledge.
- 12 Q Do you know Mr. Barney Baker?
- 13 A No, sir.
- 14 Q Have you ever heard that name before?
- 15 A Not that I remember.
- 16 Q Do you know Mr. Nofio Pecora?
- 17 A No, sir.
- 18 Q Have you ever heard the name before?
- 19 A Not to my knowledge.
- 20 Q You do know and currently work for, in fact, Mr.  
21 Benny Binion, is that correct?
- 22 A Yes, sir, I know Mr. Benny Binion. I work for  
23 him now.
- 24 Q When did you first meet Mr. Binion?
- 25 A It was out here, I guess. I don't remember what



1 year. It was 20, 25 years ago, I guess, 20 or 25. I don't  
2 remember.

3 Q When you say "out here," do you mean Las Vegas?

4 A Las Vegas, yes, sir.

5 Q At that time you were living in the City of Dal-  
6 las?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q How did you first meet Mr. Binion in Las Vegas?

9 A I don't remember. He is in business. I guess I  
10 maybe visited, someone introduced us, I guess. I don't  
11 know.

12 Q Was he living in Las Vegas at that time?

13 A Benny Binion; yes, sir, he had a place of busi-  
14 ness.

15 Q And you were here on--

16 A (Interrupting) Visiting.

17 Q Did you maintain contact with Mr. Binion after  
18 you returned to Dallas?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q When did you next see Mr. Binion?

21 A I don't know. I came out here quite often.

22 Q When you first moved to Las Vegas, did you im-  
23 mediately go to work for Mr. Binion?

24 A No, sir.

25 Q Who did you first work for in Las Vegas?

1           A     Johnie Lane in a racing sports club. The name of  
2 it was the Paddock Racing Sports Club, on First Street.

3           Q     How long did you work there?

4           A     Three and a half years.

5           Q     Who did you work for after that time?

6           A     Benny Binion.

7           Q     Have you maintained contact with Mr. Lewis Mc-  
8 Willie in Las Vegas?

9           A     No, sir.

10          Q     When was the last time you spoke to Mr. McWillie?

11          A     Well, he worked at the Horseshoe for a while. I  
12 believe that is the last time that I've seen him.

13          Q     What time period was that that he worked there?

14          A     Let's see, I guess he has been gone away from  
15 there over a year ago, I suppose. He was working there  
16 when--we were working the same place together. I saw him  
17 then. I don't recall seeing him any since then.

18          Q     While you were in Cuba did you ever have any  
19 business dealings with Mr. McWillie?

20          A     No, sir.

21          Q     Subsequent to your return from Cuba and his re-  
22 turn from Cuba, did you ever have any business dealings  
23 with him?

24          A     No, sir.

25          Q     Did Mr. McWillie ever discuss Jack Ruby with you?

1 A No, sir.

2 Q Do you know Mr. Ralph Paul?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q Have you ever heard that name?

5 A No, sir.

6 Q Do you know Mr. Norman Rothman?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q Have you ever heard that name before?

9 A Not to my knowledge.

10 Q Do you know Mr. James Bradin?

11 A No, sir.

12 Q Mr. Eugene Hale Brading?

13 A No, sir.

14 Q Do you know a Mr. Ben Whittaker?

15 A Yes, I've heard his name. I don't know that I  
16 have ever met him personally.

17 Q Do you know what activities Mr. Whittaker was en-  
18 gaged in?

19 A He owned a hotel there in Dallas that I knew of.  
20 That's the reason he was well known. He owned some race  
21 horses. That's the way I heard his name.

22 Q Did you hear that Mr. Whittaker was involved in  
23 gambling prior to 1947?

24 A Not to my knowledge, no, sir.

25 Q Do you know a Pat McFay Kirkland?

1 A What name?

2 Q Pat McFay Kirkland.

3 A No, sir.

4 Q Have you ever heard that name before?

5 A Not that I remember.

6 Q Prior to your moving to Cuba what were you doing  
7 in Dallas, Texas?

8 A I was in the bail bond business.

9 Q And why did you decide to move to Cuba?

10 A I don't know. I just did, that's all. The busi-  
11 ness I was in wasn't doing any good.

12 Q Did you contact anybody in Cuba prior to moving  
13 there?

14 A No.

15 Q Had you ever been in Cuba prior to moving there?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q Did you just fly yourself down and move into a  
18 hotel?

19 A I just went down to look. I heard there were op-  
20 portunities there. There was a lot of tourist activity.

21 Q The first time you went down, in effect, you  
22 wound up staying for about a year, is that correct?

23 A No, sir, I came back and got my clothes and things  
24 like that and then went back and made a deal with somebody  
25 about a club.

1 Q The first time you went down was to establish a  
2 business opportunity?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q How long were you down on that trip?

5 A A week or two, the best I remember.

6 Q How long did you return to Dallas for?

7 A Just long enough to get things packed, a day or  
8 so, and went back.

9 Q Who did you see on that first trip to establish  
10 your business opportunity?

11 A I don't remember the name. It was a Cuban. Those  
12 names are very difficult to remember. I made arrangements  
13 to buy a club from him.

14 Q Was it a Cuban National?

15 A I don't know, sir.

16 Q Was it a businessman or someone affiliated with  
17 the government?

18 A No, no, he wasn't affiliated with the government.  
19 He owned a club.

20 Q He owned a club and he sold the club to you?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Which club was that?

23 A That was the one on Henio Street, the Sportsman's  
24 Club.

25 Q Was that the only club you bought that trip?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q When did you buy your second club?

3 A The first part of 1959.

4 Q And you kept the other club in operation as well  
5 as the second?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q After you permanently moved to Cuba did you ever  
8 return to the United States until Castro took over?

9 A Now, I returned when Castro took over. That is  
10 the only time.

11 Q But you didn't come back for a visit or anything?

12 A No.

13 Q Do you recall the date on which you bought the  
14 second club? You said it was 1959.

15 A It was the first part of 1959 right after I re-  
16 turned--I don't remember the exact date. I returned from  
17 the United States the first couple of days of 1959. I  
18 stayed a week or two and went back. It was right in that  
19 period of time; January or February.

20 Q You bought the second club in Cuba after Castro  
21 had taken over?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q Did you feel that was a good investment to make  
24 at that time?

25 A It wasn't that much money involved. It was a

1 lease thing from the hotel. I had to buy the merchandise  
2 and the right to it.

3 Q What hotel was that?

4 A The Plaza Hotel.

5 Q In your arranging the lease was it necessary to  
6 deal with any of the new Cuban government officials?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q The first club you owned outright, is that right?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q And the second club you just leased?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Did you ever have any association with the Dovel  
13 Hotel?

14 A I lived there for a while.

15 Q Did you ever operate any club there?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q Did you ever have any association with the Sans  
18 Souci Hotel?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q Do you know Mr. Salvador Amarena? Let me spell  
21 the last name--

22 A (Interrupting) It doesn't make any difference.  
23 You don't have to spell it because I don't know anybody who  
24 has a name close to that.

25 Q He is also known as Sammy Paxton.

1 A Oh, yes, I do know who you're talking about. He  
2 was an acquaintance of mine, yes.

3 Q How did you know Mr. Paxton?

4 A He had a club down there in Cuba. One of them  
5 wasn't too far from mine.

6 Q Do you know what club he worked at?

7 A I didn't know he worked at a club. He owned a  
8 club there. He had a club; a drink place, not a gambling  
9 club.

10 Q Do you know the name of it?

11 A No, I don't recall that.

12 Q Did Mr. Paxton know Mr. Santos Trafficante?

13 A I don't know.

14 Q Do you know Mr. Nick Cammata?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q C-a-m-m-a-t-a?

17 A No, sir.

18 Q Do you know Mr. Michael McLaney?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q Have you ever heard that Mr. McLaney was an owner  
21 of the National Casino?

22 A I'd heard that while I was living down there but  
23 I never met him.

24 Q Do you know Mr. Dino Cellini?

25 A No, sir.



- 1 Q Have you heard that name before?
- 2 A I don't remember. I could have, yes, sir. I  
3 think I have heard that name.
- 4 Q But you have never met Mr. Cellini?
- 5 A No, sir.
- 6 Q Do you know Mr. Santos Trafficante?
- 7 A No, sir..
- 8 Q Have you heard that name before?
- 9 A Yes, sir.
- 10 Q Do you know Mr. Frank Ragano?
- 11 A Frank who?
- 12 Q Ragano, R-a-g-a-n-o.
- 13 A No, sir.
- 14 Q Have you ever heard that name before?
- 15 A No, sir.
- 16 Q Did you ever meet Mr. Meyer Lansky?
- 17 A No, sir.
- 18 Q Have you ever spoken with Mr. Lansky?
- 19 A No, sir.
- 20 Q Did you ever meet or speak with Mr. Jake Lansky?
- 21 A No, sir.
- 22 Q Were you familiar with the Tropicana Club in  
23 Havana?
- 24 A No, sir. Familiar with it, I knew it was there.  
25 I didn't have anything to do with it.

1 Q Do you know who owned or operated the Tropicana?

2 A No, sir.

3 Q Have you heard the name John Roselli?

4 A No, sir.

5 Q You have never heard Mr. Roselli's name?

6 A Oh, yes, in a paper here lately I saw something  
7 about him, yes. I never met him or heard of him before.

8 Q Do you recall what it said in the paper?

9 A It said he got killed. They found him out in the  
10 ocean or something. I saw that in the paper.

11 Q You never met or spoke with Mr. Roselli?

12 A No, sir.

13 Q Have you ever heard of a Mr. Sam Giancana?

14 A I have heard the name, Yes, sir. I've seen him  
15 in the newspapers.

16 Q Have you ever spoken to Mr. Giancana?

17 A No, sir.

18 Q Do you know Mr. Robert Maheu?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q You have heard that name?

21 A I have heard the name, seen it in the papers.

22 Q Do you know Mr. Frank Rosenthal?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q How do you know Mr. Rosenthal?

25 A Well, Frank Rosenthal was running the Rose Bowl

1 Race and Sports Book when I was working that business, and  
2 we had occasion to do business with each other.

3 Q That was here in Vegas?

4 A Here in Law Vegas, yes.

5 Q Did you know Mr. Rosenthal while you were in Cu-  
6 ba?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q When was the first time you remember meeting Mr.  
9 Rosenthal?

10 A When I was working at the Paddock Race and Sports  
11 Book and he had the Rose Bowl. I guess the first year was  
12 1971.

13 Q Do you know if Mr. Rosenthal had any activities  
14 in Cuba?

15 A No, sir, I have no knowledge of that.

16 Q Do you know if Mr. Rosenthal knew Jack Ruby?

17 A No, sir.

18 Q Do you know Mr. Eugenio Leal, L-e-a-l?

19 A No.

20 Q Have you ever heard that name before?

21 A Not to my knowledge.

22 Q Have you ever heard the name Evaristo Garcia?

23 A No, sir.

24 Q Have you ever heard the name Rafael Garcia Bongo?

25 A No, sir.

1 Q Have you ever heard the name Raphael Gener?

2 A No, sir.

3 Q Have you ever heard the name Angelo Bruno?

4 A No, sir, not that I remember.

5 Q Mr. Bruno is from Philadelphia. Have you ever  
6 heard that--

7 A (Interrupting) I have never been to Philadelphia  
8 in my life.

9 Q Have you ever heard he may have had an interest  
10 in some of the Cuban casinos?

11 A Not to my knowledge, no sir.

12 Q Have you ever heard the name Gil Beckly?<sup>e</sup>

13 A No, sir. ^

14 Q Have you ever heard the name Sam<sup>my</sup> Benton?

15 A Sam what?

16 Q Benton, B-e-n-t-o-n.

17 A No, sir.

18 Q Have you ever heard the name Norman Rothman?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q Have you ever heard the name Sam Manarino.

21 MR. CLAIRBORNE: Counsel, I would like a statement  
22 of materiality and the purpose for the record. This man,  
23 you're asking him name after name after name that he doesn't  
24 know.

25 MR. WOLF: He--

1 MR. CLAIBORNE (interrupting): Let me finish, if  
2 you will please.

3 You young men have a job to do, and I appreciate  
4 that. I don't want to interfere. That is why I haven't  
5 made any objection, and I won't if I understand the situa-  
6 tion, but it seems to me terribly time consuming to ask a  
7 man a whole lot of questions that you know in advance that  
8 he doesn't know or you don't have some information that he  
9 knows.

10 MR. WOLF: If I may respond.

11 MR. CLAIBORNE: Those kinds of question are con-  
12 sidered by every court that has heard such propositions to  
13 be just not right.

14 If you have reason to believe he knows some of  
15 these people and he can be helpful in giving you informa-  
16 tion in that area, he is perfectly willing to do so, but  
17 please don't take up our time just running through a list  
18 of Italians. It seems like now you have a list of all of  
19 the Italians who have immigrated to this country maybe in a  
20 certain year.

21 MR. WOLF: Well, I will point out two propositions.  
22 First of all, as you are certainly aware, this is not a  
23 court--

24 MR. CLAIBORNE: I understand that.

25 MR. WOLF: This is a legislative proceeding--

1 MR. CLAIBORNE (interrupting): I am just asking  
2 for a statement so the record will show it.

3 MR. WOLF: I am just saying it is a legislative  
4 proceeding and, of course, the standards for relevancy and  
5 pertinency are different in a legislative proceeding than  
6 in a court proceeding.

7 MR. CLAIBORNE: Counsel, I am well aware of that.  
8 I have been Special Counsel in one of the Senate Committees  
9 in hearings myself. I am well aware of that.

10 MR. WOLF: These people we are listing--in re-  
11 sponse to your second point--are all individuals who are  
12 involved in Cuban activities. We do not know whether or  
13 not Mr. Matthews knew them. That is the purpose of asking  
14 these questions.

15 MR. CLAIBORNE: But do they have any connection  
16 with Ruby?

17 MR. WOLF: There is a connection with Ruby, yes,  
18 in some of them. As you are well aware, Mr. Matthews has  
19 responded that he knew some and not others. We do not know  
20 which individuals.

21 MR. CLAIBORNE: I think he has responded he has  
22 known one out of about the last 30 names you have read off.

23 BY MR. WOLF:

24 Q Have you heard of the name Mr. Charles Routine?

25 A No, sir.

1 Q Have you heard the name Babe Baron?

2 A What is it?

3 Q Babe Baron, B-a-r-o-n.

4 A No, not that I know of.

5 Q Are you familiar with General Baron?

6 A No.

7 MR. CLAIBORNE: General Baron who used to be at  
8 the Sands Hotel--

9 MR. WOLF: That could be.

10 MR. CLAIBORNE (continuing): --here in Vegas?

11 MR. WOLF: Yes.

12 MR. CLAIBORNE: Did you know him when he was here?

13 THE WITNESS: No, sir, I didn't know him.

14 BY MR. WOLF:

15 Q Do you know a Willie Bischoff?

16 A No.

17 Q Did you know Mr. John Wilson Hudson?

18 A No.

19 Q Have you ever met with Mr. H. L. Hunt?

20 A No, sir.

21 Q Do you know Mr. Hunt?

22 A No, sir.

23 Q Have you heard of Mr. Hunt?

24 A Everybody has heard of him, sir.

25 Q Were you ever present at a meeting where the pos-

1 sibility of killing Castro was discussed?

2 A No, sir.

3 You mean a meeting with Mr. Hunt?

4 Q Either a meeting with Mr. Hunt or without Mr.  
5 Hunt.

6 A No, sir.

7 Q You were never present at any meeting?

8 A No, sir.

9 Q Prior to the assassination of President Kennedy  
10 had you ever heard people discussing assassinating Fidel  
11 Castro?

12 A No, sir.

13 Q Subsequent to the assassination of President Ken-  
14 nedy did you hear any people discussing the possibility of  
15 assassinating Fidel Castro?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q Had you ever heard that the assassination of  
18 President Kennedy was in retaliation for an attempted as-  
19 sassinatio on Fidel Castro?

20 A No, sir.

21 Q Do you know Mr. John Eli Stone?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q How do you know Mr. Stone?

24 A He is just another man I've known for 30 years or  
25 so. I don't remember when I first met him.



1 Q Did you ever have any business dealings with Mr.  
2 Stone?

3 A No, business dealings, no, I didn't have any busi-  
4 ness dealings with him.

5 Q Where did Mr. Stone reside?

6 A Dallas, Texas.

7 Q Did you ever go to Las Vegas with Mr. Stone?

8 A With him; I don't remember that we got on the same  
9 plane and came together. I have seen him out here.

10 Q Do you recall when--you said you came on the same  
11 plane. Do you--

12 A (Interrupting) I say I don't recall--you asked  
13 did I come with him. I said I don't remember that we came  
14 together on the same plane. I have seen him on a lot of  
15 occasions out here in Las Vegas.

16 Q Did you ever take a joint trip, even if you  
17 weren't on the same plane, from Dallas to Las Vegas?

18 A Not that I remember, no, sir.

19 I won't say that that is impossible but I just  
20 don't remember it.

21 Q Do you know if any people here in Las Vegas were  
22 interesting in funding Jack Ruby's legal fees?

23 A No, sir, not to my knowledge.

24 Q Do you know Mr. Joseph Gebron, G-e-b-r-o-n?

25 A Yes, I knew him. He is dead now.

1 Q How did you know him?

2 A Just another old acquaintance around Dallas I have  
3 known for years.

4 Q Was he involved--prior to 1947 do you know if he  
5 was involved in any gambling activities?

6 A I don't know.

7 Q Do you know if he was involved in any gambling  
8 activities from 1947 through 1960?

9 A I don't know, sir.

10 Q Was he involved in any gambling activities subse-  
11 quent to 1960?

12 A I don't know, sir.

13 Q Was he arrested with you in 1967 on bookmaking  
14 charges?

15 A He got arrested on the street and they arrested  
16 me at the same time. They didn't arrest us together. They  
17 took us to jail together.

18 Q What was the charge you were arrested on?

19 A They arrested us for investigation of bookmaking  
20 and there was no charge ever made.

21 Q Have you ever heard of the Skynight Club?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q Do you know if Jack Ruby ever went there?

24 A Not that I know of.

25 Q You stated that you knew Mr. Johnnie Grasaffi?

1 A I knew him casually, yes, sir.

2 Q Do you know what activities Mr. Grasaffi engaged  
3 in?

4 A I have no idea.

5 Q Have you ever heard that before the mob assumed  
6 control of Dallas that Mr. Grassaffi would have to be run  
7 out of town?

8 A I didn't know the mob ever got control of Dallas.  
9 I didn't hear the other, either. No, sir, I didn't hear  
10 either one of them.

11 Q You currently work for Mr. Binion, as you testi-  
12 fied. Do you know why Mr. Binion left Dallas in 1947?

13 A I don't know, sir.

14 Q Has he ever discussed that with you?

15 A No. He doesn't have to discuss anything with me.

16 Q Do you know if Mr. Binion was engaged in gambling  
17 activities in Dallas prior to 1947?

18 A I don't know. I told you, when I returned back  
19 from the Marine Corps, he wasn't at that time.

20 Q Mr. Binion never discussed with you his activi-  
21 ties in Dallas?

22 A No, sir.

23 Q Did you ever have any business dealings with Mr.  
24 Binion aside from your current employment?

25 A No, sir.

1 Q Did Jack Ruby ever suggest doing any type of  
2 business deal with you?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q Are you familiar with any business dealings that  
5 Jack Ruby engaged in?

6 A No, sir.

7 Q Have you heard of Mr. Carlos Marcelo?

8 A I've heard the name, yes, sir.

9 Q Do you know if Jack Rudy knew him?

10 A I don't have any way of knowing that.

11 Q Did anybody hire Jack Ruby to kill Lee Harvey Os-  
12 wald?

13 A I don't know.

14 Q Did anybody hire Lee Harvey Oswald to kill Presi-  
15 dent Kennedy?

16 A I have no idea.

17 Q Is there any general information you could tell  
18 us about Jack Rudy that would be helpful to the Committee  
19 in investigating the assassination of President Kennedy?

20 A I don't know anything I could tell you, sir. I  
21 just don't know. He was a very slight acquaintance of mine,  
22 just a passing acquaintance.

23 Q Can you characterize him personalitywise?

24 A He was an outgoing sort of a man. That is one  
25 reason a lot of people knew him. He was an outgoing person-

1 ality and would make himself known or introduced to you if  
2 you were around him.

3 Q Was he an emotional kind of person?

4 A He seemed to be a nervous kind of a fellow. He  
5 was aggressive, you know, he wanted to be introduced, he'd  
6 give you a card, "Come to my club," things like that.  
7 That's all I really know about him.

8 Q Was he a violent person?

9 A I never saw--I don't have any way of knowing  
10 that. I never saw any occasion.

11 Q Did you ever see him engaged in any fights or ar-  
12 guments?

13 A No, sir.

14 Q Did you know any of Jack Ruby's sisters or broth-  
15 ers?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q Mr. Matthews, I believe that concludes our depo-  
18 sition. If you would like to make any statement for the  
19 record that will be helpful to the Committee, it would be  
20 most appreciated.

21 A I don't know what I can tell you, sir. If I  
22 could help you I would.

23 MR. WOLF: Thank you very much, Mr. Matthews. As  
24 we explained, we will send you a copy of this deposition.

25 \_\_\_\_\_  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_  
19 \_\_. My commission will expire \_\_\_\_\_.

1 United States of America, )  
 ( )  
 2 State of Nevada, ) ss.  
 ( )  
 3 City of Las Vegas. )

4 I, Joseph L. Ward, U. S. Magistrate, do certify  
 that, pursuant to notice, there came before me, in Room  
 5 4-003, Federal Courthouse, 210 Las Vegas Boulevard, in Law  
 Vegas, State of Nevada, Russell Douglas Matthews, who was  
 6 by me duly sworn to testify the whole truth of his know-  
 ledge touching the matter herein; that he was examined and  
 7 his examination at the time reduced to writing in Stenotypy  
 by Naomi Bolstad and that such examination has been correct-  
 8 ly transcribed and is fully and accurately set forth in the  
 52 preceding pages; that the deposition is a true record of  
 9 the testimony given by the witness, that his said deposi-  
 tion so given was by said witness subscribed and sworn to;  
 10 that said deposition was taken on the day, between the hours  
 and at the place in that behalf aforesaid; and that said  
 11 deposition is now herewith returned.

12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand at  
 my office in \_\_\_\_\_ this day of  
 13 \_\_\_\_\_ 1978.

14 \_\_\_\_\_  
 15 \_\_\_\_\_

16 \_\_\_\_\_  
 17 \_\_\_\_\_

18 \_\_\_\_\_  
 19 \_\_\_\_\_

20 \_\_\_\_\_  
 21 \_\_\_\_\_

22 \_\_\_\_\_  
 23 \_\_\_\_\_

24 \_\_\_\_\_  
 25 \_\_\_\_\_

1 United States of America, )  
 2 State of Nevada, ) ss.  
 3 City of Las Vegas. )

4 I, Naomi Bolstad, do certify that I accurately  
 5 and correctly reported in Stenotypy the complete proceed-  
 6 ings had in the taking of the deposition of Russell Douglas  
 7 Matthews, and have accurately and correctly transcribed the  
 8 same in the preceding 52 pages.

9 Naomi Bolstad  
 Naomi Bolstad, Court Reporter