

Pen at 11:18 p.m., an identical 2-minute call at 11:36 p.m., and a 1-minute call from the Carousel to Paul's home at 11:47 p.m. (2122)

(1290) On Sunday, November 24, Paul was at The Bull-Pen when he received the news of Oswald's shooting; (2123) it made him visibly upset and shaken. (2124) He called Ruby's apartment, getting no answer, (2125) and then called Tom Howard, an attorney who had represented both men in the past. Howard said that he would see what he could do. (2126) Paul then drove with John Jackson, the manager of The Bull-Pen, and Tammi True, into Dallas, first stopping at the police station, where Paul tried unsuccessfully to see Ruby. (2127) The trio then went to Tom Howard's office nearby and watched television until 3 p.m. (2128)

(1291) Paul, Jackson, and True then returned to Arlington and split up. By this time, Paul was somewhat frightened, having heard that Ruby's roommate, George Senator, had been arrested and that the police and the FBI were looking for him (Paul). He took shelter in a motion picture theater for 90 minutes to avoid the press and the police, (2129) then went to Jackson's home, and then to the home of Jackson's sister. (2130) Finally, Jackson persuaded Paul to allow FBI agents to interview him. Paul stated that he knew nothing about Ruby's plans for the Oswald shooting. (2131)

(1292) Paul continued to take an active role in Ruby's legal defense, attending defense meetings and giving at least one check for the payment of defense investigators, (2132) although Paul denied making any payment for Ruby's defense. (2133) Paul also visited Ruby several times in prison. (2134)

(1293) These visits were probably Paul's only trips to a prison. There is no evidence that he had a criminal record, nor is there evidence that he had any connections to organized crime, or any political or law-enforcement connections.

xiii. George Senator

Biographical Summary

(1294) George Senator was born to Abraham and Anna Senator on September 4, 1913, at Gloversville, N.Y. He had two brothers—Jake, living in Gloversville, and Sam, living in Rochester—and three married sisters, Frieda, Pearl, and Lena, all in New York City. His formal education ended with his graduation from grammar school at Gloversville in June 1929. He went to New York City and worked in a hat factory, for Western Union and in the wholesale silk industry, and was unemployed at times.

(1295) Senator developed lung trouble around 1932 and returned to Gloversville for about 1 year, part of which time he worked for his brother Jake, who operated a small restaurant. He returned to New York City and again worked in the silk industry. About 1934, Senator left New York with Ike Heilberum and the Sebring family for Florida. He worked in Miami at various resorts as a kitchen worker. Between 1934 and 1941 he lived and worked in both New York City and Miami. (2135)

(1296) On August 21, 1941, he entered the Army Air Force and was assigned serial number 12,006,042. He served mainly as an aerial

armorer with the 5th Bomber Command, 33d Group, in Australia and in the Pacific theater during World War II. (2136) He was honorably discharged from the Army at Fort Dix, N.J., on September 9, 1945, with the rank of sergeant. (2137)

(1297) In January 1946, Senator married Shirley Baren of the Bronx. A son, Robert, was born October 6, 1947. He was divorced in 1956 in Dallas. His former wife later married Milton Wechsler. (2138)

(1298) Senator is described as 5'7½", 192 lbs, with brown eyes, brown-grey hair, dark complexion, mole on the left cheek, and an appendectomy scar. (2139)

Statements by Senator

(1299) Senator was interviewed on several occasions by the FBI and Secret Service regarding his association with Ruby and certain aspects of Ruby's life. He was the first defense witness called at Ruby's habeus corpus and bail hearing on December 23, 1963, and testified as a defense witness at Ruby's trial. On April 21, 1963, Senator testified before the Warren Commission.

(1300) In their interviews of Senator, the FBI and Secret Service focused on the sequence of events from the time Kennedy was assassinated to when Ruby killed Lee Harvey Oswald. The first statements by Senator were vague and disjointed. When asked about this by the Warren Commission, Senator replied that he had been under a great deal of stress and was not thinking clearly.*

(1301) The only omission by the agencies and the Warren Commission concerns Ruby associates. This area was not addressed at all, except with respect to organized crime associates in Chicago.

(1302) From the various interviews, et cetera, it was learned that Senator had worked from the time he was in his early teens at various factory and restaurant jobs. Among his employers were a silk wholesaler, the Times Square Cafeteria and the Admiral Hotel, all in New York, and the Astor Hotel in Miami. (2140)

(1303) After the war, Senator and his friend, Heilberum, bought a luncheonette, Denise Foods, at 254 West 35th Street, New York City. In 1947, after about a year and a half, they went bankrupt. (2141) He returned to Miami and worked as a lunch counter man for 2 years. He then became a dress salesman for the Rhea Manufacturing Co. of Milwaukee for about 9 months. (2142) For the next 10 years, he sold dresses for Smoler Brothers of Chicago, moving to Dallas for that company about May 1954. He traveled considerably out of Dallas as a clothing salesman until about 1959-60. He then worked at odd jobs and in sales of various lines, including novelties for the Volume Sales Co. of Dallas. He worked for Jack Ruby at the Carousel Club from March through August 1962, and at various other short periods since. In 1964, Senator was a salesman of color postcards for Dexter Press, West Nyack, N.Y. (2143)

(1304) Social Security records indicate that Senator did not report income from July 1958 through December 1961. In 1962, they indicate that he was employed by the Volume Sales Co. and the Merchandise Mart of Dallas. (2144) Senator, in testimony before the Warren Com-

*The chronology of events, as stated in the different interviews, is discussed in detail under the Ruby section of this profile.

mission, had described his activities during the 1958-61 period as: working again for Rhea Manufacturing, traveling with a friend, George Hamrik, doing odd jobs and cooking, et cetera, for Ronnie Unger and Kenny (last name unknown) while living with them. (2145) (1305) Senator had no criminal record, although he was arrested once about 1960 or 1961 by the Dallas police for drunkenness; he was held for 4 hours, fined \$15, and released. (2146) There were no files on Senator at the Federal agencies, other than those associated with Jack Ruby. There was no indication of Senator being associated with criminals or persons associated with criminal activities. Senator appeared to be a law-abiding citizen with a rather lengthy string of bad luck.

(1306) Senator claimed that he had not met, known, or made friends with any professional gamblers. He did not gamble himself, other than at infrequent at-home poker games or when he was in the service. (2147)

(1307) There was no indication that Senator had any associations with organized crime, either business or social. A committee consultant who reviewed FBI files on telephone recordings of Senator said there was no indication of a relationship between Senator and any criminal element.

(1308) Senator had moved to Dallas about May 15, 1954. He told the FBI he had first met Jack Ruby about 1955. He believed this was at the time Ruby was assisting in the operation of the Vegas Club. Ruby was only a casual acquaintance until about March or April 1962. He would see him only infrequently when he happened to meet him in the business area of Dallas or at a restaurant or nightclub. On those occasions, he would talk to him for only a short period of time.

(1309) About March or April 1962, Senator was out of work and about out of funds. Ruby invited him to stay at his apartment, which was located on South Marsalis. Senator resided with Ruby for approximately 5 or 6 months. In return for his room and board, Senator assisted Ruby in the operation of the Carousel Club by acting as cashier or taking tickets at the door. About August or September 1962, Senator began operating the Texas Post Card Co. and moved to the Grandbury Apartments, located on Maple Street. Senator continued to help out at the Carousel Club on weekends and special occasions. (2148)

(1310) This statement to the FBI contradicted a prior statement. During an interview on November 24, 1963, Senator claimed he had not lived with Ruby until November 1, 1963, although he stated that he occasionally was low on funds and would be asked by Ruby to come and stay a day or two until he got back on his feet. (2149) The FBI report of December 20 was consistent with testimony given by Senator during Ruby's trial and the Warren Commission.

(1311) During November 1962, Senator moved into apartment 206, at 223 South Ewing, with Stanton Corbat, a buyer for Thitake's Department Store. He told Ruby about the new apartment, and Ruby moved into apartment 207 at the end of November. (2150)

(1312) About August 1963, Corbat got married and left Senator with all the rent to pay. He was unable to handle it by himself. At the invitation of Ruby, he moved into apartment 207 about the first week in November 1963. (2151)

(1313) Senator stated that Ruby was a big-hearted man who helped many people who were down on their luck. He said Ruby was very emotional and that, although he did not appear to be very religious, took his faith very seriously, observing all the Orthodox Jewish holidays, and particularly the memorial services for the dead. Ruby was a clean-living man who did not smoke and rarely drank; he had been concerned that Senator drank too much. Senator said Ruby regarded himself as a Democrat, (2152) with no firm political convictions. He read the daily newspapers without fail, but did not seem to be interested in international affairs. He never discussed the Cuban missile crisis or the President. (2153)

(1314) Ruby liked people and had a strong desire to be liked; while he sometimes talked rough, he actually was gentle. Senator discounted reports that Ruby was a "street brawler" but said he could "handle himself" when necessary in his frequent role as bouncer at his club. (2154) During his testimony before the Warren Commission Senator described Ruby as a "man of temperament" and said he had a tendency to "fly off" the handle, but he would calm down just as quickly. In their arguments, Ruby always had to be right, Senator wrong.

(1315) Senator was witness to one actual fight Ruby had. It occurred in the Burgundy Room of the Adolphus Hotel with a man named Don Saber R. Tabin. (2155) Senator was asked during Ruby's trial whether it was true that Ruby only picked on small men and women who were drunk and beat them up. Senator responded that Ruby had no fear of a person's size. (2156) He contended that Ruby would probably not fight brutally. (2157)

(1316) Senator had heard rumors since "the trouble" that Ruby was a homosexual and believed such ideas cast a reflection on him since he had lived with Ruby. Senator said he could assure anyone that Ruby was not a homosexual and had a normal man's interest in women. (2158)

(1317) During the period of his acquaintance with Ruby, Senator had no indication of Ruby's violating the law in any way, such as handling narcotics, allowing employees to practice prostitution, or fencing stolen articles. Ruby operated a very strict business and would allow no disturbances. Senator claimed Ruby's place of business was checked very closely by the Dallas police department every night. (2159)

(1318) Ruby always carried at least \$2,000 or \$3,000 in cash with him to and from his place of business. He had this money in a sack. On each trip he would take a revolver and place it in the bag on top of the money. (2160) When questioned by the Warren Commission about Ruby's banking habits Senator replied that "Ruby's bank was his pockets." (2161)

(1319) Senator advised that during the period he lived next door to and with Ruby, he recalled only one out-of-town trip Ruby made, when he flew to New York City to talk to officials of the American Guild of Variety Artists (AGVA). Ruby was having trouble with his competitors over AGVA requirements and did not believe his competitors were following the rules. He said he felt strongly this was hurting his business. Senator believed that on this trip, Ruby

took a dog to Candy Barr in Houston, prior to flying on to New York. To the best of Senator's knowledge, Ruby made the trip alone and was gone for 3 or 4 days. (2162)

(1320) Senator had no information to indicate that Ruby had connections with the hoodlum element in Chicago, Ill. Ruby confided to Senator that he grew up in a very tough neighborhood, but Senator saw no evidence of associations between Ruby and Chicago hoodlums. (2163)

(1321) In addition to running his clubs, Ruby became involved in the promotion of a twist board. Prior to November 22, 1963, he would get up about 8 or 9 a.m. each day and visit various department stores in an effort to promote this article. (2164)

(1322) The primary area of questioning of Senator by the FBI, Secret Service, Warren Commission and counsel during Ruby's trial concerned the sequence of events between November 22, 1963 and November 24, 1963. Senator was not consistent in his answers. In his first statements, made on November 24, Senator was extremely vague regarding the events of the 2 previous days. Figure 1, which follows, shows his various statements and discrepancies.

(1323) Figure 1: Chart of statements and their inconsistencies.

AFFIDAVIT 11/24/63	F.B.I. REPORT: 11/24/63 INTERVIEW OF GEORGE SENATOR	SECRET SERVICE REPORT: 12/3/63 INTERVIEW OF GEORGE SENATOR	TESTIMONY BEFORE THE WARREN COMMISSION
11/22/63: No information given	11/22/63: <u>Morning:</u> Ruby still at the apt. when Senator left for work. <u>9:00 or 10:00 P.M.</u> -Senator returned to the apt; Ruby not there. -Senator went to bed.	11/22/63: <u>8:30 A.M.</u> -Senator left the apt; Ruby still asleep. -Senator made business calls and had lunch at Jacques (believed to be at Carol St. and the Expressway) -There he learned of the shooting of Kennedy. <u>10:30 p.m.</u> -Senator went to bed.	11/22/63: -Left the apt. while Ruby was still asleep. -Senator first heard that the President was shot while having a few beers in an uptown bar. -Did not see Ruby all day. -Senator read Ruby had closed Carousel.
11/23/63: <u>3:00 A.M.</u> -Ruby woke Senator up; discussed the assassination of President Kennedy. -Ruby told Senator Carousel would be closed, Fri., Sat., & Sunday. -Ruby was too sad to go to bed. -Ruby and Senator went to the Southland Hotel for coffee. -Ruby acted stunned & shocked; they went home. <u>10:00 or 10:30 A.M.</u> -Senator got up & woke Ruby up. -Watched T.V. <u>About 12:00 noon</u> -Senator left the apt.	11/23/63: <u>3:00 or 4:00 A.M.</u> -Ruby returned to apt; woke Senator up. <u>4:00 or 5:00 A.M.</u> -After Senator and Ruby talked for a while they went to the Southland Coffee Shop. -10 or 15 min. at coffee shop; returned to apt. and went to bed. <u>11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.</u> -Senator left the apt., Ruby still there. <u>Evening</u> -Senator returned to the apt.; Ruby there. -Ruby condition-"brooding". -Ruby went downtown to check on Club. -Senator went to bed.	11/23/63: <u>3:00 A.M.</u> -Ruby woke Senator. -Ruby phoned "Larry" at the Carousel Club; told to get polaroid camera and meet in front of Club. -Ruby and Senator drove to Carousel Club; picked up Larry. -Drove to Hall St. & Expressway. -Took 3 pictures of "Impeach Earl Warren" sign. -Went to Southland Hotel for coffee. -Went to the Main Dallas Post Office on Eway. -Took Larry back to the Carousel. <u>Approx. 6:00 A.M.</u> -Ruby and Senator returned to apt.	11/23/63: <u>3:00 A.M.</u> -Ruby woke Senator up. -makes Senator dress and accompany him downtown. -Ruby calls "Larry" at Carousel and tells him to get Polaroid and flashbulbs. -Drive to corner of Hall and Expressway; Ruby and Larry take 3 photos of "Impeach Earl Warren Sign". -Proceed to Post Office. -Went to Coffee Shop (Southland Hotel). -Dropped Larry off at the Carousel. <u>Between 5:00 and 6:00 A.M.</u> -Ruby and Senator watched TV for 10-15 min. <u>10:00 A.M.</u> -Senator woke up. <u>11:30 - 12:30 A.M.</u> -Ruby still home when Senator left. -Senator went to Eat Well

AFFIDAVIT (cont'd.)	F.B.I. REPORT: 11/24/63 (cont'd.)	SECRET SERVICE REPORT (cont'd.)	THE WARREN COMMISSION (cont'd.)
<p><u>7:30 P.M.</u> -Senator returned to apartment, Ruby wasn't there.</p> <p><u>10:30 P.M.</u> -Senator returned to apt; Ruby home. -Ruby went to Carousel to check on things. -Senator went to bed.</p>		<p><u>10:30 A.M.</u> -Senator awoke; shortly after Ruby awoke. -Fixed breakfast and watched TV -Ruby very emotional. -Ruby remarked both killings were in cold blood.</p> <p><u>12:00 noon</u> -Senator left apt. and spent the afternoon shopping for food and drinking beer.</p> <p><u>7:30 P.M.</u> -Senator went home and prepared dinner. -Ruby not home.</p> <p><u>8:30 P.M.</u> -Senator visited Bill Downey and Mike Barkley</p> <p><u>10:30 P.M.</u> -Senator returned to apt. -Ruby at the apt. crying and brooding. -Ruby went out. -Senator went to bed.</p>	<p>Coffee Shop and grocery store.</p> <p><u>7:00 - 7:30 P.M.</u> -Senator returned home; Ruby not there. -Senator may have visited Jim Martin in the afternoon.</p> <p><u>8:00 - 8:30 P.M.</u> -Senator went to see Bill Downey and Mike Barclay at the Adolphus Hotel.</p> <p><u>10:30 P.M.</u> -Senator returned home. -Ruby there; he went back out (within 5 min. of Senator's return).</p> <p><u>11:00 P.M.</u> -Senator in bed.</p>
<p>11/24/63:</p> <p><u>9:00 A.M.</u> -Senator got up; Ruby sleeping. -Ruby got up still brooding. -Ruby watched T.V.</p> <p><u>Around 10:30 A.M.</u> -Ruby left to take Sheba to the Club.</p>	<p>11/24/63:</p> <p>-Ruby had brought one of the dogs home.</p> <p><u>10:30 A.M.</u> -Ruby left the apt to take the dog back to the Club.</p>	<p>11/24/63:</p> <p><u>9:00 A.M.</u> -Senator awoke and spent the morning doing laundry.</p> <p><u>About 9:30 A.M.</u> -Ruby awoke. -They had breakfast; Ruby was "worse in grief". -Little Lynn phoned Ruby; Ruby to send money by Western Union. -Ruby left to take Sheba to Club.</p>	<p>11/24/63:</p> <p><u>8:00 - 9:00 A.M.</u> -Senator awoke; read in bed.</p> <p><u>9:00 - 9:30 A.M.</u> -Ruby got up; fixed breakfast and watched T.V.</p> <p><u>9:00 - 10:00 A.M.</u> -Ruby got a call from Little Lynn. -Senator heard Ruby mention</p>

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AFFIDAVIT (cont'd.)	F.B.I. REPORT: 11/24/63 (cont'd.)	SECRET SERVICE REPORT (cont'd.)	THE WARREN COMMISSION (cont'd.)
			<p>Lynn, Western Union, money, sending \$25.00 to Ft. Worth.</p> <p>-Ruby told Senator it was for rent.</p> <p>-Senator didnot hear Ruby speak on phone with Elnora Pitts.</p> <p>-Ruby left to take Sheba to Carousel.</p> <p>-3/4 of an hour after Ruby left Senator went to Eatwell's</p> <p>-Senator heard Ruby shot Oswald.</p> <p>-Senator called Martin; not home.</p> <p>-Senator went to Martin's home (20 minute ride)</p> <p>-Senator & Martin went to police station.</p> <p>-Martin did not stay with Senator at police station.</p>