

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Commission Exhibit No. 1658

Date 12/23/63

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LA 44-895

HERMAN VIERER SMITH, 1217 West Beach Street, Los Angeles, California, advised he was formerly employed as a drummer for various bars and clubs owned by JACK RUBY in Dallas, Texas. He approached RUBY as a potential employer about 1950 until March 1951. He said he had employment at the LEO WHEELER Bar about 1953 at the Silver Spur Bar in South Dallas. He was employed by LINDA L. JOON JOHNSON at the Vegas Club in Dallas on several occasions between 1958 and August 1959 and November 1960 until about March 1961. He said he also was a member of Red Calhoun's band between 1950 and 1956. SMITH pointed out that the Mrs. L. M. Johnson and her Negroes are well known in the Dallas, Texas, area.

SMITH said that about 1955 or 1956, when he was employed by Red Calhoun, JACK RUBY had an argument with RED CALHOUN. RUBY had "brass knuckles" and hit CALHOUN in the mouth causing CALHOUN to have some stitches when in his mouth. About November 1960 JOON JOHNSON was out of the Dallas, Texas, area and SMITH attempted to get a band together to play for RUBY's bar. He said he was unsuccessful and at that time had an oral argument only with RUBY. SMITH said that RUBY was usually nice to SMITH but that a number of times he acted like a "very violent temper." He explained that SMITH had to treat people as if they are "children" and "talk" to them during such conversation. He said, however, that one could not talk to RUBY in the same manner or RUBY "would blow his cook."

SMITH said RUBY was a quiet individual in that he would refuse admittance to a bar for such a thing as not liking ones appearance generally. He said he was a "sympathetic" man in that he financially assisted many people at various times. He added RUBY had a "belligerent attitude" but would never get into an argument with certain types of individuals unless RUBY had one or more associates present with him. He said RUBY did not allow "expressive dancing" in his clubs and that if individuals

did not fall in line with the thoughts of RUBY he would "cut off the customers from the premises." SMITH considered SMITH if one "exceeded RUBY" they would become an enemy of RUBY. He said EVA STONE, RUBY's sister, ran the Vegas Club about 1959. He considered EVA and her temperament and personality to be much like RUBY's.

SMITH concluded by stating he has not been in Dallas nor seen or heard from RUBY since SMITH left in early 1961. He said he did not know LEE HARVEY OSWALD or of any connection between OSWALD and RUBY.

On 12/23/63 at Los Angeles, California File # LA 44-895  
by SA JAMES D. FAZIOLA/meh Date dictated 12/26/63

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