

*Rich* No.

*Q.* Does the name Dave Cherry mean anything to you?

*Rich* That's it. I have been wracking my brain for that name. A swell-looking fellow—crewcut, young, real college-looking type.<sup>54</sup>

The FBI's summary of an interview with Cherry was in the Commission's possession,<sup>55</sup> but Cherry was not called as a witness.<sup>56</sup> Mrs Rich testified that 'Eddie Brawner and Youngblood' had been friends of her late husband when he was in Dallas.<sup>57</sup> 'Eddie Brawner could probably tell you more on this than I could,' she added, 'because my husband talked to him and wanted to go on the boat with him.'<sup>58</sup> She described Brawner as about 40 years old, a resident of Grand Prairie, Texas, married to Mary Brawner and the father of three or four children,<sup>59</sup> but Brawner was not called by the Commission.<sup>60</sup> The only Youngblood called was Rufus Youngblood of the Secret Service,<sup>61</sup> who understandably was not asked about the Cuban gun-running affair.<sup>62</sup>

Despite its failure to question the relevant witnesses named by Mrs Rich, the Commission rejected her testimony<sup>63</sup> with the following words 'No substantiation has been found for rumors linking Ruby with pro- or anti-Castro Cuban activities'<sup>64</sup>

On April 18, 1966, I interviewed Mrs Rich in Lewiston, Maine.<sup>65</sup> During our filmed and tape-recorded conversation I asked her if the transcript of her hearing published by the Commission was a complete record of the testimony she had offered in Washington.<sup>66</sup>

*Rich* Now, also at this second meeting, which I did introduce into the Warren Commission Report—but I have read my testimony in the Warren Commission and there is no mention of this—I told Mr [Leon D.] Hubert and Mr [Burt W.] Griffin [Commission counsel] that in the apartment building, in a little storeroom outside of the apartment building, out in back, was a cache of military armaments. In fact it's the first time in my life I ever held a hand grenade.

*Lane* That was at these meetings?

*Rich* That was at this second meeting that we were taken out because the reason—let me go back a little bit. I wanted reassurance that this was actually going to happen. They said,

'Well, come out back with us', I think was about the words the colonel used. So we all walked in the back and, my God, I thought I'd walked into an Army supply depot. There were guns, there was one B. A. R. [Browning automatic rifle] which I think was left over from World War II, used, and there were hand grenades. There was some kind of a land torpedo, there were mines, I'd say probably half a dozen land mines, and, why, there must have been 20 or 30 packing cases of hand grenades. And I assume—in fact I more than assume, because I got the general impression from what was said that these were pilfered from the United States Army or Air Force bases.

*Lane* Did you give this information to the Warren Commission when you testified on June 2, 1964?

*Rich* I did, but apparently they chose to discount it. I can attest to the fact that at the time it was given it was told to be stricken from the record. I didn't think there would be [any record of it], considering Mr Griffin said, 'Strike that from the record'—quote.<sup>67</sup>