

A TIGER BY THE TAIL

by

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Notes on the Play

This two hour drama, taken directly from the testimony and hearings before the Warren Commission, attempts to show the depth of negligence of the Commission with regards to the quality of their investigation. If it were the only instance and were picked out of context, it would be unjust. This is not the case. The interview with Jack Ruby is only typical.

The Prologue begins with a letter written by members of the staff working for the Commission. It mentions important witnesses never called, significant clues worthy of further investigation. There are literally hundreds of leads never researched, hundreds of other witnesses whom they avoided or protected, evasions of questions that should have been asked, acceptance of answers that were not answers.

The end result of the avoidance of asking these questions and following these paths will be a bloody road of violence, more murders, increased major crimes in every state. Murder has been given protection and respectability.

The play is saying, through the words of Jack Ruby and the Warren Commission, the following things:

1. There is information Jack Ruby knows, which he tells them he knows, but the Commission does not care to find out what that is.

He offers to talk if they will clear the room or take him to Washington. They have no intention of doing either one.

Joseph Valechi has been promised protection in Sing Sing for the remainder of his life in exchange for information on the Mafia. We did not do this to Ruby.

2. There is information the Commission possessed on their own effort and research which they avoid, never ask Jack Ruby about.

The entire investigation of General E. Walker, Howard Duff, Leopold Ducos Ramos, H.L. Hunt and too many others is superficial, inadequate, absolutely unsatisfactory.

3. The State of Texas watched over and saw that the Commission "did right in so far as the State of Texas was concerned."

The interest in finding out who killed President Kennedy is a National problem, not a Texas scandal which must be covered over for the protection of any single city or state.

The assassination of President Kennedy was and is still an international problem. If left unsolved, we will feel the heat of global furror.

In addition to Texas "officials" watching over the Commission, Henry Wade felt it necessary to make comments and suggestions regarding the polygraph test. This should have been a matter between Jack Ruby and the Commission.

4. Jack Ruby is an old pro.

The Commission was remiss in not allowing Ruby to speak to them in private. They take the blame for this.

However, there is not quarrantee that Jack Ruby, once allowed to talk, would cooperate. He still has visions of that "fancy type night club" when he gets out. According to Rossi, he said he "debts were all paid" on Wed., Nov. 21, 1963---after hanging over his head a long time.

Only the awareness that he will probably be shot ddown in Dallas shortly after he is released will convince him to stop playing the game.

5. Dallas officials, District Attorney's office, the Warren Commission, and Jack Ruby all worked together.

They all helped write and rewrite the polygraph test until the questions suited all of them. Ruby even admitted going over some ahead with Wade.

Leon Jaworski
(now Pres. Amer. Bar Assoc., recommended Powell for Chief Justice)
former Board of Directors Houston CIA front Co.

6. Chief Justice Warren is with the Commission all
the way.

It is told that he cried when asked to head this investigation. After being pressured into the position, no man alive could have done a better job of trying to do what they desired accomplished.

It is impossible to believe that he didn't know that the only purpose of their being there was to secure information. When he tells Ruby to just talk and tell him about the way he passed three days, this is the most superficial examination possible. If Ruby did this murder for any group interested in assassinating President Kennedy, the movements of Ruby for two days were the least part of the plot.

7. Jack Ruby has control of the Commission

He plays a game with them. He wants to know why they don't ask more. He says if he was part of a plot, so were the Dallas Police, Little Lynn, and others.

The responsibility for not finding out what happened in Dallas is put back into the hands of the Commission. He told them to ask about these things and they did not.

TIGER BY THE TAIL

ACT ONE

SCENE I

Prologue which consists of the reading of two letters.

1. To Richard Helms, Deputy Director for C.I.A from the Warren Commission requesting "any information in their files covered in the memorandum, as well as any other analysis by your representatives which you believe might be useful to the Commission." Mailed Feb. 26, 1964.

2. To the Warren Commission from the F.B.I. regarding information about Howard Duff, Jack Ruby, and General Walker. Mailed June 26, 1964.

SCENE II

Dallas Jail
 11:45 a.m.
 June 7, 1964, seven months after the assassination of President Kennedy.
 Taken directly from Volume V, Hearings before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy.

ACT TWO

SCENE I

Prologue:

A letter written from Henry Wade, District Attorney, Dallas, to the Commission regarding the questions on the polygraph test.

July 15, 1964

SCENE II

Dallas Jail
 11:00 A.M..
 July 18, 1964
 Taken entirely from Volume XIV of the Hearings before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy.

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CAST OF CHARACTERS - ACT I

1. Jack Ruby..... The Prologue will give a complete description of him so that we know about this man before his interview begins.
2. Chief Justice Earl Warren
During this interview he will be very bored
Face will be drawn, almost asleep, lethargic
He looks as if he wishes this thing were over or never happened.
3. Gerald Ford..... Mr. Ford will only ask one question, and
Congressman Ruby will doubt the sincerity of that.
Also bored, looking into space, no desire to ask or inquire.
4. J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel..... Mr. Rankin is equally bored. Asks few questions. Isn't interested in Ruby's story. Doesn't volunteer to remove Texas men. The five men from Washington seem to have come for the ride, or to make their numbers seem impressive while Ruby talked. It all seems very official, but very void.
5. Arlene Specter
Assistant Council..... Works for the Warren Commission.
Ordinary looking person.
Contributes nothing to interview, just half sleeps like the other men.
6. Robert Storey..... Tall man, Texas Western outfit, stands straight and lets his presence known. Represents "Texas" to see that the "Warren Commission does right by the State of Texas.
7. Leon Jaworski..... Enters with Mr. Storey. His companion to protect Texas.
Both imposing, frightening men.
More aware of Ruby than the Commission representatives.
8. Jim Bowie..... Assistant District Attorney.
Comes from office that asked for Ruby's death a few months earlier.
Sits here with the Commission to silently "dare" Ruby to talk even if the Commission wanted to know, which they didn't.
9. Joe H. Tonahill..... Attorney
Self appointed guardian of Ruby.
Refused to leave Ruby's side for eighteen months until a court order removed him.
Large, tall, fat man.
Huge ten gallon hat on his head.
Picture of him in "Trial of Jack Ruby" Kapla

10. Elmer W. Moore.....Special agent, U.S. Secret Service

Always hangs around Ruby, tell's him that he is responsible for Ruby's "body".

Refuses to leave the room. No explanation why a Dallas policeman or jailer wouldn't be enough protection on the 7th floor. When Commission all leave, Moore still there.

11. J.E. Decker..... Sheriff of Dallas County

No explanation of why he had to hear interview. When Ruby sees Moore, Tonahill, and Decker, he knows this is not the time or place to talk.

12. Jester (also called reader)

Dressed as a court jester, Medieval costume. Moves around from stool, pillows. Clowns around, sometimes very serious.

13. Odet Oliver.....Court Reporter

The only female in the play.---too bad.

CAST OF CHARACTERS - ACT II

- 1. Jack Ruby..... Same as Act I
- 2. Mr. Arlen Specter..... Same as Act I
- 3. Bell P. Herndon..... Special Agent of the F.B.I
To give the polygraph test.
- 4. W. James Wood..... "Not actually a polygraph examiner", but
is there to assist Mr. Herndon.

It is never explained why the F.B.I could
not find two men who were polygraph operat-
ors, or why he is in the room at all.

Already, the room is getting crowded again.
Or should we say, "stacked"?
- 5. Clayton Fowler..... Attorney for Jack Ruby.

Past President of Texas Bar Association.
Represented Ruby a very few months, was fired
immediately after the polygraph test
because of the way it was conducted.
- 6. Mr. Joe Tonahill..... Still around from the last interview.
Ruby is still trying to get him out.
When Ruby becomes aware that his interview
with the Commission and the Polygraph Test
were useless, he gets in line and pleases
Tonahill.

Tonahill will praise Ruby for being "100%
American, and Ruby ends by asking Tonahill for
the favor they both know and we never will.
- 7. Mr. William Alexander: Assistant District Attorney for Dallas.

Close set eyes, stern face.
Picture of him in " Trial of Jack Ruby" Kapla:
Like Mr. Bowie in Act I, no explanation is
reasonable on why that office of the District
Attorney should be present for either the
interview or the polygraph.
- 8. Allan L. Sweatt..... Chief criminal deputy for Dallas County, Tex.

No explanation why he is necessary. 's
To be efficient, the number of persons
present effects the polygraph results.
This should have been a test between the
Warren Commission and Jack Ruby.

9. E.L. Holman.....Jailer
10. Dr. Robert Beaver.....Dr.Beaver was appointed as Jack Ruby's doctor by Mr. J. Tonahill and Judge J. Brown. Ruby has no great love for either of these men and did not appreciate their trying to use an "insanity" excuse for his acts.
- By being declared "insane" by Dr.Beaver, Jack Ruby could not discharge his "attorney" Joe Tonahill.
- Ruby enters, sees Beaver, and wants him "out". They allow him to remain at the door, inside the room.
11. Odell Oliver..... Court reporter as before.
12. Reader-Jester..... Same as before.

Act I

Scene: Conference room on the seventh floor of Dallas jail.

Fourteen chairs on the left side of the room, all except two with their backs to the audience.

There is a door in the rear center stage. The wall on one side of the door will be cut out with a plastic insert. During Act I it looks as if it were a solid wall. In Act II the plastic shows so that the men sent out of the room can be seen by the audience as they put their ears to the wall.

On the rear wall, across the top, will be a section of a screen. Various comments, separately and simultaneously with the dialogue, will be flashed on.

Costumes: The Texas "delegates", otherwise known as Law Enforcement Officials, will wear gold sweat shirts.

On these shirts will be their name in bold letters, similar to football outfits.

Commission members and staff will wear identical blue sweat shirts with their names across the back.

Furnishings:

Table, chair, typewriter for court reporter.

Large, executive type arm chair for Jack Ruby to show him "holding court", so to speak. *could be a throne.*

Bookcase to the right of the stage which will have in it the twenty-six volumes of Testimony.

Inside this case will also be all the current books since the assassination challenging the Commission.

Author's notes on the direction
of Act I and II.

The first act is very one sided. It is played almost entirely by one person, Jack Ruby. Members of the Commission have come to "see" him because he asked them to come. Otherwise, they would not have bothered, they tell him. Oswald is dead. The only other person who could provide information at that time, was completely ignored for seven months. None of the men ask questions they should have asked. Nothing registers. Their faces remain almost like stone. The soliloquy of Jack Ruby adds to the travesty. All sit very straight, motionless.

When the jester is talking or interrupts their interviews, members of the stage do not move. They remain frozen in one position until he finishes, then move their limbs, etc. as if he had not interrupted.

Ruby begins to talk, is glad to tell what happened, walks up and down the row and sees the Texas officials. He stops, hesitates, decides there is no reason to die in the hands of deaf ears.

Act II has more action with District Attorney Wade, Alexander, Ruby and Joe Tonahill passing the ball. The great "enemies" are really the best of friends.

We must all be grateful to the United States Government for allowing us to read and hear this testimony exactly as it happened. There is enough drama in the remaining twenty six thousand pages for many plays in the years to come.

Prologue

(Reader, as the jester, enters the stage smiling and starts to laugh out loud. He talks to the audience, jokes with them, is sometimes serious.

In his hand are two copies of the Warren Report, one the hardbound copy, the other the paperback.

Steps to the center, holds both of them in the air, and begins to talk.)

Jester

Well, here they are, these are the very last word in truth and Government investigation. They have been around two years now. Ever read them? Some folks think its like reading the telephone book. I prefer it, myself, to much of the other fiction floating around these days.

(Looks down at the books as if to read them)

Assassination plots, those are for other people, foreigners and funny faces.

In America? NEVER !!!!!!

(TALKS TO AUDIENCE)

Just to show those crazy people we don't do those things, our President got himself together a Commission. What a heap of respectability, who could doubt them even if they never did the work? The Suspicious? Yes, but you always have them. The Neurotic? I suppose, although there never has been a sanity test conducted to see if this diagnosis squares up.

How did they write this book? Well, they took in about 30,000 interviews, accumulated 25,000 pages of reports, locked a few of the reports in the Archives for 75 years, wherever that is, printed 26,000 more pages called Testimony Before the Hearings, and condensed all that crap into this little thin book.

(Walks over to book shelf, takes two books in his hands and puts them on top of shelf, reaches for Volume XXVI of the Testimony, walks back to stage and sits on a tall stool or a pile of pillows)

Now, I know it is hard to scrape together \$76. for a set of books these days. This evening, out of the kindness of my heart, I am going to share them with you.

(Opens up Volume XXVI, turns 467, and begins to read)

(The quotes will be what he is reading. Other remarks will be his own, when he is looking up and talking)

Reader, Jester

This letter I have here was from staff members of the Warren Commission to Richard Helms, Deputy director of the C.I.A. It seems as if they had done a lot of work on the background of Jack Ruby by February, 1964. Now they were asking the C.I.A to give a hand and fill in on these people or organizations. When May rolled around, they wrote another letter to the CIA saying, "hey, boys, how come no information on these guys?" In Sept., a few weeks before the Report was for sale and already published, an answer did come back saying they "knew nothing about nobody."

(serious now, looking up)

That meant, I suppose, that the job of investigating was going to be done by you and me, and so it will.

(looks down at the book and talks)

This book tells us that Jack Ruby was up to a lot of trouble. He had a terrible temper, often used violence, in fact, very often.

"He was known to have brutally beaten at least 25 different persons",

(looks up)

That is, in Dallas alone.

"He was periferally, if not directly, connected with members of the underworld."

"He is said to have been given advance notice of prospective raids on his own club and other clubs."

Very thick with police- hundreds of pages about that in those books over there.

(pointing to shelf)

Don't hear much about it in the Report----- wonder why?

"When it suited his purposes, he did not hesitate to call in the underworld characters for assistance."

(laughing-quizical)

Wonder where they found that out? Oh yes, I read that too. Too bad they were never called as witnesses. Some of them shoot plenty straight, so they say.

Jester

"At the time of his arrest, Ruby was in possession of scripts issued by H.L. Hunt, a prominent Right Wing extremist."

(looks up from book).

Can't blame a man for reading once in a while. Only thing here is that the name "Lamar Hunt" was found in Ruby's notebook.

Nothing bad about that, I suppose, except this book (looking at pages) also says, "Ruby visited the office of Mr. Hunt on Nov. 21, 1963."

Mr. Hunt denied knowing Ruby, and that may be true too, but he could have been called as a witness to say that same statement under oath.

(talking to audience very seriously)

Let's be honest with ourselves, O.K? There were some pretty bad words printed in the newspaper in Dallas and on handbills around the streets Nov. 22, 1963. The remarks were suggesting Mr. Kennedy was "Wanted for Treason". It took a lot of time and many months to discover that Mr. Hunt paid one third of this advertisement, the cost of which was \$1400.

(Screen in back, while he is talking, shows the ad with black border.)
(reading Volume XXVI again)

"Ruby is also rumored to have met in Dallas with an American Army Colonel and some Cubans concerning the sale of arms."
ANTI CASTRO -

(looks up)

Boy, oh boy, that was more than a rumor.

(reading)

"A Government informant in Chicago connected with the sale of arms to Anti-Castro Cubans has reported that such Cubans were behind the assassination of President Kennedy."

(talking)

Now, there was a certain Leopold Ramos Ducos (holds up book to show where he is getting information) page 472- who said his life was threatened and that the same group would kill him that had been responsible for getting rid of Kennedy. "

Do you think he was ever called as a witness? Guess again. Just wait and see how this deep searching Commission attacks Jack Ruby about all these persons.....

(reading)

"In balance, it may be said that Ruby's primary interest

1-4

in life was making money. He does not seem to have had any great scruples concerning the manner in which he might do so."

(looks up)

What a naughty boy.....

(reads)

"He was usually careful to avoid prosecution by law enforcement authorities. His primary technique in avoiding prosecution was the maintenance of friendships with police officers, public officials, and other influential persons in the Dallas Community."

(looks up)

Well, it all comes in handy, I wan't to tell you. Never know when you will wake up and find yourself in front of thirty million men and just have a sudden urge to kill.

(quizzical expression)

I just wonder who those public officials around town were. Can't recall any of them testifying, come to think of it.

You have just got to do favors for guys to get off the rap as much as this fellow has, considering the mountain of trouble he could have caused for himself.

(reading again)

"Ruby appears to be the kind of person who could be persuaded by by another person whom he respected, either because of that person's friendship, influence, power, prestige, or wealth, to become involved in any activity which was not obviously contrary to the interests of the United States."

(makes a face- as if so say, dig that crazy statement)

"It is quite possible that Ruby could have been utilized by a politically motivated group either upon the promise of money or because of the influential character of the individual approaching Ruby."

(Walks around and talks directly to audience again)

Now, you would think, with this description of the character you are about to meet, the President's Commission would do a little research into this matter?

(laughs)

Guess again.

They were all protected, the whole bunch. If they had nothing to say, no harm in letting them say it under oath and between the covers for us to decide.

(disgusted)

Crazy business, the whole Report. Going all over the world for remote contacts- people who took a freighter to Europe in 1959 when Oswald was on the boat too--- and never called the people from the old home town.

(holds up book again, still Volume XXVII)

The same letter gave to the CIA names of persons or organizations who "might be interested in the assassination of President Kennedy!"

There were endless, important leads involving the entire area around Jack Ruby. There were suspicious telephone calls, close friends of Ruby's, employees with important information, relationships with all kinds of persons who could possibly help solve the assassination murder and the death of Oswald.

If any; of them were called, the questions were avoided. Most of them were never called as witnesses.

(disgusted)

It just can't help to make you wonder.....

(peppy and enthusiastic)

But, before we meet Jack and Earl, just one more bit of information the Justice Department prepared for the Commission.

(reads)

"Mr. Howard Duff reported employment during the period November, 1962-April, 1963 in the household of General Edwin Walker. On May 25, 1964, Duff laid claim to an association between Ruby and General Walker, alleging that he had seen Ruby at the Walker residence."

(stops, looks up)

I know, the General mentions Duff in one remark, "unreliable, liar" and all that jazz.

But, you can't brush a guy off that fast or easy. If he was all these things, then why was the General so anxious to get Duff a job when he got out of the Army in Oklahoma?

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(reading testimony)

"Mrs. Duff said that he had secured employment at Oklahoma City Through general Clyde Watts, attorney and counsel for General Edwin A. Walker."

(talking seriously)

When Mrs. Duff called to say that the Secret Service wanted to take his testimony on this information regarding Ruby, General Walker, and the John Birch Society, Duff told her "You notify ^{Agent} Cantrell and I'll be gone."

Since that time, we have no information regarding the life or limbs of Howard Duff or Secret Service Agent Cantrell, who took his first statements. NEITHER OF THEM WAS CALLED AS A WITNESS BEFORE THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION.

(Lights on stage go out one second to show end of Prologue. Jester puts books back on the shelf. Screen in back flashes bright sign, flicks it on and off, pop art type of poster)

Screen

Here they come, here they come, the great ones seeking truth.....

Jester

(he will announce off names as they enter, you will see the faces when they come in, they turn around and take their seats. Ruby, when he comes in, takes the throne. Warren sits close to him, leaving enough room to jump up and down or move around.)

Mr. J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel for the Commission, Joseph A. Ball, assistant counsel, Jim Bowie, assistant district attorney of Dallas, Texas, Joe H. Tonahill, attorney? (asks it with question in his voice) for Jack Ruby, Elmer W. Moore, special agent, U.S. Secret Service, J.E. Decker, Sheriff of Dallas County; Representative Gerald R. Ford, sheriff of Saigon, oh pardon me, Congressman from Michigan and member of the Commission, And the Chief Justice of the United States, Carl Warren, big daddy of the whole works. Oh, yes, here comes Jack Ruby. Wonder how he slipped in.

Ruby

Without a lie detector test on my testimony now do you know if I am telling the truth?

Tonahill

Don't worry about that Jack.

Ruby

I would like to be able to get a lie detector test of what motivated me to do what I did at that particular time. It seems as you get further into something, even though you know what you did, it operates against you somehow, brainwashes you, so you are weak in what you want to tell the truth about and what you want to say which is the truth.

Jester

This guy has a lot of insight. Too bad he didn't have any hind-sight.

Warren

If you and your counsel want any kind of test, I will arrange it for you.

Ruby (To Warren)

Are you limited for time?

Warren

No. We have all the time you want. All right, Mr. Ruby, tell us your story.

Screen

Time not "limited"; Time not "limited"? Tell him the truth Earl as you would want him to do with you.

Ruby

Mr. Belli evidently did not go into my case thoroughly, circumstantially. If he had gone into it, he wouldn't have tried to vindicate me on an inanity plea to relieve me of all responsibility. Had Mr. Belli spent more time with me, he would have realized not to try to get me out completely free.

I wanted to get on the stand and tell what happened that morning.

(imitating Belli-mocking)

He said, "Jack when they get you on the stand you are actually speaking of a premeditated crime that you involved yourself in".

(sounding sincere, pathetic)

I didn't care. I wanted to tell the truth.

(imitating Belli again)

"He said," When the prosecution gets you on the stand, they will cut you to ribbons."

(Ruby, half smile..like a Jewish comedian)

So naturally, I had to retract, and he fought to try to vindicate me of this particular crime.

Warren

Right now, Mr. Ruby, before we get started taking your testimony, would you mind being sworn in?

(both men stand up, facing each other)

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give before the Commission will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Ruby

I do

Warren

Now you complete whatever story you want to tell.

Ruby

I had business at the News Building on Friday morning. That is the start of the weekend, which is very lucrative, the weekend.

I got down there at 10:30 or 11:00 in the morning. I started to write the copy of my ad. As a rule, I have to pay cash for my ads. When you are in debt, it is necessary, they will not put it in if you do not pay cash. It was important for me to be at the News Building. I owe the Government quite a bit of money.

Someone ran in and said a man was shot, or something to that effect. Someone made a statement that Governor Connally was shot. I was in a state of hysteria. You say, "My God, it can't happen". You carry on crazy sayings.

The phones were ringing at the desk, they were having a turmoil in that News Building because of a person by the name of Bernard Weissman placing that particular ad, a full page ad.

Everything is very vague to me when this transpired; after they heard the President had been shot, or prior to that.

I became very emotional.

I said to John, "I will have to leave Dallas." I don't know why I said that, but it is a funny reaction that you feel.

And I said, "John, I am not opening up tonight."

(very exhausted telling this story.
Looks lost, far away, as if it
were the telling of a bad dream)

I left the building and went down and got my car. I went to the club and I may have made a couple of calls from there.....

(recollecting the calls)

I told Andy to "Call everyone and tell them we are not opening." We have a little girl in Fort Worth, I wanted to make sure he called her.

And Kathy Kay called.

And I called Ralph Paul

I phoned Alice Nicols. I hadn't spoken to her in 9 months or a year. I called long distance to California, Al Gruber, I promised him my dachshund dog.

I called my sister, Eileen, in Chicago.

I kept calling my sister Eva.

I left the club, went to the Ritz Delicatessen, then went out to my sister's and stayed at her apartment.

(voice in background, similar to
"This is your life." Eva Grant,
Ruby's sister)

Jack wasn't at my house 10, 15, or 20 minutes before he was on the telephone. I think he called Andy. Andy called back. He called this number he took down from Andy and said, "this is Jack Ruby." I don't know who he called next. I heard him say, "Don't tell Weinstein I am closing." He called two News Buildings to say he would be closed three days. He called the Synagogue twice about the hour of services. He took the phone in the bedroom and made another call from there. He called Eileen in Chicago."

Ruby

About 7:30 I went to my apartment. I went out to the Synagogue, I left the Synagogue. In my mind suddenly, it mullied over me that the police department was working overtime.

(tells this with tenderness, sympathy)

This is the craziest thing that ever happened in a person's life. I have always been very close to the police department. I don't know why.

(the Prologue has told us why)

I felt I have always abided by the law--- with a few little infractions, but not serious-- and felt we have one of the greatest police forces in the world here, and I have always been close to them, and I visited in the office.

(screen)

Almost every day.

Ruby

Over the radio I heard they were working overtime. I stopped at the delicatessan called Phil's and told the clerk I wanted him to make some real good sandwiches about 10 or 12. I called an officer by the name of Sims and he told me they had already wound up their work, but he would tell the boys about my thoughtfulness.

Before going to the police station, I try to call KLIF but can't get their number. I wanted to bring sandwiches to KLIF since they are already started to make them up.

(memory fresh. Enjoys telling this part about his being in the Jail, etc.)
Story rolling along, men completely quiet, straight faced, almost asleep.)

I put the sandwiches in the car, drove down Commerce and Harwood and parked my car with my dog---went into the building of the police station, took the elevator up to the second floor, and there was a police officer there.

(talks loud now, tries to interest them)

This is the first time I ever entered the building, gentlemen. The first time of that Friday. The time was approximately 11:15 p.m.

The officer was there. Evidently it took a little domineering part about me, and I was able to be admitted.

(Ruby is sounding cocky now, sure of himself and his importance around there.)

Ruby

I am still looking for Joe Long, but I am carried away with the excitement of history.

I am in a narrow hallway there and I don't recall if Captain Fritz or Chief Curry brings the prisoner out, and I am standing 2 or 3 feet away from him. Some reporters didn't know the various police officers, I knew they were looking to find out who that was, and I said, "That was Chief Curry" or "That is Captain Fritz". or whoever it was.

(While Ruby is saying the above lines, Joe Tonahill has written a note. He sits farthest from Ruby. You see him write it and start passing it along the line of men like a naughty school boy.) It has passed five or six hands.

Ruby

Is that for me Joe?

(The paper sits. Joe does not answer. Nobody explains, the last to receive it just holds it on his lap.)

Ruby

(Continuing his story. With a little less enthusiasm now.)

Someone asked, "Isn't there a larger room? Lets go down to the assembly room downstairs. I was standing 3 feet away from Oswald.

I went down to the assembly room in the basement. I felt perfectly free walking in there. No one asked me or anything.

(Ruby sits on table in room and relives the scene as if it were happening.)

I got up on a little table. Then they brought the prisoner out and various questions were being shouted. They questioned Henry Wade, What organization did he belong to? If I recall, I think Henry Wade answered " Free Cuba."

And I corrected Henry Wade, because listening to the radio it stood in my mind that it was " Fair Play for Cuba." There was a difference.

Ruby

From the way he stated, he let the reporters know that this was the guilty one that committed the crime. He specifically stated that in that room, that he was the one.

I felt I was deputized as a reporter momentarily, you might say..

(gets off table, stands up, tells
next incident with equal pride)

I called on of the boys at K L I F. I said to them "I have sandwiches for you. I want to get over there. I said, "By the way, I see Henry Wade talking on the phone to someone. Do you want me to get him over here?"

And he said, "yes, do that." Everyone was beckoning Henry Wade, and I called him over and he talked on the phone to this boy. And this fellow was very much elated that I brought him over there. And I said, "Now, will you let me in?"

I got ready to leave the building and there was another diskjockey at K L I F, Russ Knight. He said, "Jack, where is everything happening?" He had a tape recorder. I said, "come downstairs." There was Henry Wade sitting there. "Henry, this is Russ Knight." I left him there with Henry Wade.

(Mr. Arlen Specter enters the room.
Ruby's expression changes entirely.
He becomes rigid, as if he has met
with Mr. Specter before. His smile
leaves--- no longer the big shot
in the Dallas Jail, but a small
man trapped in the same jail.)

Warren
(noticing a change in Ruby)
Wakes up now, at least for a moment.)
Addresses Ruby.

This is another man on my staff, Mr. Specter. Would you mind if he came in?

Ruby
(serious for the first time)

Is there any way of you getting me to Washington?

Warren
(surprised)

I beg your pardon?

Ruby
(almost shouting)

Is there any way of you getting me to Washington?

Warren
(casual, in complete control)

I don't know of any. I will be glad to talk with your counsel.

Ruby
(looking directly over at Tonahill)

I don't think I will get a fair representation with my counsel, Joe Tonahill. I don't think so. I would like to request that I go to Washington. It is very important.

Tonahill
(smart aleck, sure of himself-to Ruby)

Jack, will you tell him why you don't think you will get a fair representation?

Ruby
(Just as sure of himself as Tonahill)

Because I have been over this for the longest time to get the lie detector test. Somebody has been holding it back from me.

Warren
(taking the responsibility)

The lateness of this thing is not due to your counsel. We have been so busy that this is the first time we have had an opportunity to do it. It is our own delay due to the pressures on us.

Ruby
(Walks over in front of Ford,
addresses him.)

What State are you from, Congressman?

(Sits ^{Ford} up. A little surprised to find Ruby the clear thinker he is. They were told to expect a "blabbering idiot.")

Michigan. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Warren
(ignores Ruby's request-wants to continue)

You might go ahead, if you wish, with the rest of your statement.

Ruby
(He begins where he left off on Friday night, only slower now, looking into the faces of the various men as he talks.)

Ruby

I remained at K L I F until about 2 a.m. I left the building and was driving towards the Times Herald when I heard someone honk very loudly. I stopped. There was a police officer in the car with this young lady that works in my club, Kathy Kay. They talked and carried on. He stated, "they should cut this guy inch by inch into ribbons, and so on." She said, "if he was in England they would drag him through the streets and would have him hung."

I left them and went to the building of the Times Herald.

(As Ruby is talking, Joe Tonahill has written another of his notes on a pad. It is being passed down the line. While Ruby is telling about Kathy Kay and the officer, he is watching this note move along.

He stops talking abruptly, jumps from his chair, very angry. By now the note is in Ruby's hands.

His line begins just as he finishes above "Times Herald". Yells at Joe.....

May I read that, Joe? May I please?

(Remember, he never saw the first note)

Tonahill stands up, takes note out of Warren's hands where it has gone by now, hands to paper to Ruby.

Tonahill
Sam ever get your glasses?

Ruby
(squinting, reading)

Not yet. (reading) "This is the girl that " what? --"that started Jack off." What is this other word?

Tonahill
Culminated?

Ruby
(shouting)

That is untrue. That is what I wanted to read. (Throwing pad on table)

(shouting at each of the men from the Commission. Ignoring the Texas delegates entirely.)

Gentlemen, unless you get me to Washington, you can't get a fair shake out of me.

Do I sound dramatic? Off the beam?

Warren

No; you are speaking very, very rationally. I am really surprised you have remembered as much as you have up to the present time.

Ruby

Unless you can get me to Washington, and I am not a crackpot, I have all my senses--- I don't want to evade any crime I am guilty of. But Mr. Moore, have I spoken this way when we have talked?

Moore

Yes

Ruby

Unless you get me to Washington immediately, I am afraid after what Mr. Tonahill has written there, which is unfair to me regarding my testimony here--- you all want to hear what he wrote?

Warren

Yes, you might read it. If you need glasses again, try mine this time (handing glasses to Ruby)

(putting on ^{Ruby} glasses)

"This is the girl"-----

Tonahill

"Thing", isn't it?

Ruby

"This is the thing that started Jack in the shooting."

Tonahill

Kathy Kay was talking about Oswald.

Ruby

(furious-screaming at Tonahill)

You are lying Joe Tonahill. You are lying.

Tonahill

No I am not.

Ruby

You are lying because you know what motivated me. You want to make it that it was a premeditation.

Tonahill

No.

Ruby

Yes, you do.

Tonahill

I don't think there was any premeditation, (Now talks with a sarcastic sneer on his face) but you go ahead and tell it your way. That is what we want you to do. That is what the Chief Justice wants.

Ruby

Not when you specify this.

(Ruby walks over to Rankin, who has not said one word)

You are Senator Rankin?

Rankin

No. I am the general counsel for our Commission, Mr. Ruby.

Tonahill

(resumes same voice-like Tom Sawyer)

You go on and keep telling it down to Caroline and the truth.

Warren

(breaks up this argument-wants to continue)

Mr. Ruby, We would like to have the rest of your story as YOU started to tell us, because you are now getting down to the crucial part of it, and it wouldn't be fair to you to have this much of it and then not have the rest.

Ruby

Joe knows from the time that I told Attorney Belli, and the story I wanted to tell on the stand. And Mr. Tonahill knows this isn't the time. The thought never entered my mind. He knows it.

Why go back to Friday, Joe? (disgusted) That set me off. Then it is a greater premeditation than you know is true.

I am here to tell the truth.

(disgusted, tired, addresses words to Warren)

Well, it is too bad, Chief Justice Warren, that you didn't get me to your headquarters 6 months ago.

1-16

Warren

I will tell you why we didn't. You were just about to be tried and I didn't want to do anything that would prejudice you in your trial. I assure you, there is no desire on our part to let this matter go to any late date for any ulterior purpose.

(reassures Ruby to relax-patronizing)

And as I told you at the beginning, if you want a test of some kind made, I will undertake to see that it is done.

Ruby

You have the power to do it, even though the district attorney objects to me getting the tests?

Screen

Why is the district attorney's office so concerned about Jack Ruby? They used to be good friends, and Ruby had already received the death penalty at their insistence.

Decker

(gets out of chair, walks over to Ruby)

May I make a suggestion? Jack, listen, you and I have had a lot of dealings. Do you want my officers removed from the room while you talk to the Commission?

Ruby

That wouldn't prove anything.

Decker

These people came several thousand miles to interview you. You have wanted to tell me your story and I have refused to let you tell me. Now, BE A MAN WITH A BUNCH OF MEN that have come a long way to give you an opportunity to.

You asked me for permission to tell your story, and I told you "no".

Screen

Why did you refuse, for seven months, to hear Jack Ruby's story.

Decker

(waving arms, being dramatic)

This is a supreme investigating committee at this particular time. Now give them your story and be a man, if you want them to deal with you and deal fairly with you.

Ruby

(stalling. Not ready to tell the story yet)

It is unfair to me unless I get all the facilities to back up what I say.

Decker
 (coaxing Ruby, trying to be convincing)
 You tell him your story. Nobody is denying it.

Reader
 (they might. They are sitting there listening)
 Decker
 You tell this man. (arms swing out to Warren) He has come a thousand or more miles to listen to you. Now be a man about it.

Moore
 Jack, you should tell your story first, and then the points that you want verified, you can be questioned on.

Ruby
 (shakes his head. Voice drops. Feels like Valente being coaxed at an open forum, without protection, to talk. Decker and Moore are squeezing him now.)

I wish the President were right here now. It is a terrible ordeal, I tell you that.

Warren
 (unmoved, matter of fact)
 I am sure it is an ordeal for you. We want to make it just as easy as we can. That is the reason that we have let you tell your story in your own way without being interrupted.

Screen
 Or without asking any questions, which would be harder on you.

Warren
 If you will just proceed with the rest of your statement.

Ruby
 I don't know how to answer you.

Warren
 Well, you have told us most of what happened up to the time of the incident, and you are almost within, you are just within a few hours of it now.

Ruby
 (looks surprised-laughes)
 There is Saturday //

Warren
 Beg your pardon?

Ruby
 There is a Saturday night. There is a Friday night. This is still only Friday night, chief.

Warren

Yes; that is true.

Ruby
(very cautious)

Well, I will go into a certain point, and if I stop, you will have to understand if I stop to get my bearings together.

Warren

Yes

Ruby

I left KLIF at 2 a.m. I spent an hour with the officer and his girl. I am up there in the composing room (at the Times Herald building) I brought this boy a twist board; he wants to see how it works, to show him and other men around; when you get into the movement of a ball bearing disk, your body is free to move.

Then we placed the ad in, I requested from Pat to put a black border around to show that the ad was in mourning.

(Ruby was talking slowly, detached, looking into the faces of the men down the line. Suddenly he stops, pauses.....) Looks at Decker.

Bill, will you do that for me that you asked a minute ago? You said you wanted to leave the room.

Decker

I WILL HAVE EVERYONE LEAVE THE ROOM, INCLUDING MYSELF, IF YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT. YOU NAME IT, AND OUT WE WILL GO.

Screen

That is another lie.

Ruby

All right.

Decker

You want all of us outside? (pointing to Texas men sitting together at the end of the row)

Ruby

Yes

Decker

I will leave Tonahill and Moore. I am not going to have Joe leave----

Ruby

If you are not going to have Joe leave-----

Decker
(pointing to Moore)

Moore, his body is responsible to you. His body is responsible to you.

Ruby
Bill, I am not accomplishing anything if they are here, and Joe Tonahill is here. YOU ASKED ME ANYBODY I WANTED OUT.

Screen

Ruby is not quite as insane as they would want you to believe.

(Warren, Ford, Rankin, Ball just sit there, watching this argument, not suggesting the Texas men leave the room.)

Decker

Jack, this is your attorney. (arms swinging this time to Tonahill)
That is your lawyer.

Ruby
(shouting)

He is not my lawyer.....

(Sheriff Decker and Bowie left room)
(This does not satisfy Ruby, for good reason)

Gentlemen, if you want to hear any further testimony, you will have to get me to Washington soon, because it has something to do with you, (looking right into Warren's face) Chief Warren.

(Very clear, very sincere and loud)

Do I sound sober enough to tell you this?

Warren

Yes, go right ahead.

Ruby

I want to tell the truth, and I can't tell it here. I can't tell it here. Does that make sense to you?

Screen

Neither Mr. Duff nor Mr. Ducos could tell it here either. They all told it "nowhere."

Warren

(acting almost stupid, as if he never heard of a witness in this position before)

Well, let's not talk about sense. But I really can't see why you can't tell the Commission.

Ruby

(walks over to Ball. He has stopped to identify Rankin and Ford. Now he wants to know the other man in the room....playing cautious.)

What is your name?

Mr. Ball

Joe Ball

Warren

Mr. Ball is an attorney from Los Angeles who has been working for me.

Ruby

Do you know Belli too? (Belli and Tonahill were good friends. Tonahill had been sent to Ruby from Belli.)

Ball

I know of him. I am not acquainted with him.

Warren

(senses Ruby's reason to question)

No association of any kind. There is positively no connection between anybody in this room, as far as I know, with Mr. Belli. I can assure you of that.

Jester

There happens to a very, very close relationship with Mr. Belli, personally and professionally, through the years.

Mr. Warren may not know it, but Mr. Tonahill, the man Ruby wants removed from the room and from his presence, was selected by Mr. Belli. Belli left the "client". Mr. Tonahill needed a court order to be removed.

And Mr. Ruby knows that Melvin Belli was not interested in Jack Ruby as a person.

Ruby

(walks over to Moore. Looks right into his face.)

Where do you stand, Moore?

Moore

Well, I am assigned to the Commission, Jack.

Ruby

The President assigned you?

(he wants to know if the President is helping the Commission to keep him from being heard)

Moore

No, my chief did. And I am not involved in the investigation. I am more of a security officer. (to guard Ruby's lips? certainly not his body. The Dallas police can do this.)

Ruby

(walks to front stage, talks to audience, wipes forehead.....)

Boys, I am in a tough spot, I tell you that.

Moore

You recall when I talked to you, there were certain things I asked you not to tell me at the time, for certain reasons. You were going to trial.

Jester

The trial has been over two months. Why did Sheriff Decker and Secret Service agent not allow Ruby to talk?

Ruby

But this isn't the place for me to tell what I want to tell.

Ruby
 (trying to wake Mr. Warren...almost
 putting his face very close to him)

Chief Warren, your life is in danger in this city, do you know that?

Warren
 (still child-like, almost stupid)

No; I don't know that. If that is the thing that you don't want to talk about, you can tell me, if you wish, WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER, just between you and me.

Ruby
 No. I would like to talk to you in private.
 (without Tonahill and Moore)

Warren
 YOU MAY DO THAT WHEN YOU FINISH YOUR STORY. YOU MAY TELL ME THAT PHASE OF IT.

(it is his story he wants to tell in private. If he finishes his story, there will be no more to tell.)

Ruby
 I bet you haven't had a witness like me in your whole investigation, is that correct?

Warren
 (now admitting that Ruby is caught, but offering no protection or help.)

You have a greater problem than any witness we have had.

ruby
 I have a lot of reasons for having these problems.

Screen
 We saw why in the information accumulated with regards to the contacts and background of Jack Ruby. Many persons are involved.

Warren

(giving away the substance of the entire
Commission investigation.)

I know that, and we want to respect your rights, whatever they
may be.

Jester

Not the rights of the American citizens to know what happened.

Warren.

And I ONLY WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU ARE WILLING TO TELL US. You
Have a great problem before you, AND I AM NOT TRYING TO PRESS YOU.

Jester

(very sarcastic and loud)

You can say that again.

Warren

I came here because I thought you wanted to tell us the story.

Reader

(makes side remarks from stool)(suggesting what Ruby
might be thinking)

Not in front of these people, I don't

Warren.

I think the story should be told for the public, and it will
eventually be made public.

Jester

Not if Jack Ruby is dead.

Ruby

When are you going back to Washington?

Warren

I am going back very shortly after we finish this hearing---I am
going to have some lunch.

Ruby

If you request me to go back to Washington with you right now,
that couldn't be done, could it?

Warren.

No; it could not be done. It could not be done. There are a good many things involved in that, Mr. Ruby.

Ruby

What are they?

Warren

Well, the public attention that it would attract,

Jester

Is public attention to stand in the way of information?

Warren.

and the people who would be around.

Jester

Would people around stand in the way of information? Will we ever know IF Oswald was silenced? Because he claimed he was a "patsy" and a "fall-guy", anything Mr. Ruby wants to say should be heard.

Warren

We have no place there for you to be safe when we take you out,

Screen

Mr. Valachi is living in Sing Sing, protected, because he "talked." " Or a picture of Valachi or cartoon of him in his pent house.

Warren

and it isn't our responsibility to go into anything of that kind.

Jester
(shouting very loud)

OH YES IT IS CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN..... YES IT IS.

Reader
 (comes center stage---interrupts conversation--
 holds up Warren Report and reads introduction.)

The Warren Report told American citizens the following; "This Report endeavors to fulfill that right and to appraise this tragedy by the light of reason and the standard of fairness. It has been prepared with a deep awareness of the Commission's responsibility to present to the American people an objective report of the facts relating to the assassination."

(looks at audience, closes books)

Being as there are wide discrepancies in the Report regarding witnesses, shot directions, bullet numbers, burned autopsy papers, personality descriptions of Oswalds, fingerprints, destruction of physical evidence, marksmanship credibility, unrecorded days in the Dallas jail, witnesses threatened, Tippit's murder and other problems, is it POSSIBLE THAT Chief Justice Warren tells us "It is not their responsibility to go into anything of that kind?"

Without a clear cut case of physical evidence for Murder against Oswald, isn't it at all possible someone wanted him removed?

(reader walks away, almost to wing,
 goes back to his stool.)

Warren

Before you finish the rest of your statement, may I ask you the question, and this is one of the questions we came here to ask you..... Did you know Lee Harvey Oswald prior to this shooting?

Jester ;or screen or someone with
 a placard who enters and exits quickly.

You would not have to "know"somebody in order to shoot him. He got a good look at him in the Dallas jail that Friday night.

Ruby

That is why I want to take the lie detector test. Just saying no isn't sufficient.

(serious again-not wanting to change the subject)

Gentlemen, my life is in danger here. NOT WITH MY GUILTY PLEA OF THE EXECUTION.....DO I SOUND SOBER ENOUGH TO YOU AS I SAY THIS?

Warren

You do. You sound entirely sober.

Ruby

From the moment I started my testimony, with the exception of becoming emotional, have I sounded as though I made sense, what I was speaking about?

Warren

You have indeed. I understood everything you have said. If I haven't, it is my fault.

Jester

Very well, could be! But he hasn't said very much yet, unless I missed something along the way.

Ruby

(emphatic, sincere, trying to arouse them)

Then I follow this up. I may not live tomorrow to give any further testimony. The only thing I want to get out to the public, and I CAN'T SAY IT HERE, is with authenticity, with sincerity of the truth of everything and WHY MY ACT WAS COMMITTED, BUT IT CAN'T BE SAID HERE.

(pauses,,, talks to audience)

It can be said, it's got to be said amongst people of the highest authority that would give me the benefit of doubt. And following that, immediately, give me the lie detector test after I do make the statement.

(goes back to Warren, talks to his face)

Chairman Warren, if you felt that your life was in danger at the moment, how would you feel? Wouldn't you be reluctant to go on speaking, even though you request me to do so?

Warren

I think I might have some reluctance if I was in your position, yes; I think I would..... I think I would figure it out very carefully as to whether it would endanger me or not.

IF YOU THINK THAT ANYTHING THAT I AM DOING OR ANYTHING THAT I AM ASKING YOU IS ENDANGERING YOU IN ANY WAY, SHAPE, OR FORM, I WANT YOU TO FEEL ABSOLUTELY FREE TO SAY THAT THE INTERVIEW IS OVER.

Ruby

What happens then? I didn't accomplish anything.

Warren

No; nothing has been accomplished.

Ruby

(beginning to wonder about this interview.)

Well, then you won't follow up with anything further?

Warren

(very matter of fact, unmoved)

There wouldn't be anything to follow up if you hadn't completed your statement.

Ruby

You said you have the power to do what you want to do, is that correct?

Warren

Exactly

Ruby

Without any limitations?

Warren

Within the purview of the Executive order which established the Commission..... We have the RIGHT TO TAKE TESTIMONY OF ANYONE WE WANT IN THIS WHOLE SITUATION, and we have the right, if we so choose to do it, to verify that statement in any way that we wish to do it.

Ruby

But you don't have a right to take a prisoner back with you when you want to?

Warren

No; we have the power to subpoena witnesses to Washington if we WANT TO DO IT, but we have taken the testimony of 200 or 300 people here in Dallas without going to Washington.

Ruby

(talking to audience, aware of the avoidance of his protection.)

Yes; but those people aren't JACK RUBY.

Warren

(neither giving an inch.)

No; they weren't

Ruby

(almost mocking him)

They weren't.

Warren

(letting Ruby know he didn't care to bother with him in the first place.)

Now, I want you to feel that we are not here to take any advantage of you, and unless YOU HAD INDICATED not only through your lawyers but also through your sister saying that you wanted to testify before the Commission, UNLESS SHE HAD TOLD US THAT, I WOULDN'T HAVE BOTHERED YOU.

(tries to sound as if he is protecting Ruby. Ruby actually wants to talk.)

I know you do have this case not yet finished, and I wouldn't jeopardize your position by trying to insist that you testify. So I want you to feel that you are free to refrain from testifying any time you wish.

Ruby

The thing is this, that with your power that you have, Chief Justice Warren, and all these gentlemen... too much time has gone by for me to give you any benefit of what I might say now.

It is too tragic to talk about.

Rankin

Isn't it true we waited until very late in our proceedings to talk with Mrs. Kennedy.

Reader

As if she could supply as much information regarding the assassination as Jack Ruby.

Warren

(as if this had anything to do with
what Ruby is trying to say....)

We didn't take Mrs. Kennedy's statement until day before yesterday.
Mr. Rankin and I took her testimony then.

Your sister wrote me a letter and told us that you would like
to testify, and that is one of the reasons that we came down
here.

Ruby

But unfortunately, when did you get the letter, Chief Justice
Warren?

Warren

Two or three months ago.

Ruby

At that time when you first got the letter and I was begging Joe
Tonahill and the other lawyers to know the truth about me, certain
THINGS THAT ARE HAPPENING NOW WOULDN'T BE HAPPENING AT THIS
PARTICULAR TIME.

Warren
(confused)

Yes?

Ruby

(Ruby sees he is not going to get anywhere.
His voice drops, he looks over at Tonahill,
and goes back to the original story.)

That Sunday morning----- the thought never entered my mind
prior to that Sunday morning when I took it upon myself to try
to be a martyr or some screwball, you might say..... I felt
very emotional and carried away for Mrs. Kennedy. She shouldn't
be expected to come back to face trial of this heinous crime.

And I have never had the chance to tell that, to back it up,
to prove it.

(talking to audience now)
(could possibly hold up some current
copies of American Opinion, with their
articles about "Jacob Rubenstein")

Consequently, right at this moment I am being victimized as a
part of a plot in the world's worst tragedy and crime at this
moment.



Ruby
(goes back directly in front of Warren)
(gets some courage to speak)

There is an organization here, Chief Justice Warren, if it takes my life at this moment to say it, (looks over at Tonahill and Moore) and Bill Decker said be a man and say it, there is a John Birch Society right now in activity, and Edwin Walker is one of the top men of this organization----- take it for what it is worth, Chief Justice Warren.

(almost in tears, full of regret)

Unfortunately for me, for me giving the people the opportunity to get in power, because of the act I committed, has put a lot of people in jeopardy with their lives.

(looks at Warren----no expression on his face..)

Don't register with you, does it?

Warren

No; I don't understand that.

Ruby
(getting very sarcastic)

Would you rather I just delete what I said and just pretend that nothing is going on?

Warren

I would not indeed. I AM ONLY INTERESTED IN WHAT YOU WANT TO TELL THE COMMISSION. THAT IS ALL I AM INTERESTED IN.

Reader
(steps center stage again)

What kind of an answer is that? Didn't he want to ask Mr. Ruby the information we know about General Walker and Mr. Hunt?

And if not, why not?
(goes back to corner)

Ruby
(He catches on now. There is a finality in the disinterest of the Chief Justice. He tries to collect the threads of the unimportant physical motions between Friday and Sunday, to give them only what they seem to want to hear.)

Ruby

When I left my apartment that morning-----

Jester
~~Warren~~

Watch now,

We are going to lose the day of Saturday, November 23, entirely.

Warren

What morning?

Ruby

Sunday morning. (isn't this what Warren wants to hear?)

Warren

Sunday morning

Ruby

(looking at Tonahill)

The Sunday morning, I saw a letter to Caroline, two columns about a 16 inch area. The most heartbreaking letter. I don't remember the contents. Alongside the letter was a comment that Mrs. Kennedy may have to come back for the trial of Lee Harvey Oswald..... That caused me to go like I did.

No subversive organization gave me any idea. No underworld person made any effort to contact me. It all happened on Sunday morning.

And I drove past Main Street, there was a crowd already gathered there. I took it for granted he had already been moved.

(talks slowly, without the same fire or enthusiasm. Just monotonous words.)
 This story he has told a hundred times.
 There was another one, if protected, he could tell.)

I parked my car across from Western Union, sent the money order, walked the distance from the Western Union to the ramp..... I didn't sneak in.

(he is letting you know someone let him in, because everyone was frisked and checked.)

I didn't linger in there. I didn't crouch or hide behind anyone.

I walked down those few steps, and there was the person that--- I wouldn't say I saw red--- that he was insignificant to what my purpose was.

Ruby

Did you talk to Mr. McWillie? I am sure you have.

Voice

Yes

Ruby

He always wanted me to come down to Havana, Cuba. That was during our good times. Was in harmony with our enemy of our present time. Finally he sent me tickets to come down. I called him frequently because he was down there, and he was the last person to leave, when they had to leave.

The only other association with him was, there was a gentleman here that sells guns. He was a little worried about the new regime coming in, and evidently wanted some protection. He called me. He wanted some four little Cobra guns---- big shipment.

Now, the reason I am telling you these things, I never knew Lee Harvey Oswald. The first time I ever have seen him was the time in the assembly room when they brought him out, when he had some sort of a shiner on his eye.

(Two more men have entered the room while Ruby is talking. He is watching them. Stops talking. Looks at Warren)

Chief Justice Warren----- who is the new gentleman, may I ask?
(pointing to Storey)

Rankin

(with one of his few lines in the play)
It tells you who controls the Commission)
Ruby asked Warren. Rankin answers.

THIS IS MR. STOREY FROM YOUR COMMUNITY, A LAWYER WHO IS WORKING WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, and Mr. Jaworski, IN CONNECTION WITH WATCHING THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION so that THEY WILL BE SATISFIED AS TO THE QUALITY OF work done INSOFAR AS THE STATE OF TEXAS IS CONCERNED.

(Ruby just shakes his head in wonder.)

*(Mr. Jaworski is attorney
& counsel for C - A
Commissioner in Houston)*

Ruby
(continuing his account)

There was no one near me when I walked down that ramp. The time I sent the money order was 11:17. That is the timing when I left the Western Union. Oswald was shot at 11:22.

You wouldn't have time enough to have any conspiracy, to be self-saving, to mingle with the crowd.

Screen or reader

This is a poor argument. Why would Ruby use the Western Union directly across from the jail?..... When he left his apartment that morning he told his room -mate, George Senator, that he "was going to shoot Oswald."

If he had time to "mingle", somebody might have recognized him and removed him.

Ruby
(acting out the scene, as if in a Western movie)

I had the gun in my right hip pocket, and impulsively, if that is the correct word here, I saw him, and that is all I can say.

And I didn't care what happened to me. I think I used the words, "You killed my President, you rat." The next thing, I was down on the floor.

I said, "I am Jack Ruby. You all know me."

Warren

I will go back to the original question that I asked you. Did you ever know Oswald?

Jester .

He answered that once. We also decided you did not have to know somebody to erase them. I can think of a lot of better questions than that.

Ruby
(now he jumps around a little. Might as well make it all sound clear, as long as there is not protection or real interest coming.

Remember---all these Commission men just sitting around, half asleep)

No; let me add---- you are refreshing my mind about a few things.
(This is comical, because they have not said one word.)

Continuing the account

I had no way to know when I would see him again. The
last I saw of him was in the morning when
I left the Western Union. Oswald was shot at 11:30.
I don't have the time exactly because I was
not looking at my watch at the time.

Witness of Oswald

This is a poor statement. Why would I see the Western Union
directly across from the Texas School Depository? I was
not looking at my watch at the time. Oswald was shot at 11:30.
I was going to shoot Oswald.

It has been said that "Oswald's night have recognized him
and removed him."

Reply

Looking out the scene, as I was a witness
(hole)
I had the gun in my right hand pocket, and I don't know
if the correct word here, I don't know, and that is all I can
say. I don't know what happened to me. I don't know the words
that I used. I don't know what I was
doing in the office.

Also, I am back here. You will know me.

William

I will be back to see you again, William. But I don't know. Did
you ever know Oswald?

Reply

I am back here. I don't know what happened to me. I don't know the words
that I used. I don't know what I was
doing in the office.

Reply

Now in my right hand pocket, and I don't know
if the correct word here, I don't know, and that is all I can
say. I don't know what happened to me. I don't know the words
that I used. I don't know what I was
doing in the office.

Let me know if you are interested in what I have said about a few things.
(This is a reply, because they have not said
I am back here.)

Ruby

(trying to get serious again)

There is a certain organization in this area---- that has been indoctrinated, that I am the one that was in the plot to assassinate our President.

Rankin

(as if he did not know this)

Would you tell us what that is?

Ruby

The John Birch Society. Friday night I stopped at the post office to find the box number of this Bernard Weissman.

Rankin

Did you know him before that?

Ruby

Never knew him. I even inquired with the man in charge of where you purchase boxes, and I said to him, "who bought this box?"

Jester

Do postal clerks work at the window in Dallas between 4:30 and 5 a.m.?

Rankin

Did you know Officer Tippit?

Ruby

I knew there were three Tippits on the force. The only one I knew used to work for the special services, and I am certain this wasn't the Tippit, this wasn't the man.

Reader

What kind of an answer is that, "I am certain this wasn't the man?" Ruby was at the jail every day, or with members of the police department. Friday night Oswald was being accused of killing an Officer Tippit. Wouldn't Ruby have inquired if it was his friend? He has had seven months to find out which Tippit it was.

Rankin

There was a story that you were seen sitting in your Carousel Club with Mr. Weissman, Officer Tippit, the one that was murdered, and another who has been called a rich oil man, at one time shortly before the assassination. Can you tell us anything about that?

Ruby
(long pause-answers the question with a question)

Who was the rich oil man?

Rankin

Can you remember? We haven't been told. We are just trying to find out anything that you know about him.

Ruby
(playing a cool game)

I am the one that made such a big issue of Bernard Weissman's ad. Maybe you do things to cover up, if you are capable of doing it.

Rankin

This Weissman and the rich oil man, did you ever have a conversation with them?

Ruby

There was only a few. There is Bill Howard, but he is not a rich oil man. He used to dabble in oil.

Warren

This story was given by a lawyer by the name of Mark Lane. He testified that someone had given him information to the effect that a week or two before President Kennedy was assassinated, that in your Carousel Club you and Weissman and Tippit, Officer Tippit, the one who was killed.... and a rich oil man had an interview or conversation for an hour or two.

We asked him who it was that told him, and he said that it was confidential. He would find out for us whether he could be released or not from his confidential relationship.

Ruby
(laughing-for the first time)

Isn't that foolish? If a man is patriotic enough in the first place, who am I to be concerned if he wasn't an informer.

Ruby

I am incarcerated, nothing to be worried about anyone hurting me.

Reader

The persons giving this information was not concerned with hurting Ruby..... He did not want himself hurt..... There have been curious deaths in Dallas occurring to persons having information.... and the Testimony is full of threats.

Warren

Mr. Ruby. I am not questioning your story at all. I wanted you to know the background of this thing. I DID FEEL THAT OUR RECORD SHOULD SHOW THAT WE WOULD ASK YOU THE QUESTION AND THAT YOU WOULD ANSWER IT, AND YOU HAVE ANSWERED IT.

Screen

(Bright colored question marks flash on and off)

Jester

The record may show you asked the question. The record may not show he "answered it" in any manner at all.

Ruby

No; I am as innocent regarding any conspiracy as any of you gentlemen in the room.....

Screen

That is probably true

Ruby

I don't want anything to be run over lightly. (joke)

Screen

Nothing could be lighter than the information we received about Ruby, Tippit, Weissman, and the oilman.

Ruby

(very self confident now. He can handle any question, with the help of the Commission, if this is what they want. He still is not quite sure that is what he wanted.)

Ruby

I want you to dig into it with any biting, any question that might embarrass me.

Rankin
(next brilliant question)

You have never been connected with the Communist Party ?

Ruby
(short, quick)

Never have. All I have ever done in my life--- I had a very rough start in life, but anything I have done, I at least try to do it in good taste, whatever I have been active in.

Screen.

Like chasing a man with brass knuckles, or throwing him down the stairs.

Rankin

There was a story that you had a gun with you during the showup that you described in the large room there.

Ruby
(laughing again)

I will be honest with you. I lied about it. It isn't so. I didn't have a gun. BUT IN ORDER TO MAKE MY DEFENSE MORE ACCURATE, TO SAVE YOUR LIFE, THAT IS THE REASON THAT STATEMENT WAS MADE.

Reader
(From sidelines-like the jester)

How do you make a defense "more accurate" by telling a lie? .. And if you tell one lie to "save your life", couldn't you tell two or more?

Rankin

I think it would be quite helpful to the Commission if you could tell, as you recall it, just what you said to Mr. Sorrells and the others after the shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald.

Reader
(mocking the question)

I think it is unimportant what Mr. Ruby said after he shot Oswald. It was the act of shooting, not the words, that must be investigated.

Ruby

There were incorrect statements made.

Ruby

Ray Hall was the first one that interrogated me. He wanted to know my whole background. I already confessed, and all it took is one sentence why I did it.... I know in my right mind, as I said before, who else could have timed it so perfectly by seconds.

If it were timed that way, then someone in the police department is guilty of giving the information as to when Lee Harvey Oswald was coming down.

(looks at all the men's faces in the row of chairs.)

I never inquired what time is Lee Harvey Oswald coming down. Because really, a man in his right mind would never ask that question..... I never called the man by any obscene name, because as I stated earlier, there was no malice in me.

Reader
(laughs-opens arms wide)

Always the perfect gentleman. He only killed him, never called him a name.

Ford

It has been alleged that you went out to Parkland Hospital.

Ruby

No; I didn't go there. My sisters asked me.

Reader

Ask Mrs. Tice. She was harrassed and threatened for her life the day before she was to testify before the Warren Commission. Jack Ruby's sisters had both been to her house to see her.

Volume XV

Warren
(looks at his watch, about
to wind up.)

Congressman, do you have anything further?

Ruby
(shocked-yet half teasing)

You can get more out of me. Let's not break up too soon.

Ford

When you got to Havana, who met you in Havana?

Reader
(runs center stage-roars with laughter)

Now there is a great question. He went to Havana for a few days in 1959..... Batista was in charge of Havana...Ruby met with a few chorus girls..... Assuming he were the most notorious spy in the world, what difference would it make who met him at the airport? Spy would not meet spy in broad daylight at the Havana airport?

(runs off-shaking his head)

Warren
(rubbing his head)

Now you said there were some other things. Would you mind telling us anything you have on your mind?

Ruby
(caustic)

No. because as I said earlier, you seem to have gotten the juicy part of the story up to now in the various spasmodic way of my telling it.

(walks to Warren again)

How valuable am I to you to give you all this information? (laughs)

Warren
(answers seriously.No sense of humor.
No information at all)

How valuable is rather an indefinite term. I think the report would have been deficient if it had not been for this interview we had with you.

Reader
(tumbles across stage-pops up)

You can say that again and again.

Ruby
(going in for one more try)

The only thing is this. If I cannot get these tests you give, it is pretty haphazard to tell you THE THINGS I SHOULD TELL YOU.

Rankin

It isn't entirely clear how you feel that your family and you yourself are threatened by your telling what you have to the Commission. How do you come to the conclusion that they might be killed?

Ruby

Well, assuming that some persons are accusing me falsely of being part of the plot-----

Rankin

By that, you mean a party to the plot of Oswald?

Ruby

That I was party to a plot to silence Oswald.

Warren

I think I can say to you that there has been not witness before the Commission out of the hundreds we have questioned who has claimed to have any personal knowledge that you were a party to any conspiracy to kill our President.

Ruby

Yes; but you don't know our area here. I just wanted to say this to you. If certain people have the means..... and want to gain something to their own use, they will make ways to present certain things that I do look guilty.

Ruby

Through certain falsehoods that have been said about me to other people, the John Birch Society, I am as good as guilty as the accused assassin of President Kennedy.. How can you remedy that, Mr. Warren? Do any of you men have any ways of remedying that?

(walks back and forth, looks into each of their faces. His face shows that nothing is making an impression. Not a sound from the men in the room)

Mr. Bill Decker said be a man and speak up. I am making a statement now that I may not live the next hour when I walk out of this room.

Now, it is the most fantastic story you have ever heard in a lifetime. Unfortunately, Chief Earl Warren, had you been around 5 or 6 months ago, and immediately the President would have gotten ahold of my true story, a CERTAIN ORGANIZATION

(screen)

As he talks, flash on a picture of the cover of American Opinion, March, 1964.

Ruby continues

wouldn't have so completely formed now, so powerfully, to use me because I am of the Jewish extraction, Jewish faith, to commit the most dastardly crime that has ever been committed.

Jester

Stop, Jack, wait a minute. I think I know what you mean.

(runs over to the bookshelf, grabs two volumes, comes back, and sits on a stool he pulls up center stage. Actors on stage freeze temporarily.)

Yes, he is right. He is being used. I remember reading in Volume XV and XX the testimony and exhibits of Professor Oliver from----- of all places---- the University of Ill.

The professor wrote for American Opinion, was a founder of the John Birch Society along with Robert Welch and goes all around the country every chance he gets spreading rumors, hate, and unverified statements. Ruby is right about what he said.

Jester

What does he say? What is the Society printing and listening too?
Here are a few excerpts from his speeches.
(looks at Volume XX, reads)

Jack Leon Rubenstein, who in 1947 changed his name, is Jack Ruby. I have been informed that the name Rubenstein is a common name among the Jews.Oswald's supervisor in the attempt to murder General Walker was none other than the Jakob Rubenstein, alias Ruby, who later killed Oswald.....Oswald started walking to the apartment when he failed to make connections with another Communist agent.....

talking, not reading

and if that isn't enough he tries to sell America, through articles, that Oswald at the age fifteen began his Communist career with a booklet put out by the " Rosenberg committee of the Bronx."

Even Bernard Weissman, the rat who placed that Wanted for Treason ad in the Dallas newspaper, testified before the Warren Commission that "his name was chosen for the bottom of that slander because "IT WAS A JEWISH NAME." For that, he drove 3,000 miles to Texas then back to New York, when the John Birch Society, who paid for it did not sign their own names.

(gets off the stool, puts the books back,
is very angry)

These men used those sick, confused Jews in order to eventually be able to throw their names around as being traitors to America.

(Jester goes off, sits down, pulls stool
away. Jack and others take over where
he interrupted)

Ruby (talking to Warren)

Can you understand now in visualizing what happened, what powers, what momentum has been carried on to create this feeling against my people, against certain people that were against them prior to their power?

(looks disgusted----lost---still no response)
puts his face right into Warrens, almost spits
at him)

That goes over your head, doesn't it?

Warren

Well, I don't quite get the full significance of it, Mr. Ruby. I know what you feel about the John Birch Society.

Ruby

Very powerful.

Warren

I think it is powerful, yes I do. Of course, I don't have all the information that you feel you have on the subject.

Ruby

(informing Warren, who should know)

Unfortunately, you don't have. Because it is too late. And I wish that our beloved President, Lyndon Johnson, would have delved deeper into the situation, hear me, not to accept just circumstantial facts about my guilt or innocence, and would have questioned to FIND OUT THE TRUTH ABOUT ME BEFORE HE RELINQUISHED ^{*} CERTAIN POWERS TO THESE CERTAIN PEOPLE.

Warren

I don't know what power you believed he relinquished.

Ruby

A whole new form of government is going to take over our country.

It is a serious situation. I guess it is too late to stop it, isn't it?

Ford (stands up, turns around)

Are there any questions that ought to be asked to help clarify the situation that you described?

Screen- flashes

YES.

Ruby

If you don't take me back to Washington tonight to give me a chance to prove to the President that I am not guilty, then you will see the most tragic thing that will ever happen.

And if you don't have the power to take me back, I won't be around to be able to prove my innocence or guilt.

Maybe something can be saved, something can be done. What have you got to answer to that, Chief Justice Warren?

Ford

Is there anything more you can tell us if you went back to Washington?

Ruby
(quizzical look)

Yes; are you sincere in wanting to take me back?

Ford

We are most interested in all the information you have.

(no more is said from Mr. Ford.
He is not that interested to
comment, even after he asked the
question?)

(after his only three remarks, he turns around, sits down
again with back to audience-looks forward, not even at Ruby)

Ruby

All I know is maybe something can be saved. Because right now I am being used as a scapegoat, and there is no greater weapon that you can use to create a falsehood about some of the Jewish faith, especially at the terrible heinous crime such as the killing of President Kennedy.

(very serious, seems sincere)

Now maybe something can be saved. It may not be too late, whatever happens, if our President, Lyndon Johnson, knew the truth from me..... but.....If I am eliminated, there won't be any way of knowing. (looks at Tonahill, Moore)

Tonahill

Who do you think is going to eliminate you, Jack?

Ruby

I have been used for a purpose, and there will be a certain tragic occurrence happening if you don't take my testimony and somehow vindicate me so my people don't suffer because of what I have done.

Warren

We have taken your testimony. It will be recorded for all to see. That is the purpose of our coming here today.

(Ruby is confused and broken. They took only what he wanted to tell without full protection to tell more.)

Ruby
(exhausted)

You have lost me though. You have lost me, Chief Justice Warren.

Warren

Lost you in what sense ?

Ruby

I won't be around for you to come and question me again.

I want to tell the truth.... and then I want to leave this world. But I don't want my people to be blamed for something that is untrue, that they claim has happened.

Warren

Mr. Ruby, I promise you that you will be able to take such a test. Suppose you list for us, if you can, the questions that you would like to have asked of you on the polygraph.

Ruby

You are telling me to do these things----these things are going to be promised, but you see they aren't going to let me do these things.....

Reader

How did Ruby know so well that what he tells the Chief Justice is true? They, whoever "they" are, will not. Jack Ruby write his questions. And I am not sure sure he really wants to talk under these uninterested ^{Ruby} circumstances.

(breaks down and cries--sees the hopeless predicament he is in--with nobody but himself to blame)
They are all in this together.

You have a lost cause, Earl Warren. You don't stand a chance. They feel about you like they do about me, Chief Justice Warren.

(you can't appease these people,
they both tried to play the game.)

Ruby
(to Warren)

I shouldn't hurt your feelings in telling you that.

Warren

That won't hurt my feelings, because I have had some evidence of the feeling that some people have concerning me.

Ruby

But you are the only one that can save me. I THINK YOU CAN.

Warren

Yes?

Ruby

But by delaying minutes, you lose the chance. And all I want to do is tell the truth, and that is all.

Warren

I am afraid we have tired Mr. Ruby. We have had him here for close to 4 hours now. We appreciate your patience and your willingness to testify in this manner for us.

Ruby

All I want to do is tell the truth..... and the only way you can know it is by the polygraph..... that is the only way you can know it.

Warren

That we will do for you.

Reader

(he talks as the men go through the motions of departing)

The members of the Warren Commission are leaving now. They may return to Washington. The Texas delegation will return to their homes. Ruby will return to his cell. The long dream is over, as if it never happened..... No questions asked, no protection offered..... each knowing only what he knew before. and nothing more.

ACT III.

The polygraph test takes place in the same room where the interview in Act I was conducted. This time there is a space of wall removed to show Mr. Alexander and Tonahill on the other side.

Furniture is arranged with a chair for the polygraph test and the necessary equipment.

The book shelf with the Reports and Testimony can remain.

The reader will again act as a jester, making comments, trying to stir questions and imagination of the audience. Sometime he is funny, tumbles, jumps around or makes faces. He can sit on the floor, lean against the wall, jump on a stool. He runs on, runs back. Other times he is very serious and talks "straight" to the audience.

ACT II

Jester-same as called Reader
in script

Enters stage, goes to shelf, takes out Volume XXVI, turns to page 169, goes back to stool, and begins to talk.

Hi Everybody, welcome to the circus. See the lion and the clowns, and the tiger run around. WHAT AN HISTORIC MOMENT!!!!!!!The old pro is going on record, after a succession of rehearsals and reruns, with as smooth a tale as ever told for sweet innocent ears.

That Chief Justice of ours is certainly one for keeping his word. This is the moment old Jack waited for----- to clear the Jews of any part in the conspiracy, and to come out clean himself at the same time.

He knew enough to feel a little guilt for being used. Yet, when the cards were down, there was always the chance that he could do a little better out of the whole thing.

BUT

before the fun begins, there was little hitch to discuss with you. It seems as if Henry Wade, District Attorney in Dallas, had some interest in what was going to be asked and answered by Ruby.

Not that his men wouldn't be present again, but the ground rules were set in a special delivery air mail letter to Mr. Lee Rankin in Washington just three days before they all got together.

(opens the Volume and reads)

"Dear Mr. Rankin,

I have been informed that the Warren Commission is anticipating the giving of a polygraph test to Jack Ruby in the near future, AND WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO SUCH A TEST IF THE QUESTIONS COVER HIS ACTIVITIES FROM THE TIME OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY UP TO THE KILLING OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD."

(looks up and talks)

Now, he went on and said they could cover whether or not he knew Oswald or had any assistance in committing the crime. He even gave them permission to cover "our evidence" of premeditation.

Get the picture? Conditions set---

There is only one thing you must remember. Any plot, if it was a plot to silence Oswald, was planned much longer than Friday, Saturday or Sunday of the week of the assassination.

Reader

(Men are entering the room. They come in one at a time. As they come, reader announces their names, and their reason for being there.)

Mr. Arlen Specter, assistant counsel of the President's Commission. You remember Mr. Specter from the interview a few weeks ago with Mr. Ruby.

Mr. Joe Fowler, chief counsel for Jack Ruby. He wasn't counsel very long. A month after he entered the case, the polygraph was given. Mr. Fowler was fired for not stopping the polygraph test by Earl Ruby, the brother of Jack Ruby. (sits nearest Ruby)

Mr. Joe Tonahill you remember Mr. Tonahill, the note passer, from before.

Mr. William Alexander... Assistant District Attorney. Last time we met with Mr. Ruby, Mr. Bowie represented the District Attorney's office with his presence.... Today Mr. Alexander, who not too long ago argued for the death of Jack Ruby.... is joining us.

Mr. Allan Sweat, Chief criminal deputy and polygraph operator for Dallas County, Texas. The F.B.I. conducted the polygraph test. We still are not quite sure why Mr. Sweat's presence was necessary. The amount of persons present effects the results of these tests.

Mr. Bell P. Herndon, polygraph operator and special agent of the F.B.I.

Mr. James Wood, special agent of the F.B.I. He does not usually familiarize himself with the polygraph procedure, but today he is here " to help Mr. Herndon ."

And again we have Miss Odell Oliven, our lovely court reporter.

Specter

Those currently present may remain while the polygraph operator explains the questions to Mr. Ruby.... and then everyone would leave the room except the operators, court reporter, and I.....

(pause)

The question now subject to being resolved is the issue of whether anyone will be present from the Sheriff's office.

Specter

I think all your objections and comments about this proceeding should go on the record.

Fowler

Let me first suggest..... why don't I discuss this with Jack? If he insists, I can't hold him back. Let me step down and chat with him a few minutes.

(leaves the room)

Reader
(comes center stage)

You see, Ruby and his lawyer received no advanced notice of the arrival of the Polygraph agents. Ruby had wanted Dr. Tanay ^{— who?} present. Ruby had attacked Belli's defense, feeling the jury was never given the relevant and pertinent facts. There was no time for Ruby's to "prepare"..... whatever that involved...if he was so lilly white.

(goes back to stool)

Fowler
(runs back breathless)

He says he's going to take this test regardless of his lawyers, he says, "By God, I am going to take the test."

Tonahill

Well, you know the law is in his favor and that he is presumed to be same, and there can't be anybody ^{to} speak for him but himself.

Fowler

Well, I won't want to go back there then..!!

Tonahill

If he ever gets his hands on you, they'll let him have it.

Specter

I have requested Sheriff Decker to have a physician standing by if he needs medical attention.

Specter
(talking to Fowler)

With respect to your request that the results of the tests be held confidential, the Commission has heretofore on other questions.....refused to make any advance commitment....because of the nature of its responsibility to make the final decision on DISCLOSING or NOT DISCLOSING..... what it concludes is in the public interest. Or, stated differently, the Commission just wont be committed. The results of this examination will not be disclosed to anyone until the Commission itself has reviewed the results and makes a decision.

Fowler

We strenuously request that this matter not be released to the press.

Sheriff Decker
(enters the room, addresses Mr. Fowler) (then exits.)

Jim Kerr caught you making a 50 yard dash and they are circling around downstairs and Jim Kerr is just going in circles wanting to know what Clayton Fowler is doing up in the jail.

(exits)

Fowler

Our request that this matter be held stricly confidential is because it is given at the request of the Commission and for the benefit of the Commission, and we feel that the Commission and only the Commission should have this information.

Before any of it is released for public consumption or private consumption, No.1, the sheriff's office, the district attorney's office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or any other agency of the Government outside the Warren Commission----that we be told that this is going to be done.

Specter

You will be notified in advance of any publication if in fact the Commission ultimately decides to make such a publication.

Reader
(runs out-confused-scratches head)

Is that what he requested, "advance notice of publication"?

Fowler

I would like the record to show that I as Jack Ruby's attorney advised him not to take the test, and that if he did so he would be doing it against the advice of his attorney.... the advice of his family.... and that notwithstanding this, Jack said he had requested this and he insisted on the test..... We do respectfully request that the Commission not disclose any of the questions that will be submitted to Jack Ruby to any other person other than the operators..... the investigator for the Commission..... and his attorneys present.

MORE SPECIFICALLY..... that these questions not be given to anyone connected with the Dallas Sheriff's Office, The Dallas F.B.I, the Dallas District Attorney's Office..... specifically (swinging his arms out to Mr. Alexander).... to Mr. Bill Alexander, who is present in the room at this time, and Mr. Sweatt, who is present in the room representing the Dallas Sheriff's Office.

Specter

(gives a poor excuse for their presence)

With respect to the request that none of the questions be made available to anybody from the Dallas Police Department, or the Dallas District Attorney's Office, or the Dallas Sheriff's Office..... The Commission's position on that is.....if the questions are submitted in advance to the counsel for the defendant, there is equal standing on the part of the State to have similar treatment.

Reader

(again confused)

I don't know what he means when he says "on the part of the State." The information Jack Ruby implied he wanted to talk about, he made very clear, was not their concern. It was between him and the Commission. The polygraph test is not a trial. It was intended by Mr. Ruby to supply information the Commission may wish to know.

Once more our Commission is closing the avenues of communication.

Specter

(continues- very matter of fact)

The questions to be asked of Mr. Ruby would be set forth so that he would understand them fully with the other people present.

Specter

Then, it was the Commission's view that everybody should leave the room except for the two special agents of the F.B.I. administering the test, the court reporter, and me.

Sheriff Decker has insisted that a member of his staff be present as custodian of the body of Jack Ruby, since he has that responsibility..... It is not yet determined who that will be.

Tonahill

(Changes subject entirely. Still not resolved about Sheriff's office.)

Mr. Fowler and I have talked with the various psychiatrists, each of whom feels that because Jack Ruby is of unsound mind and mentally ill, this polygraph test is a mistake and would produce nothing by way of an accurate result of deception, truth, or conclusiveness in any regard and feel that it should not be made.

Jester-reader

(clowns around- runs around, talks, sits down)

What is all this fuss about? For goodness sakes, what do they think is going to happen? He sounded pretty sane last time.....remember?

Tonahill

But.... even though he is of unsound mind, does not know right from wrong, is mentally ill, his condition could grow worse without it, and in the interests of satisfying everyone concerned, the State....

Screen

A large picture of Texas is flashed on.

Tonahill

The Nation

Screen

A map of the United States is flashed...

Tonahill

and the world....

Screen

Picture of globe of the world spinning around.

Tonahill (continuing)

in all probability if this polygraph test is not given, there will be left hanging in the clouds certain doubts as to whether there was a conspiracy between Ruby and others or Oswald, or whether they knew each other.....

If Ruby refused to undergo a polygraph test, certainly the Board of Pardons and Parole may look with disfavor upon the fact and infer possible premeditation on his part in the shooting of Oswald.

Screen

Shows blue sky, white clouds floating about. In each is the title of a book challenging the Warren Commission.

1. Joesten "Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy?"
 2. Buchanan "Who Killed Kennedy?"
 3. Fox "The Unanswered Questions about President Kennedy's Assassination"
 4. Gershenson "Kennedy and Big Business"
 5. Lane "Rush to Judgement"
 6. Bertrand Russell "Sixteen Questions about the Assassination"
 7. Thomson "The Quest for Truth"
 8. Epstein "Inquest, 9. Popkin "The Second Oswald, 12. Weisberg "Whitewash
 10. Penn Jones "Forgive my Grief 11. Sauvage "Oswald Affair
- (talks while ^{Reader} these clouds are in the sky"

The polygraph will be given, but little clouds still float about.

Specter

May the record further show that arrangements have been made to have Dr. Norman Beavers available.

Fowler

Let's add this Joe, that in whatever capacity or degree it would help to substantiate that in our opinion we believe that Jack Ruby is of unsound mind.

(talking to Tonahill)

I am not going to physically manhandle Jack Ruby.

Tonahill

No. Until he is declared a ward through an insanity proceedings, he is presumed able to exercise his own consent.

Specter

Let us discuss this off the record a moment.

Screen

"Off the Record"

Specter, Tonahill, Fowler

(go off to one side out of distance of
court reporter....talk...go back to
their former places)

Fowler

Put this into the record, we object to anyone from the Sheriff's office being present.

(Spotlight on the back of Mr. Sweatt)
He never does leave the room, doesn't
even answer)

If the only valid reason is one of security, we are within the confines of the Dallas Jail, on 7-M, which would appear to me to be virtually escape proof. This is not for security purposes only and we will object.

Specter

The sheriff feels that someone from his staff ought to be present.

Fowler

If the sheriff is allowed at all, he be allowed to stand at the door and any other exit in the building, not to be able to view the chart or any part of it.

Reader

Boy, they really trust each other. Something big must be cooking.

Specter

The sheriff's custodian will be present at the door so that he may not have access to the chart

Alexander

At this time, for and behalf of the Dallas County District Attorney's office, a request is made for a list of the questions asked Jack Ruby, and that a copy of the recording by the polygraph be furnished the district attorney's office.

Alexander

We would also like a copy of the interpretation of the test. Whether or not we are given an interpretation of the test, we do want the questions and ACTUAL TAPE OF THE POLYGRAPH MACHINE.

No kidding, Reader
 these guys really trust each other. He wants the "actual tape."

Fowler

As attorney for Jack Ruby, I request the Warren Commission deny the request of the Dallas district attorney. It might and could effect the outcome of his case, now on appeal. This is a matter between Mr. Ruby and the Warren Commission only.

(Dr. Beavers enters the room)

Jailer
 (on entering the room)

He will be right up.

Ruby
 (follows jailer-enters)

Specter
 (to Ruby)

Mr. Ruby, I am Arlen Specter. How are you today?

Ruby

Fine; how are you?

Tonahill

(treating Ruby like a baby-introduces Specter..I am sure Ruby remembers him from before)

Jack, that's Mr. Specter of the Warren Commission.

Specter

Mr. Ruby, why don't you have a chair over here----and let me introduce you to everybody so you will know who everybody is.

This is Miss Odell Oliver, the court reporter, she will take your testimony like we did before.

Oliver

How do you do Mr. Ruby?

Specter

I guess you know Dr. Beavers.....

Reader

You bet he does....Dr. was appointed by Mr. Tonahill and Judge Brown...and keeps insisting Ruby is "insane."

Specter

This is Mr. Wood. and Mr. Herndon, polygraph operators with the F.B.I.....

This is Mr. Alexander...

Reader

Things are getting ridiculous. Ruby knows Mr. Alexander very well from his trial. They need no introduction.

Specter
(turning to jailer who brought
Ruby up)

and your name sir?

Jailer

Mr. Holman, E.L.

Specter
(introducing jailer to Ruby)

This is Mr. Holman. (Reader-Jester-bursts out alughing)

The procedure is this, subject to agreement on all sides. We are going to conduct the polygraph examination in a standard way, which involves a series of questions, 8 or 9 in duration. The questions will be explained to you in advance. He will explain them to you so there is no possibility of confusion..... They won't surprise you.....

Everybody who is present in this room will be present when the questions are discussed.

Scientifically, it's preferable to have as few people possible at the time the examination is administered. Originally we thought the only people present would be the two operators, the court reporter, and I. Now we have Mr. Holman and Dr. Beavers. Mr. Alexander, Tonahill, and Fowler wouldn't be here.

Ruby

I'd rather have Mr. Fowler in preference to Dr. Beavers.

Reader

Nobody bothered to explain how Mr. Sweatt was going to dissolve or what was to happen to him.

Ruby

How soon will the answers be released ?

Specter

The answers will be compiled by the F.B.I. and then they're going to go to the Commission, to Chief Justice Warren. Everything is up to them as to whether they will be released, what the release will be, and when it will be made.

(to Ruby-)

We want it perfectly plain for the record that the Commission isn't pushing the matter..... but it's only in response to your request. Anything you say could be used against you. Whenever a defendant who is involved in a criminal proceeding says anything, anything he says could be held against him.

Alexander

Let me explain one thing. Under Texas law, nothing Jack says here could be used against him in Texas.

Ruby

(directing remarks to Alexander)

Bill, I'm not quarreling with that, and I know you certainly are not going to help me, I know that.....

(talking to Specter)

Any questions you want to ask....I will answer anything without reluctance. There's no punches to be pulled. I want to answer anything and everything.

Reader

Ruby's been a professional too long. Watch how he rewrites the ticklish questions soon when they start rolling along.

Ruby

If I have a right to say this, the district attorney's office should receive whatever is necessary in regard to the answers... as I once wrote Henry Wade, it is not for publicity purposes but only for authenticity and the truth.....

I supersede the attorney and say I'm not concerned about withholding anything. I want it to be released immediately to all parties concerned.

Whoever wants to know the results---I want it to be known, regardless of which way it turns.

Specter

In view of Mr. Ruby's request, it is my view that the group is such a size now that it ought to remain as it is constituted at the present for both sessions. I am advised that the technical considerations are not persuasive as to one or two more people.

(addressing Ruby)

Is that agreeable with you, Mr. Ruby?

Ruby
(not sure).

Well----

Fowler

Jack, I don't think Bill can read a polygraph test, but I would feel better if Mr. Alexander were not present.

Ruby

I don't mind everyone remaining here.

Fowler

He, in my opinion, is a perfect gentleman, but in the courtroom he is a perfect prosecutor. I'm thinking of you now.

Ruby

Now, I've got the monkey on my back now.

Fowler

Well, you've got more than a monkey on your back, Jack.

(conference with Fowler and Ruby
out of hearing of reporter)

Ruby

Well, whatever my attorney suggests

Specter

Your request then is that Mr. Alexander not be present?

Ruby

Yes.

Specter

Mr. Bell Herndon will now start to explain the proceedings to you.

Herndon
(very polite, solicitous of Ruby)

Thank you. (to Mr. Specter. Finally starting after all this needless bickering)

First of all, I want to show you my credentials so you will know that I am a special agent from the FBI.

(could make this very funny-have a long wallet of credit cards in a plastic folder- pours through them, shows Ruby the F.B.I card, and Ruby nods)

(points to Mr Wood)

Special Agent wood is not actually a polygraph examiner, but he is here to assist me in this examination. Is that all right?

(reader-jester on side makes a funny face)

Prior to any polygraph examination we have a consent form I want to read to you....."Consent to Interview with Polygraph. I, Jack L. Ruby"

(holds it up, as if reading it)

You sign it as you usually sign, but do you want to read it any further, sir?

Ruby

I'll just sign it.

(Herndon and Wood are getting equipment ready)

(Ruby addresses Tonahill)

Did you get your pants sewed up, Joe?

Tonahill

It went through my leg.

Ruby

That was a pretty rough brawl we had, wasn't it, Joe?

Tonahill

Yes

Ruby

Joe, I'd appreciate it if you weren't in the room. Can I ask you to leave, Joe?

Tonahill

I'll be glad to leave, if you want me to, Jack.

Ruby

As a matter of fact, I prefer Bill Alexander to you, and you're supposed to be my friend.

Tonahill

Let the record show that Mr. Ruby says he prefers Bill Alexander being here during this investigation, who is the assistant district attorney who asked that a jury give him the death sentence, to myself, who asked the jury to acquit him... his attorney.

Herndon
(looking at Tonahill)

May we proceed? Mr. Ruby, before we begin anything, I want you to try to relax. I realize there is some tension here.

Ruby

What is the preference of the doctor being here? Is he supposed to be my doctor, I mean Dr. Beavers?

Specter

Mr. Ruby, he is here at the request of Mr. Tonahill. At this time, I have the authority to administer an oath to you.

(Ruby stands up)

Do you solemnly swear that the answers and information you shall give in this proceeding will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

Ruby

I do

(asking Herndon)

There was some newspaper items recently that brought up the fact that I was of unsound mind. Do I sound that way to you at the present time?

Herndon

I don't feel that I am qualified to make any statement in that regard.

Herndon

Would you care to sit over here, Mr. Ruby, and I will further explain the test to you?

(Ruby gets into chair for test)

This is a polygraph chair. We want to take advantage of these high arms so that we can get a better tracing.

(Indicating arms of the chair)

I want to proceed by hooking up some of these pieces of equipment. Now, remove the material you have in your pocket.

(Ruby reaches in, hands them to Fowler)

I will go ahead and give you some basic instructions about how these questions are going to be asked and how I want you to answer them.

Ruby

Alright

Herndon

The polygraph examination will entail approximately 8 or 9 questions---what we call a series. We will discuss the question, even answer the question at this time..... Answer it "yes" or "no".

I am going to ask several questions which are pertinent to the Commission's investigation.....I will also ask several which just deal with your identity, background, and name. Those are the two types I will ask.

The use of the screen or the jester to indicate what the appropriate question should have been asked--- is not clear in my mind. I feel the audience is not fully aware of the weaknesses in the questions that follow, and may think them pertinent or adequate. It may be that I am under-estimated the audience. I will add the comments where I think they are needed. They can always be eliminated later. Or increased later if they are helpful.

Now, the first question I'm going to ask you under series 1 is " Did you know Oswald before November 22, 1963?"

Herndon

Another question that I will ask in series 1 will be;
 "Did you assist Oswald in the Assassination?"

Screen

If the answer to the first question is "no", the second becomes meaningless.

Ruby was in the Times Herald Building at the time of the Assassination.

It has not yet been established that Oswald was the "assassin."

Herndon

I tried to make them as short as possible and as clear as possible.
 "Did you take any medication this morning?"

I will ask you, "Did you voluntarily request this test?"

I will ask a rather obvious question of identity, "Is your first name Jack? Is your last name Ruby?"

I'm going to ask, "Do you use the middle name Leon?"

I will ask you this question, "Have you ever been arrested?"
 I mean, prior to the shooting of Oswald.

Ruby

I've never been involved in a crime, so if you've been arrested for selling beer after hours, does that qualify as an answer too?

Herndon

Well, I mean offending a law that's on the record..... Now if you have something in doubt in your mind of how to answer, just refrain, and we'll go back.

(Herndon hooks up the equipment-a rubber tube on his chest....talks as he attaches)

Sit perfectly relaxed, straight in your chair, feet flat on the floor. The next thing I will put on will be on your hand..

He looks at Ruby's hand where he is to attach instrument. Sees a finger missing)

What happened there, Mr. Ruby?

Ruby

Oh, running a nightclub, you get involved in various altercations.

(Ruby is so genteel with his "altercation".
He makes "running a club" sound as if he
were peeling potatoes) Actually, Ruby was
always involved with violence.

Reader
(runs center, laughs)

In Volume XV Edward Pullman recalls how Ruby talked about when he
was working for the Union back in Chicago days and lost his finger
in a fight....."It was shot off."

In Volume XV Mr. T.M.Hansen, Jr. said that "Ruby had a finger bitten
off at the Silver Spur in Dallas. The boy "got a load and spit it
out in the street". "Never paid much attention to that. We had
stuff like that going on all the time. If it wasn't a finger,
it was an ear or something."

(returns to side)

(While this is being said about Ruby's finger,
Herndon is attaching the instruments)

Ruby
(looking at Wood)

What is your name, please, sir?

Wood

Wood. I'm with the FBI.

Ruby

Where is Shanklin, I thought he was supposed to be here? Isn't
Mr. Shanklin the chief?

(nobody answers Ruby)

Specter

All right, I think those who are going to leave should leave
now so that we are ready to go as soon as your instrument is
in tune.

(Mr. Alexander leaves the room;
Stands behind plastic on other
side.)

Ruby

If Tonahill is going to be here---I don't believe he's ---I know
Bill Alexander is my friend, so he can stay, but Joe is supposed
to be my friend.

Ruby

(Again very affirmative, as he
was in last act)

I have nothing to gain by Joe being here, because I have nothing
to gain.

Fowler

All right, all right. Then, we will ask Joe and Mr. Alexander
to step out.

(Alexander was standing in doorway. Came
back through door, was listening)

Ruby

(To Alexander)

Now, Bill, don't say I didn't request you, now?

Herndon

I'm going to ask you just the questions that we discussed before
and that's all.

Ruby

(surprised)

You mean that's all?

Herndon

(reassuring)

No; this is just series 1, Mr. Ruby

Ruby

All right. Believe me, I know the answers, so you can ask me
as fast as you like.

Herndon

The test will now begin

(I will duplicate the questions for the first
few series to show how they run, then will
eliminate duplication after a few sets.,
Mr. Herndon can ask them very rapidly, Ruby
answer rapidly, in exaggerated speed because
we heard them once--and they are easy)

"Is your first name Jack?"

"yes"

"Is your last name Ruby?"

"yes"

"Did you voluntarily request this test?"

"yes"

"Did you know Oswald before November 22, 1963?"

"no"

"Do you use the middle name Leon?"

"I don't use it"

"Did you assist Oswald in the Assassination?"

"no"

"Have you ever been arrested?"

"yes"

"Did you take any medication this morning?"

"no"

"Have you answered all my questions truthfully?"

"yes"

The first series is over..... That wasn't too bad, sir, was it?
Could you explain the middle name?

Ruby

I don't use it. Once you have it on your driver's license, you have to have it the same way.

Herndon

What went in your mind when you answered the question "yes" to "Have you ever been arrested"?

Ruby

Well, I was arrested for dancing after curfew.

(Alexander and Tonahill come back into a room)

Herndon

We will proceed with series 2..... I will go over these questions so you will understand them.

"Are you now a member of the Communist Party?"

Ruby

"no"

Herndon

"Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?"

Ruby

"no"

Herndon

"Are you now a member of any group that advocates the violent overthrow of the United States Government?"

Ruby

"no"

Herndon

"Have you ever been a member of any group that advocates the violent overthrow of the United States Government?"

Ruby

"no"

Herndon

"Were you born in Chicago?"

Ruby

"yes"

Herndon

"Did you ever make a false official statement?" I mean here an application for a permit, insurance, legal or semilegal form.

Ruby

"no"

Herndon

"You were born 1911?"

Ruby

"yes"

(Alexander and Tonahill leave the room,
Seen being plastic door each time,

Reader

These same questions were asked in this second series, the same answers were given by Mr. Ruby.

(Alexander and Tonahill back in room)
(This goes on throughout almost all
the test. Then they remain for the
grand finale which they word them-
selves.)

Herndon

We shall now proceed to what we call series No.3. Here again, the questions are intermixed, some rather pertinent, others general.

"Between the assassination and the shooting, did anybody you know tell you they knew Oswald?"

Jester

This question has no meaning. It would be possible, in discuss-
int the Assassination, that somebody in Dallas could say, "I knew
him."

Ruby

"no"

Herndon

"Did you tell anyone that you were thinking of shooting Oswald before you did it?"

Ruby

"No". Yes---- I take that back. Sunday morning---I want to elaborate on that---before I left my apartment. Ask me that question again.

Reader and Screen (he runs forward, talks, runs back)
Now! watch! See what happens to this question before it is reworded and finally acceptable for an answer.

Herndon

Let's go over it once more, Mr Ruby. I want you to be able to be in a position that you can freely, honestly, and truthfully answer it simple "yes" or "no".

Ruby

Will you specify the time---the time element is very important.

Herndon

The only time element is before---- before you did it. Now "before" is a very broad coverage?

Reader

It seems to me, if we remember, Mr. Wade wanted the questions limited from "Friday to Sunday". But never worry, Mr. Ruby will narrow it down to those days in case Mr. Herndon forgot, or never saw the letter of, "conditions" from ^{the} Dallas District Attorney.

Ruby

That's it. That's a difficult question to answer.

Herndon

(still holding out)

That's the way the question is worded. Let me ask it again and see if you want to discuss it. "Did you tell anyone that you were thinking of shooting Oswald before you did it?"

Ruby

(no response---silence---thinking)

Why don't you say this, "That Sunday morning, specifically?" That would be easier for me to answer.

Herndon

In other words, "Did you tell anyone you were thinking of shooting Oswald on Sunday morning?"

Ruby
(to Fowler)

Fowler, it puts me in a tough spot when he asks me that question and I evade it.

Specter

If you would like us to break it down, we could do it in two questions. "Did you tell anybody on Sunday morning you were going to shoot Oswald before you did it?"

Ruby

Yes, that's easier to answer.

Specter

Then we can ask you this, "Before Sunday morning did you tell anybody you intended to shoot Oswald?"

Ruby

Now before Sunday morning means any time element beyond the time I left my apartment. Is that what you're referring to when you say Sunday morning?

Specter

Well, I'll even change that and I'll say "Before you left your apartment on Sunday morning, did you tell anyone you intended to shoot Oswald?"

Jester

Now we are back on the track. Almost got off. With Ruby's help we are going straight. We are far removed from Mr. Herndon's original question of "time element".

If there were any possible chance of silencing Oswald, that was discussed long before Sunday morning.

Specter

Now, the question will be; "From the time you left your apartment on Sunday morning, did you tell anyone you intended to shoot Oswald?"

Jester-Reader

Who would he tell that to?

Specter

Now, we've broken it up three ways. In the first part, "Before you left your apartment on Sunday morning, did you tell anyone you intended to shoot Oswald?"

Ruby

Now, you've got to get another question in there. "Previous to your arising that morning, have you told anyone you're going to shoot Oswald."You see my point...

Specter

"Before you went to bed on Saturday night or early Sunday morning did you tell anyone you intended to shoot Oswald?"

Ruby

That is right....Also, whether I received any phone calls from the time I went to bed and the time I arose. Do you follow me? In other words...., I could clear myself by answering that question truthfully.

Reader

(laughs out loud-makes a few leaps in the air)

Is HE supposed to be insane? THAT MAN IS A GENIUS. He has cleared himself of Saturday's calls, and will not allow them to ask what happened before those days.

Alexander

May I make a suggestion?.... ask "Did you tell someone by telephone you intended to shoot Oswald?"

Fowler

Now, we will certainly object to a question being framed by this attorney.

Specter

Are you concerned about the disclosure of this information in the presence of Mr. Alexander?

Fowler

I am.

Specter

Would it be agreeable with you if Mr. Alexander leaves while this question is being formulated so we can understand it?

Alexander

Jack knows that I know the answer to it, so there's no use in anybody getting upset about it.

Ruby

Are you sure you know the answer to it?

Alexander

I think so, Jack.

Specter

Mr. Alexander, do you have any objection to stepping out just while we formulate this question?

Alexander

Not at all, not at all.....Come on Joe. (he is so used to his pal.)

Tonahill

I don't have to go. (he isn't going to miss the fun)

(Alexander walks out room)
seen through wall.

Specter

Mr. Ruby. We want to phrase the question in a way that gets to the point, as you see the point. (not as Mr. Herndon saw it)
So, tell us exactly what you have in mind here.

Herndon

Here's the area we're trying to cover. Here's the question I originally asked you which created all this problem. "Between the assassination and the shooting"----"Did you tell anyone that you are thinking of shooting Oswald before you did it.

Reader and Screen

THAT WAS NOT THE ORIGINAL QUESTION. THE ORIGINAL QUESTION WAS ANY TIME UNTIL THE SHOOTING OF OSWALD.

Herndon

Now, I tried to put that as plainly as I could. I'm not interested here in the area of when-----

SJester

When did he change his mind?

Ruby

Yes, but if you're speaking in the area of when, it's pretty incriminating. It's a long premeditation, then, of time element.

(Remember-this is the man who "wanted to tell all, they die." On Ruby's bulletin board was the phone number of a polygraph operator. Long before all this, he knew more about the polygraph machine. He will manipulate until he is satisfied.)

Fowler

Jack, let me say this---now, this is the very crux of your case. In other words, if there is premeditation on your part to murder or to kill, this can and will be used against you, and this information ---if you get a new trial--if your answer to these questions might be "yes", then it would be most difficult to appear and defend you.

Ruby

(caught in decisions again)

Clayton, I'm here to tell the truth. I don't know how the heck to answer it. I appreciate you're in a tough spot.

Fowler

Well, of course, as you can readily see, that is why we advised you not to take this.

Ruby

That's why I want it, because I know what's best for me.

Fowler

Well, I don't think you do, Jack.

Ruby

Can I overrule you, Clayton, where you won't be too angry if I overrule you?

Fowler

Well, I have no---I'm not going to put a cob in your mouth, Jack.

Specter

I would like to ask Mr. Ruby if he is willing to answer the question about the conversations...if you're willing to answer at this time, which is: "Did you tell anybody that you intended to shoot Oswald at any time before you did it?"

And I would follow that up, if you answer that question, with "whom did you tell and when?"

With that information, we can formulate these questions for the lie detector test.

Ruby

(looking at Fowler)

Clayton, please? I've got to do this? I've got to, because I told the Warren Commission.

Fowler

In other words, these questions have already been talked about?

Ruby

Yes; and will you ask him to come in? (motioning to Alexander behind door.)

Specter

(get his speech-remarkable)

We deliberately didn't go into some areas, suffice it to say, for certain purposes....

Reader - (shouts)

What would they be, the "areas" and the "purposes"?

Specter

But this is the question we're concerned with at the moment and we would like an answer substantively, in addition to testing his truthfulness.

Fowler

Again, I don't believe he understands the full complicity of this thing. If there are any questions that show premeditation on his part, I would respectfully ask that he decline to answer and that you decline to ask it.

Ruby

So, would you mind calling Alexander in?

Fowler

Listen, Jack, please listen to me? This man got up down there and asked the jury to send you to the electric chair.

Ruby

I know it.

Fowler

He has not changed his opinion yet, and he will again ask it at some later date. Now, is this the kind of man you want to pussyfoot around in here with, and let listen to these questions?

(angry)
(trying to persuade Ruby)

Just "yes" or "no"--- if it is--we'll bring him back in.

Ruby

I want him in here, and I want you to ask him to come in, please.

Fowler

I won't ask him in.

Specter

Well, I will ask him to come in, Mr. Ruby. I'm willing to bring him back, if that's your request.

Fowler

It will be detrimental to his appeal, perhaps to any clemency, and for the actual trial of the case.

Specter
(talking to Ruby)

Mr. Ruby, I want you to bear on that point, that these men do not have to be here for the purposes of getting this information for the Commission, so we will know all the facts, or for the purposes of conducting the test. So, it's really extraneous. It doesn't matter for them to be in here for the tests.

Fowler

Jack, why do you want them back?

Ruby

Because I happen to know what I'm talking about.

(don't forget, Alexander is an old friend of Ruby's, and still could be. Fowler and Tonahill are strangers to Ruby)

No matter how hard he yelled for the "death penalty, he may have known it would become a mistrial.)

Tonahill

Now, Jack

Ruby

Joe, you're not my attorney any more. We know it. We understand one another, please. You're not helping me.

Fowler

Why do you want Mr. Alexander here?

Ruby

I don't want him to think I'm holding out on anything. I don't want him to have any idea that I'm reluctant to answer things in front of him, believe me.

Reader

Where in the world would he ever get that idea? He has been reluctant to answer one simple question for twenty minutes. (whatever time length this bickering takes to read)

Fowler

I request that you do not disclose these questions in the presence of a district attorney.

Ruby

(now the truth comes out)
Ruby and Alexander are playing a game on us.

But Clayton, they know all these questions already. Henry Wade, I spoke to, and I told him all this.

Fowler

Well, if he knows them already, then why not just let him stay out? You're not trying to impress him, are you? Do you think that he can do anything to help you right now?

Ruby

No. No; but the thing is that I have a few other thoughts in mind, as you well know about.

Fowler

What are they Jack?

Ruby

That I spoke to you about for your consideration.

Fowler

Jack, I'm not worried, I'm not concerned about anybody trying to do away with me. This is the least of my worries.

Ruby

I want harmony, that's what I want. I want harmony with you and the district attorney's office.

Fowler

Well, we can't harmonize over your situation, I'm sorry.

Specter

(back to work..time to
break this us.)

The point we got to was the question of getting information before going on with the test.

"Did you tell anyone that you intended to shoot Oswald?"

Ruby

You mean---before?

Reader

(jumps-laugh again)

Bravo Ruby, he never gives up. These tigers are really chasing their tails.

Specter
(about to give up)

Well, I don't know if we're going to get an answer to it or not.

Fowler

Jack, the question is being directed to you at this time----
well, go right ahead.

Ruby

Yes; Sunday morning.

Specter

And whom did you tell?

Ruby

George Senator. In my apartment.

Specter

State in precise words as you can remember, just what you said
to him and he said to you at the time?

Ruby

Well, he didn't say anything--the funny part--he was reading the
paper. I was so carried away emotionally -- I don't know how
I said it---I didn't say it in any vulgar manner.

Screen or Reader (mocking)

Ruby, always the gentleman: "George, would you please excuse
me for a few moments while I go out and shoot Oswald? Is there
anything you need on the way back?"

Ruby
(always in control of himself)

Now, would you mind asking me on that particular point? That
happened Sunday morning. That's the only time any thought ever
came to my mind.

(if this was true, what was all the
fuss about?)

Specter

Now, let's prepare the question this way; "Aside from anything you said to George Senator, did you ever tell anyone you intended to shoot Oswald?"

Ruby

"no"

Reader

(talking serious to audience)

Is that a good question? Even if he conceivably was told to shoot Oswald, would he tell anybody? Are murders discussed? Or are they silent agreements?

(Alexander comes back in)

Herndon

Strike the original question that commences, "did you tell anyone you were thinking about?" If it is alright with you gentleman, I'd like to start right over again on series 3,

"Between the assassination and the shooting, did anybody you know tell you they knew Oswald?"

then

"Aside from anything you said to George Senator, did you ever tell anyone else that you intended to shoot Oswald?"

Ruby

Why don't you add--in--let's get the time element in there, too, because that was Sunday morning.

Specter

We can add if you want to, "Aside from anything you said to George Senator, on Sunday morning, did you ever tell anyone else that you intended to shoot Oswald."

Ruby

O.K.

Reader

See how that all worked out. The time element is reduced and remains on Sunday. Mr. Ruby is in complete control of his mind.

Herndon

The other questions in this series will be as follows:

"Is your last name Ruby?"

"Do you live in Dallas?"

"Are you married?"

"Were you in military service?"

"Did you receive any disciplinary action?"

"Did you shoot Oswald in order to silence him?"

Ruby

"no"

Reader

He may have shot him for money---- (laughs at that possibility)

Herndon

"Have you ever served time in jail"

Ruby

"yes"

Herndon

(looks at Ruby-his
battle took something out of him)

Do you feel all right, Mr. Ruby?

Ruby

"yes". the 30 days in jail embarrasses me, because it was with reference to selling some song sheets back in the old depression days, and it wasn't for anything criminal.

Reader

Always the smallest, innocent little things.

(Alexander and Tonahill leave)

Herndon

The test will now begin. (reads them fast now, and answers fast, they just run them off so we see how they finally come out.

"Is your last name Ruby?"

"yes"

" Do you live in Dallas?"

"yes"

"Between the assassination and the shooting, did anybody you know tell you they knew Oswald?"

"no"

London

Dear Sir,
I have the pleasure to inform you that your order for 1000 copies of the book "The History of the British Empire" has been received and is now being prepared for the press. The book is a very interesting and valuable work, and I am sure it will be well received by the public. It is now about half finished and will be ready for the press in about six weeks.

Yours faithfully,

J. D.

London

I have the pleasure to inform you that your order for 1000 copies of the book "The History of the British Empire" has been received and is now being prepared for the press.

London

I have the pleasure to inform you that your order for 1000 copies of the book "The History of the British Empire" has been received and is now being prepared for the press.

Yours faithfully,

J. D.

(The book is now being prepared for the press.)

I have the pleasure to inform you that your order for 1000 copies of the book "The History of the British Empire" has been received and is now being prepared for the press.

Yours faithfully,

I have the pleasure to inform you that your order for 1000 copies of the book "The History of the British Empire" has been received and is now being prepared for the press.

Yours faithfully,

I have the pleasure to inform you that your order for 1000 copies of the book "The History of the British Empire" has been received and is now being prepared for the press.

(The book is now being prepared for the press.)

Yours faithfully,

I have the pleasure to inform you that your order for 1000 copies of the book "The History of the British Empire" has been received and is now being prepared for the press.

I have the pleasure to inform you that your order for 1000 copies of the book "The History of the British Empire" has been received and is now being prepared for the press.

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I have the pleasure to inform you that your order for 1000 copies of the book "The History of the British Empire" has been received and is now being prepared for the press.

no 33

2-34

Herndon

"Are you married"
"no"

"Aside from anything you said to George Senator, on Sunday morning, did you ever tell anyone else that you intended to shoot Oswald?"

"no".

"Were you in the military service?"

"yes"

"While in the service did you receive any disciplinary action?"

"no"

"Did you shoot Oswald in order to silence him?"

"no"

"Have you served time in jail?"

(no response)

The test is over.

Did you, while in the service, ever have a fight?

Ruby

Sure. But it's not important enough to answer. Evidently you're getting a pretty good reading.

(Tonahill and Alexander come in)

Herndon

The next series will be relatively short.

"Did you first decide to shoot Oswald on Friday night?"

Ruby: "no"

"Did you first decide to shoot Oswald on Saturday morning?"

Ruby: "no"

"Did you first decide to shoot Oswald Sunday morning?"

Ruby "yes"

"Have you answered all questions truthfully?"

Ruby "yes"

"Is your first name Jack?"

Ruby "yes"

"Is your last name Ruby?"

Ruby "yes"

(Alexander and Tonahill leave)

Herndon

(to audience)

The same questions were asked and answered exactly as they were done the first time. The test is over.

(Alexander and Tonahill return)

Ruby

(motions to Tonahill to come over to him)

Joe?

Tonahill

Yes Jack

...the first question was said to be a reference to the ...

...you in the ...

...the ...

(Conference between Mr. Tonahill and Ruby for 2 minutes, out of hearing of the reporter and others in the room.)

Alexander

Jack, you are a good man.

Ruby

Who, Bill?

(Bill comes over and explains. Conference between Mr. Alexander and Ruby for 3 minutes out of the hearing of the reporter and others in the room)

(I feel that Ruby held out, they are proud of him.. "they" meaning the Dallas officials, and from now on, once Ruby decided to behave, it will be smooth sailing for all of them.)

Alexander

(walks away from Ruby, turns around, and comes back. Another conference for 3 minutes out of the hearing of the reporter and others in the room.)

Herndon

We will now go on to the next series. "Were you in the Dallas Police Department jail basement at the time Lieutenant Pierce's car drove out of the basement?"

(looks at Ruby. Sees he is about to say something)

Now, I see you are hesitating on that. I can rephrase it if you so like?

Ruby

I can explain---I can elaborate on it, it will be easy to answer. I left the Western Union, I walked toward the ramp. Lieutenant Pierce's car was parked already on the curb.

Specter

Did the presence of the automobile and the fact that he was talking to Lieutenant Pierce obscure the vision of the officer who was on duty guarding that entrance or exit?

Ruby

Yes; and I walked down because I didn't know they were guarding it---that there was anything going on there, you know?

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Reader

Do you really believe that one? That "he didn't know anything was going on there?". There were crowds in the Basement, newsmen and cameras everywhere, guards at the door, crowds outside the jail, people milling around everywhere. He even took his gun inside, and told Senator he was going to kill Oswald.

Herndon

"Did you walk past the guard at the time Lieutenant Pierce's car was parked on the ramp exit?"

Ruby

"yes"

Reader

Next question should have been "did you really think nothing was going on at that time at the jail?" Of course he walked "past" the guard. He could not go through him.

Herndon

"Did you talk with any Dallas police officers on Sunday, November 24, prior to shooting Oswald?"

Ruby

"no"

Reader

That question was supposed to eliminate any tip-off from the police department about the hour of Oswald's transfer.....Even Ruby is going to tease about this later. It should have been asked, "when you talked to Little Lynn, did she mention anything about Oswald on the phone? "

(Little Lynn was the last person to talk to Ruby, Ruby's night club girls dated police officers, like Kathy Kay. I am not saying it happened this way, but a message can be relayed. To rule out the possibility..... of a desire to silence Oswald.....all questions should have been asked.)

Herndon

"Did you previously live in Chicago"

Ruby

"yes"

Herndon

"Are your parents alive?"

Ruby

"no"

Herndon

"Did you ever make a false insurance claim?"

Ruby

"no."

Herndon

"Do you still operate the Carousel Club?"

Ruby

"No."

Herndon

You don't?

Ruby

No

(Gives a funny grin. Looks down at his
jail outfit. Where does Herndon think
He has been the last seven months?)

Herndon

This is series 4.

(Tonahill and Alexander leave the room)
(talks to audience)

The same questions we just went through were asked for the test
and answered in the same manner.

That series is over.

Ruby

Am I acting a little nervous?

Herndon

A little, but I think you're getting a little bit tired.

Ruby

Aren't you going to ask me whether I knew anything as to whether
or not he was going to come down, or anything like that?

Herndon

(never thought of that one)

We will have to prepare some more questions.

(Alexander and Tonahill come back
in the room.)

The first part of the document is a letter from the Secretary of the State of New York to the Governor.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

John A. ...

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

John A. ...

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

The same question was first brought up in your letter of the 10th inst. and has since been discussed in various quarters.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

John A. ...

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

John A. ...

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

John A. ...

Ruby

O.K. What happens now?

Herndon

We are going to take a break and give you a little rest.

(The room goes black..the screen lights up....then lights go right back on and play resumes.)

Screen

"May the record show that it is 6:25 p.m. and that we have adjourned for a period of 1 hour and 40 minutes."

Specter

Mr. Ruby has just asked me about the presence of reporters downstairs. Would you repeat what you just asked me, Mr. Ruby?

Ruby

Are you going to make any announcement to them?

Specter

My view is that we should....there are a large number down there. I've discussed this with Mr. Fowler and Mr. Tonahill, and it's our joint view there should be an announcement that you have requested a polygraph examination under the auspices of the President's Commission.

Ruby

(looking at Tonahill)
knowing he is the one who
always tells them he is
"insane".

Let's make it clear that Mr. Tonahill don't represent me. Joe, lets have that understanding?

Tonahill

Clayton is going to make whatever announcement is made for you, Jack.

Ruby
(insistent)

Joe, let's have that understanding, will you please, Joe?

Ruby

Now, with reference to hedging on questions and so on don't you think some comment should be made that I wasn't reluctant in answering any of the questions that were put to me?

Reader

(roaring with laughter)

Like "Did you tell anybody you were going to shoot Oswald?" Jack writes good press reviews for himself, and you call that insane?.....

(goes off again)
 Could even sit on
 a pillow in the corner-
 or lean his back on wall)
 Always eavesdropping.

Specter

I think that would be a fair comment to make, if you want that statement made.

Ruby

I wanted to be more specific, that I WANTED TO BE ASKED. I wanted to bring out that I wanted to be asked any and all questions, regardless of what might be subversive or whatever thoughts might be in your mind.

(who is he kidding?)

(Addresses remarks to Alexander)
 Bares them to ask.

Bill, I think you can give these people certain questions and MORE POTENT ONES THAN THEY KNOW, because you probably know a lot of things that you have in your own mind that you'd like to have answered too.

Alexander

Jack, I can't really think of anything that I'd like to ask.

Ruby

Well, I notice the pictures brought out the fact that there are two sets of private boxes, close together in the post office. Which is quite an insinuation.

Ruby

And also they had a statement in there that I used the box for purposes of mail orders and to do business with Mexico and Cuba. Now, these are things that you gentlemen don't want to ask me, but Mr. Alexander would know what to tell you about that.

(serious ^{Reader} this time)

Do you notice Ruby is not telling them to ask him about the John Birch Society, or General Walker, or Mr. Duff, or Mr. Ramos, or Anit-Castro Cubans? He wants easy questions which have already been cleared. Nothing about Tippit, the oilman, or Bernard Weissman.

Specter

Mr. Ruby, we have CONFERRED WITH ALL PARTIES HERE ON THE SUBJECT OF THE QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED. Naturally, we had limitations in time. We have conferred with Mr. Fowler, Mr. Wade, and Mr. Alexander here. The interest of the Commission is paramount.....

Screen

(duplicates that line)

" INTEREST OF THE COMMISSION IS PARAMOUNT"

Specter (continues)

and we are doing our very best not to interfere with the State criminal proceedings.....

Jester

(lights up while he keeps talking)

Mr. Alexander said at the beginning that "nothing Jack Ruby said could be used against in the state of Texas."

Specter (continues)

We want to accomplish the purpose of the Commission. Those interests overlap to some extent because whenever we ask a Commission question, it has collateral bearings on a great many things..... but to the extent that we can, we have conferred with the defense counsel and the district attorney's office in arriving at the questions which have been asked, and, I think we will cover before this examination is concluded the important areas.

Reader

Why doesn't he come out and say, "we will ask what we want to ask, and what your attorneys and the district attorneys want us to ask, and don't you add your two cents....."

Ruby
(can't keep him down,
bounces back like a
rubber ball)

Mr. Alexander knows certain questions that he has in mind that haven't come out and I think I know what he's thinking about.

Specter

Mr. Alexander has talked to me about some questions I'm sure he would prefer on the record and we have taken them into account.

(After all that fuss about the District Attorney's office not knowing the questions, or asking them, it comes out very clearly that Mr. Wade knew very well what they did and did not want to ask. And this shows the Warren Commission's relationship with the district attorney's office in Dallas. What was to be a matter "between the Commission and Jack Ruby" never was a fact....

and
I accuse ...them ...of all working together for the interests of each other..not intending to find "truth".)

Herndon

Do you want me to proceed with the usual preliminaries?

Ruby

You don't have to proceed with that. Why don't you just call them to me and I'll answer them. Believe me--you don't have to go through that formality, if you want to save yourself a lot of time.

Alexander

Jack, he has to have a written question that's keyed to this tape.

Ruby

Yes. I follow, but he doesn't have to go through the preliminary explaining to me because I'll answer anything you want "off the hook."

Herndon
(pointing to Alexander and Tonahill)

Then, these gentlemen actually will not be aware of the questions, is that all right with you? I mean--prior to the time they leave? It would be so important when the questions would be asked.

Alexander

Not to me, Jack.

Herndon

One of the reasons I was going over all the questions before conducting the examination was in order for these gentlemen that are in attendance to be aware of what questions are going to be asked. Now, if we dispense with that before we go over the questions---- if they leave the room, they do not know the questions I am going to ask.

(They didn't belong there in the first place.)

Alexander

I don't think Jack has any objection to us staying here at this time, do you Jack?

(notice he doesn't volunteer to leave--and read the questions later)

Ruby

No; I certainly don't

Fowler

(Pretty stupid by now. Can't see that Alexander and Ruby understand each other.)

Well, of course, I still have the same objection. Jack, we're not trying to hide anything---don't misunderstand me.

Ruby

Just a minute---let me tell you something. I want to straighten up some things. WEETHER HE LEAVES THE ROOM OR NOT, MR. ALEXANDER IS GOING TO KNOW EVERYTHING THAT WENT ON HERE, so please concede to it.

Specter

Well, let us proceed as we have before, with Mr. Herndon announcing the questions in advance but going through a minimum of preliminaries.

Ruby

Go ahead

Herndon

"Did you see the armored truck before you went to the basement?"

Ruby

"no"

Herndon

"Did you enter the police department through a door at the rear on the east side of the jail?"

Ruby

"No"

Screen

Why did Griffin want Dean to go back and change his testimony on this when what Dean said had been correct?

Herndon

"After talking to Little Lynn, did you hear any announcement that Oswald was about to be moved?"

Ruby

"No."

Reader

That question should have been, "When you talked to Little Lynn was there any mention of Oswald being moved?" We talked of that before.....when this is all over, Ruby will ask them himself why they did not ask him this.

Herndon

"Before you left your apartment Sunday morning, did anyone tell you the armored car was in the way to the police department?"

Ruby

"no"

Reader

That question is meaningless. The presence of the armored car is of no value. The death of Oswald was a fact.

Herndon

Those are your main questions, and I will ask you,

Herndon (continued)

"Do you have any brothers?"

Ruby

"Yes."

Herndon

"Do you have any sisters?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Have you answered all questions truthfully?"

Ruby

"yes"

Herndon

"Did you ever hit anyone with any kind of a weapon?"

Ruby

(Suave again)

Well-- in my business---- it's a very exciting business. One night a man pulled a knife on me and I took a pistol and hit him on the head. Sometimes you get fellows with real bad rough reputations. They're real toughs. At that particular moment, it's my life or theirs, and some of these men are pretty powerful physically. I fought in every way possible, with my fists and everything else. It happened a few times where I would pummel a few of these men.

Herndon

All right, we can go along here Mr. Ruby.

Ruby

Have I been evading any of your questions?

Herndon

You have been most cooperative---no problems.

Ruby

But you can't tell how I stand, can you?

(addresses to Alexander)

Bill, will I still be around when the answers come back?

Alexander

Yes.

Ruby

(teasing him)

Raise your right hand and give him your word.

(Nodding to Jailer Homan)

Alexander
(Alexander raises his hand)

That's right.

Ruby
(Addressing Holman)

Chief, you heard him, did you not Chief? You and I should live so long.

Let's go Bill
Tonahill.
(Tonahill and Alexander leave)

Herndon
This will be series 5. Now Mr. Ruby, look straight ahead. That's fine.

The questions and answers in this series were identical to the run-off, just as before.

All right, that test is over.
(Tonahill and Alexander return)

Ruby
(pointing to Herndon's sheet of questions.)

You're not going to ask me any more questions? Do you want to go through that stuff there?..... Can we talk about certain things?

(talking to Alexander)

Is there anything on your mind, Bill, off the record?

Alexander
I think with that Cuban thing cleared up -----

Reader
(showing shock)
Was it cleared up? What Cuban thing? I didn't hear that in the test.

Ruby
How about the underworld?

Alexander
Well, he's going to ask you that, if he hasn't already.

Ruby

There were a lot of phone calls. There should be a specific way to ask me the purpose of all those calls.

Alexander

Did any telephone calls have any connection with the shooting of Oswald?

Ruby

Yes, but still, when you have so many calls, you want to know why you called people. And the other question you asked about Oswald----you know.

How about my trip to Havana? Have I ever had any business dealings? Bill, you know a lot of questions to ask me, I'm sure you know, that I'd like to get cleared up.

What was I doing at the New Building?

Court Reporter

I want to be sure I heard Mr. Ruby's answer to Mr. Alexander's question a little while ago? I didn't quite hear your answer to "Did any of these calls have any connection with the shooting of Oswald?"

Ruby

(laughing-surprised)

Oh, you're taking down what I'm saying? I didn't know you were taking that down. Are you putting down the questions I've been asking myself?

Reporter

Yes; we're taking everything down. Everything you've been saying.

Ruby

The most important question---you haven't asked me yet--why did I shoot Oswald?

Alexander

Jack, they can't ask that kind of question for this machine.

Ruby

Why shouldn't I be asked a question-why-what motivated me to do it?

Fowler

Jack, let me interject right now, again, as your attorney-- I advise you not to answer this question.

Ruby

Clayton, I'm sorry, I've got to answer it. I've got to, because, believe me, it means an awful lot to me. I felt so carried away I felt somehow in my little bit of a way I could save Mrs. Kennedy the ordeal of coming back for trial here.

Reader

What objection has Mr. Fowler to this question?

Specter

All right, fine, Mr. Ruby. Now, will you proceed, Mr. Herndon, with our next series, please?

Herndon

"Did you get a Wall Street Journal at Southwestern Drug Store during the week before the Assassination?"

Ruby

"No"

Herndon

"Was the Wall Street Journal addressed to a Mr. Bradshaw?"

Ruby

I don't know. I haven't read a Wall Street Journal in the longest time--in years.

Specter

Was a Wall Street Journal addressed to Mr. J.E. Bradshaw, dated November 16, 1963, in your car at any time?

Ruby

No, sir.

Specter

Have you ever heard of any such Wall Street Journal having been found in your car?

Ruby

No

Ruby

Did they find one somewhere in my car?

Specter

Proceed, please, Mr. Herndon

Reader

(comes center stage-men on stage
stand still like statues or game
of freeze for one moment)

Time out---time out. (comes forward) We stop now for a moment to talk about a serious matter. Mr. Ruby was asked four questions about a Wall Street Journal, and a Mr. Bradshaw. He seemed to know nothing about this in any way. The Commission thought it important enough to include in their questions. yet--- Mr. Ruby is never told the reason for this question, the significance of that issue, or who Mr. Bradshaw is.

The Warren Commission never called a Mr. J.E. Bradshaw as a witness to their Hearings. For some reason, he was important enough for these men to come this long distance and include in the test. Would somebody from Washington please clue us in as to exactly just what is the meaning of all this?

(swings arms out to men)

Continue, please.

(they resume test)

Specter

We will rephrase that question. "Do you have any knowledge of a Wall Street Journal addressed to Mr. J.E. Bradshaw being found in your car?"

Ruby

"no"

Herndon

"Did you or any of your friends to your knowledge telephone the sheriff's office between 2 or 3 a.m. Sunday morning."

Ruby

"No"

Herndon

"Did you previously live in San Francisco?"

Ruby

"yes"

Herndon

"Did you ever overcharge a customer?"

Ruby

"No"

Herndon

"Is your name Jack Ruby?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Are you tired?"

Ruby

"No"

Herndon

"To your knowledge, did any of your friends or did you telephone the FBI in Dallas between 2 or 3 a.m. Sunday morning?"

Ruby

"No"

(Alexander and Tonahill leave the room)

Herndon

The questions given for the Polygraph machine and the answers by Mr. Ruby were identical to the run-off. That series is over.

Ruby

(Asks the same question after every series)

Are they THAT IMPORTANT ----THOSE QUESTIONS? I know more important ones than that. Of course----I'm kidding.

(gives a chuckle)

As a matter of fact, the question you asked me about the Wall Street Journal, is so foreign to me-----.

Herndon

In other words, you are completely unaware of the Wall Street Journal question?

Ruby

I don't know how it ever came to be there.

(Tonahill and Alexander return to the room)

Herndon

I'll just read these right down the line. If you have any question, then interrupt me.

"Do you intend to answer the questions truthfully?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Did you go to the Dallas police station at any time on Friday, November 22, 1963, before you went to the synagogue?"

Ruby

"No"

Herndon

"Do you attend the synagogue regularly?"

Ruby

How can I answer that?

Herndon

"Did you go to the synagogue that Friday night?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Do you pray?"

Ruby

Not now, because it's hopeless. I did. Pardon me---I take it back--- I do pray. "Yes"

Herndon

"Did you see Oswald in the jail on Friday night?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Were you at one time employed by a union?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Did you have a gun with you when you went to the Friday mid- night press conference at the jail?"

Ruby

You mean at the police station? No. Because I recall when I first said I did, and then I changed it later.

"No"

Herndon

"Have you told the Warren Commission the entire truth?"

Ruby

Yes; and I may have left out certain things because I was a little---I wasn't as calm as I am now.

Specter

We can rephrase it and say, "Is everything you told the Warren Commission the truth?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Reader

(mumbling from side)

Wasn't that neat?

(What he told them was true. He just didn't tell the entire truth----would you?)

(Alexander and Tonahill leave the room)

Ruby

(Asking Fowler)

Remember, they are getting to the end and nothing has been said.

I wonder why Mr. Tonahill is here. He's not my attorney. Clayton, is Joe Tonahill representing me?

Fowler

Well, Jack, in some capacity. I think he is still involved.

Ruby

Well---yes and no.

Fowler

Please don't worry about it at this time. He is here.

(What kind of an answer is that?
His being here, at this time, is
what worries Jack Ruby.)

Ruby

(Addressing Holman)

Are you coming to work tomorrow? I don't know where you'll find me. How about you, chief?

Holman

Yes

Herndon

That series is now over. Again, the questions and answers were identical.
(to Ruby)

At the beginning of that series, Mr. Ruby, you displayed a little nervousness and a little tension. Perhaps it was the question of the synagogue.

Ruby

Because you're ashamed to admit you haven't been going regular. If you come out with a blunt "no"--it makes you an atheist, and I don't want to answer it that way, but I do go to the high holidays. Going regular and going to the high holidays are two different ways of going.

Herndon

Did the question disturb you in regard to being in the Dallas jail?

Ruby

Yes. Mr. John Rutledge said I was down there earlier, when I wasn't. It's like the Wall Street Journal question--when you ask me I get nervous. There must be some reason that it was found in my car, when I know I never did see this particular paper. It looked like I was trying to find out who this Oswald was, and if I went down there more than once.

Herndon

We are now on series 8.

(Alexander and Tonahill have returned)

Herndon

We shall continue.

"Is your last name Jack Ruby?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Have you ever knowingly attended any meetings of the Communist Party or any other group that advocates violent overthrow of the Government?"

Ruby

"No"

Reader

It is doubtful if there is a group which, in the United States, advocates the violent overthrow of the Government. There are, however, some well known, well organized groups which suggest they may have to revert to violence at some time "to restore the United States Government". Some of these people already would have you believe this is a Communist Government which must be changed, and when the time comes, they will make the necessary changes.

This polygraph test has completely avoided questions about such persons, or the source of their support for unlimited arms stockpiles.....

Herndon

"Did you legally change your last name?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Reader

If it was legally changed, long ago, why do the people in Dallas, in John Birch literature, or at his trial, continuously refer to "Jacob Rubenstein?"

Herndon

"Is any member of your immediate family or any close friend, a member of the Communist Party?"

Ruby

"No"

Herndon

"Did any close friend or any member of your immediate family ever attend a meeting of the Communist Party?"

Ruby

"No"

(Alexander and Tonahill exit)

Herndon

The questions were administered, the answers were identical, that series is over.

Specter

May the record show we have taken a 20 minute recess and have now reconvened for the last session.

Ruby

(talking to Tonahill)

I know you are for me, Joe, I know.

Herndon

I'm going to ask a series 9 and series 9a.

"Did you ever meet Oswald at your post office box?"

Ruby

"No"

Screen

He already said he did not know Oswald, and that what he said was the truth, so this question is meaningless.

Herndon

"Did you use your post office mailbox to do business with Mexico or Cuba?"

Ruby

"No"

Somebody said that they saw Tippit, I, this Mr. Lane stated he saw Tippit, myself, and Oswald at the club----

Specter.

We will ask this question, "Did you ever meet with Officer Tippit and Oswald at your club?"

Herndon

Do you want that "Oswald and" (meaning Oswald and Tippit) or
"or" (meaning Oswald in your club, or Tippit in your club?)

Specter

Use "And".

Reader(and screen used)

Stop one more moment

(men on stage freeze as before-
no motion)

Mr. Mark Lane said "someone saw Ruby, Bernard Weissman, and
Tippit in the club, along with a rich oilman."

He did not say it was Oswald and Tippit.

It is in words such as these, that we must seriously pause.
Mr. Specter, representing the Warren Commission on this serious
occasion, was present with Chief Justice Warren WHEN Mr. Ruby
AVOIDED THE ANSWER as to whether Weissman, Tippit, and an oilman
were in his club.

He has a choice now, clear cut, to decide the question.

They could ask Jack Ruby, "Was Oswald ever in your nightclub?"

or

they could ask Jack Ruby, "Was Officer Tippit in your nightclub?"

Mr. Specter chose to combine Tippit and Oswald together, thus
voiding any conclusion on this subject.

Go back boys---(motions, they move again,
he sits down in stool or floor)

The question remained "Did you ever meet with
Oswald and Tippit at your club?" ----and the answer was "no".

Herndon

"Did you do business with Castro Cuba?"

Ruby

"No"

Reader

I just hate to become such a nuisance. But we must talk together,
as friends, about these things. Volumes XIV and XXIII contain
much evidence of Ruby's relationships with ANTI-CASTRO CUBANS.
Why didn't we get one question about them. Remember the Commission
letter about this evidence?

Herndon

"Was your trip to Cuba solely for pleasure?"

Ruby

"Yes."

Screen

Remember that 1959 vacation cruise?

Herndon

"Did you keep \$2,200 cash on you because you didn't have a chance to get to the bank?"

Ruby

Let me go off the record. This is going to be ad libbing, Miss, so can you hold it off or do you have to put it down?
(talking to Miss Oliver)

Specter

All right, off the record at this point.

Screen

While they are whispering, Fowler and Ruby, Specter, the screen has a few words.

Ruby mumbles a weak story about being pay-time on the week-end for both clubs. His safe is supposed to be "new and not yet cemented." Carrying the cash was always his excuse for carrying a gun. His bank deposits were never much over \$100.

Specter

We will rephrase that to this---" Have you now told the truth concerning why you carried \$2,200 in cash on you?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Did any foreign influence cause you to shoot Oswald?"

Ruby

"No"

Reader

They should have asked, "did any influence in the United States cause you to shoot Oswald?"

(I would like to say "Texas, but this is
hitting a sensitive spot")

Herndon

"Did you shoot Oswald because of a labor union influence?"

Ruby

"No"

Herndon

"Did any long-distance telephone calls which you made BEFORE the assassination of the President have anything to do with the assassination?"

Ruby

"No"

Herndon

"Did you shoot Oswald in order to save Mrs. Kennedy the ordeal of a trial?"

Ruby

"Yes" (He answers "yes" now. Watch what happens soon.)

Herndon

"Did you know Officer Tippit?"

Ruby

(Here we go again---)
Amazing...

This is off the record for a minute, please?

Specter

Mr. Ruby, I think it would be unwise for us to go off the record on this question.

Ruby

(still with the same story,
6 weeks later. This is the
man who wanted to "tell
everything and then die.")

Well, all right. There were three Officer Tippits in the police department. I knew one.

Specter

Was that Officer J.D. Tippit?

Ruby

He's the one who was slain?

Speaker

...the ... of a ...

Why

Speaker

...the ... of the ...

Why

Speaker

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Why

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Speaker

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Why

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Speaker

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Why

...the ... of the ...

Specter
Yes. Officer J.D. Tippit

Ruby
No; I don't think he was the one?

Specter
Did you know Officer Tippit who was slain?

Ruby
No; I don't know him. You see, I know so many officers and there are three Tippits. I don't know this Tippit.

Herndon
"Did you know the Officer Tippit that was killed?"

Ruby
"No"

Specter
To state it differently, you are able to answer whether or not you knew Officer J.D. Tippit?

Ruby
Well, I can't answer "yes" or "no" and say whether or not.

Alexander
Let's put it this way--"Did you know the Tippit that was killed?"
Well, I gave the answer Ruby "no".

Specter
How does that clarify, Mr. District Attorney? This Ruby is amazing.

Herndon
"Did you tell the truth about relaying the message to Ray Brantley to get McWillie a few guns?"

Ruby
"Yes"

Herndon
"Did you go to the assembly room, on Friday night to get the telephone number of KLIF?"

Ruby
"Yes"

(Reader has a funny look on his face)
Poor excuse for not using a phone directory.)

Herndon

"Did you ever meet with Oswald and Officer Tippit at your apartment?"

Ruby

"No"

Herndon

"Did any of your long-distance telephone calls concern the shooting of Oswald?"

Ruby

"No"

Reader

You might have also asked if "any of the long distance phone calls were made because Oswald was going to be shot?" Mr. Ruby called Chicago and told his family he was going to move out of Dallas, back to Chicago. He also called his friend Mr. Gruber, and told him he was sending him his dog.

One of the last jobs Dr. Crawford did for Mr. Ruby before he "fled" Dallas---was to have the dog shipped to Los Angeles.

(Alexander and Tonahill leave the room)

Herndon

Mr. Ruby, these are the questions and we will proceed.

Ruby

Don't worry about me. I'm in good shape. The point is--I want to get as much in as we can. I don't want you to miss anything, because there's a lot of pertinent stuff.

(You know by now that Mr. Ruby is a terrible liar. Whenever given the chance, he avoided being specific. He evaded, reworded. I am positive he knows the tests are almost over. When completed, he will tease about unasked questions)

Herndon

This will be series 9

The questions and answers remained the same.

That completes the series. We just have a few more questions.

(Tonahill and Alexander return)

Dear Sir,
I have your letter of the 11th inst. and am glad to hear that you are still in London. I am sorry to hear that you are not well and hope that you will soon be able to return to your home.

I have been thinking of you very much lately and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are still in London and that you are well. I am sorry to hear that you are not well and hope that you will soon be able to return to your home.

I have been thinking of you very much lately and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are still in London and that you are well. I am sorry to hear that you are not well and hope that you will soon be able to return to your home.

I have been thinking of you very much lately and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are still in London and that you are well. I am sorry to hear that you are not well and hope that you will soon be able to return to your home.

I have been thinking of you very much lately and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are still in London and that you are well. I am sorry to hear that you are not well and hope that you will soon be able to return to your home.

Ruby

That's wonderful, except there are a few things that I think you've left-out.

Herndon

Here are the next questions.

"Is your name Jack Ruby?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Were you at the Parkland Hospital at any time on Friday?"

Ruby

"No"

Herndon

"Did you say anything at the time you shot Oswald?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Have any members of your family been physically harmed because of what you did?"

Ruby

Not up to this point, no"

Herndon

"Do you think members of your family are now in danger because of what you did?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Is Mr. Fowler in danger because he is defending you?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Did Blackie Hanson speak to you just before you shot Oswald?"

Ruby

"No"

Herndon

"Did you say anything when you shot Oswald other than what you testified about?"

Ruby

"No"

(Mr. Tonahill and Alexander leave the room)

Herndon

I notice during the time--all the time I ask you questions, Mr. Ruby, that you close your eyes. If that's a way that you can concentrate that's perfectly all right.

Ruby

That's why---if I were guilty of something or if I were trying to evade something, certainly closing your eyes would be less advantageous for you to cover up something. Do you follow me? In other words, closing your eyes means that I do want to tell the truth.

(Isn't Jack Ruby marvelous?)

(Reader smiles, shakes his head at this explanation)

In other words, if I was trying to cover up anything, I wouldn't try to get more of a vision of what you're trying to refer to me...

I'm trying to be more emphatic with the truth when I close my eyes----more than the truth.

Herndon

The test is given. The questions and answers were the same, with a few differences.

(Alexander and Tonahill enter)

Mr. Ruby, you failed to respond or answer one or two of the questions. "Do you think members of your family are now in danger because of what you did?"

Ruby

Well, they're always exposed to it. The same way with Fowler. I know when he's representing me, he's putting himself on the spot.

Reader

Why do they not ask if Mr. Tonahill is in danger too? He never leaves Ruby, but he never seems to be in the same danger.

Herndon

I asked the question about Mr. Fowler being in danger. You remained silent. Would you at this time indicate to me why you wanted to remain silent?

Ruby

Well, this is quite a notorious things, and don't forget it's like I specified when Earl Warren was in danger. People have a dislike for me, and Mr. Fowler is trying to defend me, and this won't make him too popular a person.

Specter

Mr. Ruby, do you now have any other questions which you would like to ask on this polygraph examination?

Ruby

Yes; "At what time did I first think of wanting ---when was the first time it ever entered my mind that I wanted to commit this act?"

Jester

Recognize that question? They asked him that and he spent thirty minutes rewriting it. The test is over, so he throws the questions at them before the grand, patriotic, finale.

Specter

We asked you that?

Ruby

You did? (pretending surprise) because if anything prior to that----in other words----

Screen

"THE TIME ELEMENT"

Specter

We asked you very carefully a number of ways and one way was Mr. Herndon asked you did you think of it on Friday, Saturday, and you said "No". On Sunday, you said "yes."

We've covered that very thoroughly.

Speaker

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...of the...
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Speaker

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Speaker

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Ruby

Have I received any monies----- we don't need that, do we, for subversive purposes or anything?

Specter

I think we've covered that whole area very carefully.

Reader

Do you think he did?

Ruby

Now, what about my being present in the News Building that morning? Here---the assassination took place across the street from there.

Specter

Mr. Ruby, I think we have covered that and that isn't nearly the central issue as the other specific questions we have asked you.

Screen

WHICH ONES?

Ruby

Yes, but if I was in a conspiracy, wouldn't it start off with that point? Oh, yes....(pauses) They didn't ask me another question; "If I loved the President so much, why wasn't I at the parade?"

Specter

We considered those questions and we have rejected them as being not important.

Ruby

(acting surprised)

You have? I see. Now, isn't that strange. It's strange that perhaps I didn't vote for President Kennedy, or didn't vote at all, that I should build up such a great affection for him? Everything points against me.....How can I answer and still show my sincerity?

Specter

We can ask you one question at the end and that will be: "Have you told the truth in everything you've said here today. That one question will cover everything you said."

... I think we've covered it all right now. I think we've covered it all right now.

Speaker

I think we've covered it all right now. I think we've covered it all right now.

Speaker

I think we've covered it all right now. I think we've covered it all right now.

Speaker

I think we've covered it all right now. I think we've covered it all right now.

Speaker

I think we've covered it all right now. I think we've covered it all right now.

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Speaker

I think we've covered it all right now. I think we've covered it all right now.

I think we've covered it all right now. I think we've covered it all right now.

Speaker

I think we've covered it all right now. I think we've covered it all right now.

Ruby

Everyone was very much surprised----why I should be so carried away to commit this act, and yet knowing how I felt and knowing I'm telling the truth, how can we bring that point out that I am not sincere in why I did it?

Suddenly I get involved in a very serious crime and I was very popular with the police department and a lot of other people. The irony is--it took a complete reverse of that, because of various suspicions, nature, and so on.

Maybe there is something we can bring out?

Alexander

Tell us what you have in mind and we'll frame the question, because that's an area.... How would this question be?
"Are you a police character?"

Ruby
(horrified at that bad joke)

NO

Tonahill

"Are you a 100 percent patriotic American Citizen?"

Alexander

"Are you a law abiding citizen?"

Ruby
(smiling-pleased)

That's better----that's the question

Alexander
(going one better)

Are you a 100 percent American patriotic citizen?

Ruby

Yes

(That was easy to answer-- even though he never bothered to vote,-----, and was in trouble with the law in every possible way since childhood)

Herndon

That can be asked

Ruby
(more pleased)

That's very good. Now Joe (looking at Tonahill) asked a very good question.

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Specter

What we're trying to do now is to cover all of the important substantive questions which I think we have.

Jester

(Flashes on a few reminders)

We didn't hear about General Walker and if Ruby knew him? What about Mr. Thorne Hill, Mr. Duff, "Leopoldo" Ramos? We never heard mention their names. Did Mr. Ruby ever meet with any of these persons at any time?

Ruby

Let me put it this way; This tragic event happens and I get carried away more than anyone else. Why?.....I immediately replaced my newspaper ads so that I would be closed for those 3 days, relayed a message from Ray Brantley---look at circumstantially how guilty I am? If you want to put all these things together? Then, I happen to be down there, which is a million and one shot, that I should happen to be down there at that particular second when this man comes out---

all these things--plus the post office box and other rumors that they saw us together at the club---- How can we give me clearance that my feelings of emotionalism were sincere?

Also, if there was a conspiracy, then this little girl that called me on the phone in Fort Worth then is part of the conspiracy. Do you follow me?

Specter

We have gone as far as we can on any of the substantive questions. I see you are trying to recollect something else.

Ruby

Yes

Specter

I will ask Mr. Fowler if there is any other question he would like to have asked at this time?

Fowler

Sir, I know of no other questions.

Specter

Mr. Tonahill, do you have any other questions you would like to have asked?

Tonahill
(getting ready for his oratory)

No, I don't. I think it has been very, very comprehensive. From my knowledge and background, I think you if you asked Jack if he went to the Dallas Morning News that morning to attend business and protested vigorously the ad insulting President Kennedy,if he protested because he's a 100% percent patriotic American citizen, I think he would tell you "yes" and he would be telling the truth.

I think if you asked him why he went out about 4 o'clock in the morning with Senator and Larry and took the picture of the sign----

Ruby

Don't mention anything about that---we're in a bad spot down here because of that.

Tonahill
(continuing, -ignoring Ruby)

of Chief Justice Earl Warren, he would tell you that he did it because he was going to turn it over to the FBI and some attorneys,because he thought it was un-American and he did it because he's 100 percent patriotic American citizen and he's telling the truth.

Ruby
(adding his two cents)

I also went over to the post office to check the box.

Tonahill

The same thing on the box---To see there if the post office numbers on the sign and in the newspaper ad meant the same person was behind it, which would be THE JOHN BIRCHERS AND COMMUNISTS both, and he wanted to do something about it because he's a 100 percent patriotic American citizen, he would be telling the truth.

Ruby

You talking about the ad against President Kennedy?

Tonahill

Yes

Ruby

I didn't refer to the John Birch ---with reference to that.

Tonahill

He wanted to see if they were connected together--the same people.

Ruby

I didn't mention the term "John Birch". I just said, "I wonder who could have placed that ad in there?"

Specter

Mr. Alexander, do you have any questions to ask?

Alexander

I have no questions to ask. I think it has been very comprehensive.

Specter

Are you satisfied the, Mr. Ruby, if we ask you one more question on the Polygraph, specifically "Has all the information which you have testified to today been the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?"

Ruby

Plus the fact I do want to get in my feeling for Americanism.

Specter

"Do you consider yourself to be 100 percent American patriot?"

Ruby

Yes

Jester

To shoot a man handcuffed in the police department, denying him one of America's greatest rights, the trial by jury?

Ruby

One more thing.....shouldn't you ask me, or isn't it necessary, why I suddenly was so carried away to get involved in this serious crime?

Specter

We've already covered that by asking you the question about Mrs. Kennedy--whether you didn't shoot Oswald to avoid having her come to trial.

Q

...to the ...

A

...to the ...

Ruby
(pausing-thinking)

Yes; that covers that.

Specter

That covers that subject.

Ruby

In other words, I CAN'T ANSWER THAT TRUTHFULLY AND HAVE ANOTHER REASON FOR DOING IT: IS THAT CORRECT?

Specter

Correct

Ruby

That would answer that.[?]

Specter

Yes. We've asked you all the reasons-----
Now, Mr. Herndon, ask those final questions.

Herndon

I will proceed with, "Are you Jack Ruby?"

Ruby

"yes"

Herndon

"Do you consider yourself to be 100 percent American patriot?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

"Is all of the testimony given by you today the complete truth?"

Ruby

"Yes"

Herndon

The three questions were asked and answered. The series is now over.

Specter

That concludes the polygraph examination.

(Herndon is removing equipment from Ruby)

THE COURT

Specter

I would like to have you sign your name about 10 times for us.
And would you put on the date for us too? The date is July 18,
1964.

Ruby
(to Tonahill)

Let me have my glasses, Joe.

(Tonahill handed glasses to Ruby)

Specter

And now would you write the sentence at the bottom, " NOW IS
THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD MEN TO COME TO THE AID OF THEIR COUNTRY."

Reader

I THINK SO TOO. I FELT THIS ALL ALONG.

(he exits)

Screen

(While Ruby is signing this paper)

Poster of American flag, eagle,
patriotic symbols.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD MEN TO COME TO THE AID OF THEIR
COUNTRY.

(Ruby has signed everything.)

(Herndon is busy at the machine, removing tape)

(Reporter is at her desk)

(Dr. Beaver, Mr. Sweatt have departed)

(Mr. Fowler left the room)

(Holman stands by the door)

(Alexander, Tonahill, Ruby standing up,
to one side-)

The very last words of the polygraph examination,
exactly as they happened, better than one could
ever imagine, conclude the interview.

(You can find them-just as I typed them on the next
page for the conclusion of the play--in Volume XIV,
pate 570 of the Hearings.

1954

Speaker

Now I have a motion to adjourn the House for the day. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

Chairman

The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

Speaker

Now I have a motion to adjourn the House for the day. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

Speaker

I think to adjourn the House for the day. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

Speaker

I think to adjourn the House for the day. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

Now I have a motion to adjourn the House for the day. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

They are almost every day.

Now I have a motion to adjourn the House for the day. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

Report is a day.

Now I have a motion to adjourn the House for the day. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

Now I have a motion to adjourn the House for the day. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

Now I have a motion to adjourn the House for the day. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

Now I have a motion to adjourn the House for the day. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

The first last words of the report are: "The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock." The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

Now I have a motion to adjourn the House for the day. The House will adjourn at 10 o'clock.

Ruby

Joe, are you going to do what I asked you to?

Tonahill

I'm going to do my best. You know me well enough to know that I'm going to do my best.

Ruby

I know you well enough.

Herndon
(still working at tape in maching)

You were very cooperative, Mr.Ruby.

Tonahill

Goodbye, Jack. Good to see you.

Ruby

You're going to do what I ask you to do?

Tonahill

I'm going to do my best. I told you I would. Everything I do is for your best interest and I have worked awful hard.

Ruby

I know. You are a BIG MAN and I know how big you can be.

Tonahill

I'm going to do my best, like I said, and not let anything under the sun happen.

Ruby

You know what I'm talking about?

Tonahill

I know exactly what you're talking about.

(Before leaving the room Mr.Ruby conferred briefly with Mr. Tonahill and Alexander out of the hearing of others in the room.)

(They go to one side in a huddle, separate, Jailer Holman walks over from the door, puts his arms in Ruby's, and leads him out the door.)

... you going to do what I ask you to do?
... I'm going to do my best, I told you I would. ...
... I know you are a BIG MAN and I know how big you can be.

... I'm going to do my best, I told you I would. ...
... I know you are a BIG MAN and I know how big you can be.

... I'm going to do my best, I told you I would. ...
... I know you are a BIG MAN and I know how big you can be.

... I'm going to do my best, I told you I would. ...
... I know you are a BIG MAN and I know how big you can be.

... I'm going to do my best, I told you I would. ...
... I know you are a BIG MAN and I know how big you can be.