

Testimony of Jack Revill

HSCA volume IV, pages 568-608

Kevin Tiernan

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Summary

Jack Revill was a lieutenant in the Criminal Intelligence Section of the Dallas Police Department in November of 1963. The Criminal Intelligence Section was responsible for gathering information on criminal activity of all kinds in the Dallas area. This included information on extremist groups, organized crime, narcotics traffic, etc... Revill was a member of the investigative team assigned by Chief Curry to investigate the shooting of Lee Oswald by Jack Ruby. The investigative report is admitted to the record on pages 574-586. It is labeled exhibit JFK F-567. Jack Revill had no personal relationship with Jack Ruby. He had visited the one of Ruby's clubs, the Silver Spur, once in the early 1950s. He knew what Ruby looked like and he knew his reputation.

Volume IV

page 569 Revill testifies that the Intelligence Section had no knowledge of Jack Ruby's involvement in narcotics trafficking, gambling activities, prostitution, or any other criminal activity.

pages 569-570 Revill testifies that they had no knowledge of Ruby's involvement with any organized crime figures. He never

knew of Jack Ruby's relationship with Lewis McWillie until the HSCA's investigation.

page 570

Revill says his relationship with Jack Ruby was nothing more than a relationship "between a police officer and someone like Jack Ruby." He describes Ruby as a buffoon, and a loud mouth. Revill says, "If Jack Ruby was a member of organized crime then the personnel director of organized crime should be replaced."

page 571

Revill denies that Jack Ruby had a particularly special relationship with the Dallas Police Department. He says that Ruby would have to come into the Special Services Division offices periodically for permits and licenses for his club, but that was the extent of it.

page 571

Revill testifies that there was no official relationship between the FBI and the Dallas Police Department. Any contact or exchange of information was based on a personal relationship between an agent and an officer. The FBI did not reveal the names of its informants to the DPD, and Revill did not know that the FBI contacted Jack Ruby as a potential informant in 1959.

pages 572-573

Revill testifies that Ruby's presence in the Dallas Police Station was never challenged. To Revill's knowledge, no one was punished for the lack of security in the Dallas Police Station over the weekend of November 22-24,

1963.

pages 574-586 The report of the internal investigation states that Jack Ruby slipped into the Police Station basement down the Main Street ramp without being noticed. There was only a four minute span between when the Western Union cashier stamped his telegram to Karen Carlin, and the shooting of Oswald. The Dallas Police investigators believed that Ruby acted alone in shooting Oswald and that it was a spontaneous act. They determined that no Dallas Police officer was knowingly involved in the shooting.

pages 588-598 Revill discusses a Dallas Police officer named Don Flusche. Flusche was standing on Main Street at the top of the ramp, monitoring his radio when Jack Ruby allegedly walked down the Main Street ramp. Following the shooting, he reported to his superior that Jack Ruby had definitely not gone down the Main Street ramp in the minutes before the shooting. Flusche knew Jack Ruby personally. For some reason Revill and the team of investigators never heard Flusche's story in the course of their inquiry. Revill is not so sure of their findings after hearing Flusche's story. The HSCA interview report on Flusche is included as exhibit JFK F-569.

pages 599-601 The team of investigators did not criticize Chief Curry for making a poor decision in notifying the press as to when

they would move the prisoner, and for allowing the media almost total access to the Police Building during the weekend of November 22-24, 1963.

page 601

Mr. Edgar asks Revill why no one was disciplined for the failure to protect the prisoner. Revill says he cannot answer the question, and that it was a decision made by Chief Curry.

page 602

Edgar asks if it isn't possible for organized crime to have used a person like Jack Ruby just because he was a "buffoon". Revill believes that since he sought attention, he would be an unlikely figure for organized crime to use.

pages 604-606

Mr. Dodd asks Revill to describe his relationship with S.A. James Hosty of the FBI. Revill explains that he considered Hosty a friend. They generally shared information on criminal activity in the area. On the afternoon of the assassination of the President, Revill ran into Hosty in the basement garage of the Dallas Police Building. Hosty told Revill that a Communist was responsible for killing the President and that the FBI had a file on him. Hosty also said that the FBI knew he was capable of killing the President. This conversation occurred after Oswald had been arrested for shooting Tippit, but before he was charged with assassinating the President. Revill wrote up a report on the conversation

immediately, on orders from his Captain.