

## Testimony of Earl Ruby

HSCA volume IV, pages 500-539

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### Summary

Earl Ruby is the younger brother of Jack Ruby. He was the owner of Cobo Cleaners in Detroit, Michigan at the time of the assassination. He describes Jack Ruby's background, his family, how he came to move to Dallas in 1947, and his relationship with Jack Ruby in the years prior to the assassination. He also describes his conversations with Jack Ruby following the assassination, and his personal views on why Jack Ruby killed Lee Harvey Oswald. Earl Ruby believes that it was a spontaneous decision for Jack Ruby to kill Lee Oswald. He denies any knowledge that he or anyone else knew of a conspiracy. Alan Adelson is also present. Adelson represented Earl Ruby prior to the shooting of Oswald, and he was in close contact with Earl throughout the period. Following Jack Ruby's death he represented the Ruby family. And although he never met Jack Ruby, Adelson describes his psychiatric state following his conviction. Adelson represented the family at the hearing to contest Jack Ruby's jailhouse will following his death.

### Volume IV

page 500            Following a disagreement with Jack Ruby in 1947, Earl and another brother Sam Ruby bought out Jack's share in Earl Products. Jack then moved to Dallas, Texas to help

*their sister, Eva Grant, manage the a nightclub.*

*page 502*

*Earl Ruby made several loans to Jack Ruby over the years totaling approximately \$15,000, the last \$6,000 of which was to be an investment in Jack Ruby's Sovereign Club. The Sovereign Club closed six months after opening and Jack Ruby opened the Carousel Club. Earl Ruby was never compensated for his loss. (Earl Ruby reported a \$6,000 loss on his income tax in 1960<sup>1</sup>)*

*page 503*

*The committee questions Earl Ruby about Jack Ruby's trip to Cuba in 1959, but Earl either does not know much or does not reveal much about the trip.*

*pages 506-510*

*On April 1, 1962, a telegram was sent from Earl Ruby's Cobo Cleaners in Detroit, Michigan to Havana, Cuba. Earl Ruby has no recollection of sending the telegram although he says that it would not have been sent without his approval. When asked about it by the Warren Commission, he made no attempt to follow up and ask his employees whether any of them knew about the telegram. There is no copy of the telegram itself, and the significance of it is unknown.*

*pages 512-513*

*Earl Ruby testifies that Jack Ruby could never keep a secret, and that in all of their conversations following his*

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<sup>1</sup>HSCA volume IX, p.1081

arrest, Jack Ruby never indicated that he was involved with anyone else in shooting Lee Oswald.

pages 513-515 Earl Ruby and Alan Adelson testify that Jack Ruby's mental state changed dramatically. Following the trial, he became extremely paranoid and delusional.

page 529 Earl Ruby repeats the reason that Jack Ruby shot Lee Oswald. He quotes Jack Ruby as saying, "When I saw him coming through there with that smirk on his face as though he was very happy with himself that he had killed the President, I just couldn't control myself."

pages 530-534 Earl Ruby and committee member Floyd Fithian recount Jack Ruby's movements on the morning of November 24, 1963.

page 535 Fithian again describes Earl Ruby's inconsistent statements regarding the telegram from Cobo Cleaners in Detroit to Havana, Cuba. Although he sees no reason to question the witness further on this point, he finds it puzzling.

page 537 Earl Ruby tape recorded one visit with Jack Ruby in prison, and a copy of the tape was given to the Committee.