

Writer Describes A 'Quasiest' Case

By DICK WEST
United Press International
WASHINGTON (UPI) — The National Labor Relations Board frequently is described as a "quasi-judicial agency." This means that it handles a lot of judicial matters, some of which are pretty quasi.

The quiescent case that I have run across recently came before the board by way of Aurora, Ill.

In what may be a landmark decision, the board quasi-judiciously upheld the right of an employee to refer to his boss in terms of equine anatomy.

Specifically, it ordered the reinstatement of a worker who was fired after alluding to a superior in an unflattering manner associated with the rearward portion of the equus caballus.

A word of caution, however. The decision does not give everyone carte blanche for telling off the boss.

Discussed Grievance

In this particular instance, three members of the Machinists Union went to the office of their plant superintendent to discuss a grievance.

The discussion, I gather from the NLRB examiner's report, was not all sweetness and light. At one point, the superintendent invited one of the union men to "shut your (censored) mouth."

It was at this point that the meeting broke up. As the three men were leaving his office, the superintendent overheard one of them mutter something, of which he only caught the words "-----."

Assuming that the phrase in question referred to him, the superintendent ran after the employee and fired him on the spot.

The NLRB examiner who heard the case said the superintendent's assumption was "probably correct." There was a question, however, as to whether the dismissal was valid.

Firing Possible

"Manifestly, under ordinary circumstances, (the superintendent) could fire an employee for making such a comment," the examiner said.

He said the point at issue was whether the employee was engaging in union activity at the time. Under the law, union activities are not grounds for dismissal.

After due deliberation, the examiner concluded that the employee's comment "was so directly related to the grievance meeting as to be, in effect, a part thereof." Furthermore, he said, the worker apparently didn't intend for the boss to hear it.

Besides that, he said, it is not uncommon for employees "to express uncomplimentary views concerning their employer's behavior, and the phrase '-----' is surely not unknown in such context."

If I interpret this bit of quasi adjudication correctly, the upshot is as follows: "It's okay to call your employer the 'sweet old boss,' but be careful when you use just the initials."

Plaster-of-Paris

You can clean plaster-of-paris statuary and other such ornaments nicely if you'll mix up a thick paste of starch and water, smear this over all the parts of the surface, wait until the paste has dried completely, then brush it off.



By U.S. SEN. GALE McGEE (D-Wyo.)

There are two kinds of drought that can ruin a farmer. One is weather drought. The other is drought of available farm credit. Of the two, lack of credit can be the more devastating.

A farmer can survive a year of bad weather conditions — if he can find the credit to tide him over for another crop year.

Even good weather and good prices are not enough in themselves to keep a farmer in business these days because of high operating costs, enormous investment demands in land and machinery, and the high level of competition in agriculture.

So rapid was the mechanical revolution in agriculture after World War II that no one — government or private credit agencies or even farmers themselves — anticipated the enormous demand for farm credit.

For instance, since 1950, the average investment in an average family farm has increased from \$6,000 to more than \$53,000 in 1960.

Today the average dairy farmer in Wisconsin or New York State needs more than \$10,700 a year in operating capital or credit. A cash grain farmer in the midwest needs \$10,800 a year. The cattle feeder in the West needs \$27,000 a year. A cotton farmer in California needs \$42,000 a year in operating credit.

Mechanization in agriculture not only sharply raised the operating costs and machinery and equipment investments for farmers, mechanization also demanded that farmers have more land to make efficient use of the new machinery.

The demand for land raised land prices and this created an even higher demand for additional credit.

Tragically, for thousands of farmers, such credit was not made available and this drought of credit forced them off the land.

During the eight Republican years of 1953 to 1960, the administration dragged its feet. Private credit sources were not encouraged to meet the new demands for farm credit and the lending authority for the Farmers Home Administration was constantly being threatened by Republicans.

By 1961 American farmers were in desperate need of a new recapitalization policy and from the new Democratic administration they got it.

In 1964 the volume of credit supplied through the Farmers Home Administration was two-and-a-half times as great as the 1960 level.

From January 1961 through June 1964, approximately \$2.4 billion was advanced to family farmers. The economic impact of these funds as they have been used and re-used in rural America has amounted to more than \$12 billion.

During 1964 some 320,000 rural families, 1,440,000 people, benefited from the agency's credit services.

During the three-and-a-half years of the Kennedy-Johnson Administration family farmers gained control of 4,326,000 acres through supervised credit.

The \$524,000,000 advanced in the rural housing and water systems programs provided 7,605 man-years of labor for carpenters, masons, electricians, and other construction workers.

More than 300,000 loans were made to strengthen family farm operations.

Some 580 rural communities are now more attractive places in which to live and earn a living because of FHA-financed community water systems and recreation facilities.



FATHER OF ROCKETS — The U.S. Post Office Department will issue an eight-cent air mail commemorative honoring Robert H. Goddard, father of modern rocketry. At the right of the engraving of Goddard is an Atlas rocket blasting a Mercury capsule into orbit and a Cape Kennedy launch, lower.



The mature woman who has learned that beauty is not an age is the one who makes the most of her appearance with expert use of the cosmetics now available to her. The model (upper left) uses a blonde foundation and peach face powder to complement her gray hair. A creamy lipstick in pink with a blue cast (lower left) keeps her lips moist and softly pretty. Aware that fragrance is a woman's most prized accessory, she makes lavish use of cologne (right) in a floral and citrus scent that suits her personality.

WARREN REPORT

Jack Ruby Operated Alone In Slaying

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Countless Americans and others leaped to a conclusion on Sunday, Nov. 24, 1963, that Jack Ruby was on secret assignment from foreign powers or the U. S. underworld when he shot and killed Lee Harvey Oswald.

Ruby, now 53, is being held in Dallas pending appeal of his death sentence for the murder of Oswald, assassin of President John F. Kennedy.

In conducting its investigation of the Kennedy slaying, the Warren Commission naturally had to explore at some length Ruby's background and his motives for killing Oswald.

The commission sifted numerous reports that Oswald and Ruby were linked in the same plot. Rumors of a conspiratorial relationship between Oswald and Ruby also extended to others. They included policeman J. D. Tippit, who was slain by Oswald shortly after Kennedy's assassination; Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker, who was shot at by Oswald on April 10, 1963, and Bernard Weissman of the non-existent American fact-finding committee who signed a large black-bordered Dallas newspaper advertisement denouncing Kennedy on the day the President was shot.

Ruby, son of Polish immigrants, operated strip-tease and rock-and-roll joints in Dallas. He walked unimpeded into the basement of the Dallas police and courts building on Nov. 24 and shot Oswald who was walking with officers to a car which was to transfer him to the county jail. The killing was seen on live television by millions.

Many people came to the immediate conclusion that Ruby murdered Oswald to silence him.

In fact, a group of Secret Service agents in Washington watching the jail transfer on a White House television set came up instantly with the same theory. One of the agents remarked immediately, "that was the messenger."

Voluminous evidence led the Warren Commission to a firm conclusion: Jack Ruby was no "messenger." Like Oswald, he was operating alone. He was a moody, unstable character.

He was described by psychiatrists at the age of 11 as "egocentric," a person with a strange, sadistic taste for settling arguments with his fists. He was a man who boasted that he could "hit harder than Joe Louis."

Quite aside from evidence, the commission attacked the Oswald-Ruby rumors from a point of logic. In its report, it observed:

Reasons To Doubt

"There are other reasons to doubt that Jack Ruby would have shot Oswald as he did if he had been involved in a conspiracy to carry out the assassination, or that he would have been delegated to perform the shooting of Oswald on behalf of others who were involved in the slaying of the President.

"By striking in the city jail, Ruby was certain to be apprehended. An attempt to silence Oswald by having Ruby kill him would have presented exceptionally grave dangers to any other person involved in the scheme. If the attempt had failed, Oswald might have been moved to disclose his confederates to the authorities. If it succeeded as it did, the additional killing might itself have produced a trail to them. Moreover, Ruby was regarded by most persons who knew him as moody and unstable — hardly one to have encouraged the confidence of persons involved in a sensitive conspiracy."

The commission thereupon concluded:

"Whatever the legal culpability of Jack Ruby for his act of Nov. 24, the evidence is persuasive that he acted independently in shooting Oswald."

No Political Orientation
Prior to the assassination, he seemed to have no political orientation whatever. He was bitter and sometimes violent against those he regarded as anti-semitic. But his own rabbi said Ruby was too unsophisticated to grasp or have any significant interest in any political creed. Ruby, however, described himself as a Democrat. He had been noticeably upset about signs in Dallas demanding, "Impeach Earl Warren." These referred to the chief justice of the United States who later headed the assassination investigation commission. Warren is unpopular in some areas for his participation in the 1954 Supreme Court decision on school desegregation.

And when Ruby first heard of Kennedy's assassination, he was visibly and audibly upset, according to many witnesses. He was in an office of the Dallas Morning News just after the tragedy and spoke of closing his night clubs immediately in respect for the fallen Chief Executive. He also was quoted as saying, "I'll have to leave Dallas."

Street, stood behind a front rank of newsmen and officers awaiting Oswald's appearance. As Oswald passed him, headed for the police caravan, Ruby stepped forward swiftly and shot him.

Acted Alone
After exhaustive study of available evidence and extensive investigation on its own, the Warren Commission could find nothing to support stories that Ruby acted in concert with or in behalf of any other person or group. While there were

many rumors to the contrary, the commission could find nothing to substantiate reports that Ruby and Oswald knew each other.

One popular rumor was that in the fraction of a second before Ruby's bullet dropped him, a way was similar to Oswald. They both hungered for acceptance and recognition of superiority which neither possessed. They both were haunted by money problems, although Ruby's were on a much larger scale. Above all, both men wanted the limelight.

High Fashion on Low Budget



There's lots of fashion news in low-priced footwear for fall and winter. The discotheque shoe (top left) is ideal for dancing. It features cut-out sides, back bow and the new tapered oval toe. Luster leathers give a glow to the classic pump (lower left) in such tones as gunmetal, green and bronze. Strap shoes (right) in "embossed alligator" in peanut-brittle tan with gold buckle. The alligator looks like the real thing at way-down prices. These are Thom McAn designs.

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