

November 26, 1963

Mr. J.E. Curry,
Chief of Police

Subject: Shooting of Lee Oswald

Sir:

On Sunday, November 24, 1963, at around 11AM, Deputy Chief Stevenson approached me in the administration offices and directed me to place two officers at the Commerce Street entrance to the ramp leading into the basement of the City Hall. He said to instruct these two officers that an armored truck was enroute and for them to assist the truck back as far as possible down the ramp into the City Hall. He also told me to take any remaining detectives that were available on the third floor to the basement and place them any place they were needed in the basement to supplement the officers already stationed. Most of the detectives had previously been sent to the basement. I entered each of the bureaus except Homicide and Robbery and told the duty officer to have any available officers to report outside the jail office and went to the basement. Two or three detectives accompanied me and remained near the jail office. I went to the head of the ramp on Commerce Street and informed Patrolman Jez and one other patrolman to remain there and keep the way clear and to assist the armored truck in backing into the City Hall. I informed Captain Talbert of these instructions.

I then returned to near the jail office and stationed some of the detectives at the doors leading into the building proper, and noticed the Press Media was inside the jail office, but outside the admitting desk. I saw Assistant Chief Batchelor and Deputy Chief Stevenson and called Chief Batchelor's attention to the people in the jail office. I accompanied him inside and upon his instructions this area was cleared. Upon leaving the jail office we also had all persons except security personnel moved north of a line running east from the brick corner of the jail office to the railing on the opposite side and on a line from this point running east to the exit lanes for cars from the basement to the ramp itself.

Deputy Chief Stevenson then approached and said there had been a change in plans and, as the truck could not get into the City Hall, they were going to use two cars. At this time two police cars were started and brought up onto the ramp. Several officers had to move to allow the cars to get onto the ramp. I had given instructions to (cont'd)