

November 26, 1963

Mr. J. E. Curry
Chief of Police

Sir:

This is a statement of facts relating to my activity as a Reserve Officer on Sunday, November 24, 1963, to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

1. Approximate time I reported to duty. 9:30 A. M.
2. I reported to Capt. Arnett.
3. I arrived at the City Hall about 9:30 A. M., Sunday morning. I arrived in the Assembly Room about 9:40 A. M. and reported to Capt. Arnett. Capt. Arnett had just checked in when Sgt. Dean, Dallas Police Department, came and asked all Reserve Officers to help search the parking area in the basement of the City Hall. I personally searched all air conditioning ducts and heating ducts, above all pipes that run just under the ceiling in the basement. I also checked the open space under north ramp. I searched several cars. They all belonged to the City of Dallas.

I reported to Capt. Arnett, Police Reserve, and Sgt. Dean, Dallas Police Department, where I had searched and found clear. I was ordered to stay by for further assignment. At approximately 10:40 A. M., I was ordered by Lt. Ben McCoy to check the condition on Commerce Street in regard to the number of Police Reserves to handle sightseers and traffic. I remained on Commerce Street as the Reserve Supervisor in charge of the Reserve Officers on Commerce Street, 2000 block.

At approximately 11:00, Police Chief Batchelor's car was brought to the basement to the officer double parked just east of ramp exit. I was told by the officer that this was the Chief's car, that he left the keys in it and wanted me to keep an eye on it. I placed a Reserve Officer on it to work traffic around it. I was told a few minutes later by Chief Batchelor that an armored truck was on the way to the City Hall. Chief Batchelor said the truck would have to back down the exit ramp. I was asked to assist the armored truck to back down ramp. The truck arrived, two Reserve Officers and myself worked traffic to help truck driver back down ramp. A second armored truck was parked just ahead of the Chief's car. I was working Commerce Street when the shot was fired in the basement. A detective came running out of the basement and said to close the doors leading into City Hall. I had one man on Commerce Street, two men on Harwood Street door, one man on Main Street door.

These were my movements from 9:35 A. M. to 11:45 A. M., Sunday morning, November 24, 1963.

Signed: J. R. Hopkins

J. R. Hopkins
R.