

On several occasions, and from time to time, I observed men in plain clothes coming down the ramps and going into the hall in front of the jail. I assumed that these were press personnel and I did not take any special note, because of the regular officers that were supposed to check everyone out at the top of the ramps.

Much shuffling of cars took place in the parking area. I observed the paddy wagon come down the north ramp with Patrolman Lewis driving. I saw Sgt. Deen stop him and search the back of the wagon and then permit Lewis to go on into the parking area.

I observed squad cars being lined up in the north and south sides of the basement parking area. I observed Sgt. Steele and Reserve Patrolman J. H. Harrison leave the basement area in a squad car and drive out the South Ramp.

I then observed Chief Batchelor get into his car and leave by the South Ramp. I then observed the Armored car being backed into the South Ramp. Some men in plain clothes got into the back, a bottle fell out, and I saw one of the men in plain clothes picking up the glass from the ramp. I observed Sgt. Deen get into the Armored car and then come out. About this time, two men came into the outer jail hall and told the press personnel that they should stand along the north wall of the jail hall and along the east railing of the ramp, so they would all be able to get pictures without bunching up.

Two plain cars were brought out of the parking area and parked on the ramp headed south. I assisted in getting the cars through the crowd that was blocking the entrance to the parking area. I then moved several people who I assumed were press people away from the west wall of the south ramp over to the east side, and then stood by the west wall approximately one foot south of the jail hall. I heard a commotion and glanced to my left; I saw two plainclothesmen with a man between them coming toward the ramp; I looked back to my front and right to see what the press people were doing, and I heard what I thought was a flashbulb exploding. I looked back to my left and saw a man with a gun pointed at the midsection of the man the two plainclothesmen had between them.

I immediately jumped on the man, along with Reserve Captain Arnett and Reserve Sgt. K. H. Croy, and several other men. When the man was subdued, I heard some shout, "No One Out! No One Out!" I joined hands with Reserve Patrolman J. D. Brockway and kept the people from going into the jail hall. Captain Arnett and Reserve Sgt. Croy joined us.

We stayed in this position until the O'Neal ambulance came and they took Oswald off to the hospital. A man in plain clothes then came out and told the press people that they would be admitted to the building proper by press cars. We then went inside the building to the assembly room to be assigned where needed.

Several men were sent to various locations to seal off the building entrances and several were sent to work traffic around the city hall. We were moved from the assembly room so the press could use it and set up our C. P. on the second floor in the Planning Commission room.