

November 26, 1963

Mr. J. E. Curry
Chief of Police

Subject: Assignment of Officer
R. C. Nelson, #1652
Sunday, November 24, 1963

Sir:

On Sunday, November 24, 1963 at approximately 9:00 A.M., I was told to report to 511.

On arrival Lt. Pierce told me and 3 other men to report to Sgt. Dean in the basement of the City Hall. Upon reaching the basement, Sgt. Dean and Sgt. Putnam advised me to check people in both sections of the basement.

I stationed myself inside the building just West of the exit door from the jail office. I had been at this position approximately 3 minutes when a man asked if he could go to the window of the jail office to get someone out of jail. Sgt. Putnam came up and I asked him about letting people go to the jail office window. He told me to station myself by the first window of the jail office and let people use this window to contact jail office personnel.

At approximately 9:45 A.M., a reserve policeman stationed himself in the hall way on my left side. I do not know this officer's name. The reserve and I checked everyone who came by us for identification.

At approximately 10:45 A.M. I noticed a television camera on the elevator in the basement, two men were with this camera. One of these men approached me and asked if they could move the camera through my position into the parking area of the basement. I told Lt. Pierce, who was standing close by what the man wanted. Lt. Pierce talked with this man and then told me it would be all right to let them pass. The two men who were originally with the camera, pushed it by me and the reserve officer.

At approximately 11:20 A.M., I heard a shot come from the area outside the basement doors. Several reporters who were standing in front of the jail office windows started toward the double doors of the basement. I ran to the door in an effort to keep people from coming through the doors at this time. Several officers were subducing the suspect (Ruby) in front of me, someone yelled to watch for the gun. I reached for the suspect's left hand and felt for a gun. After this I returned to the area outside the jail office windows and remained there until relieved by Lt. Pierce.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald C. Nelson

Ronald C. Nelson
Patrolman, #1652
Patrol Division

RCN/ch