

Where are they now?

Events of that tragic weekend 10 years ago touched the lives of hundreds. Stories in this section mention many of them. Here are additional notes that tell the story of "Where Are They Now?"

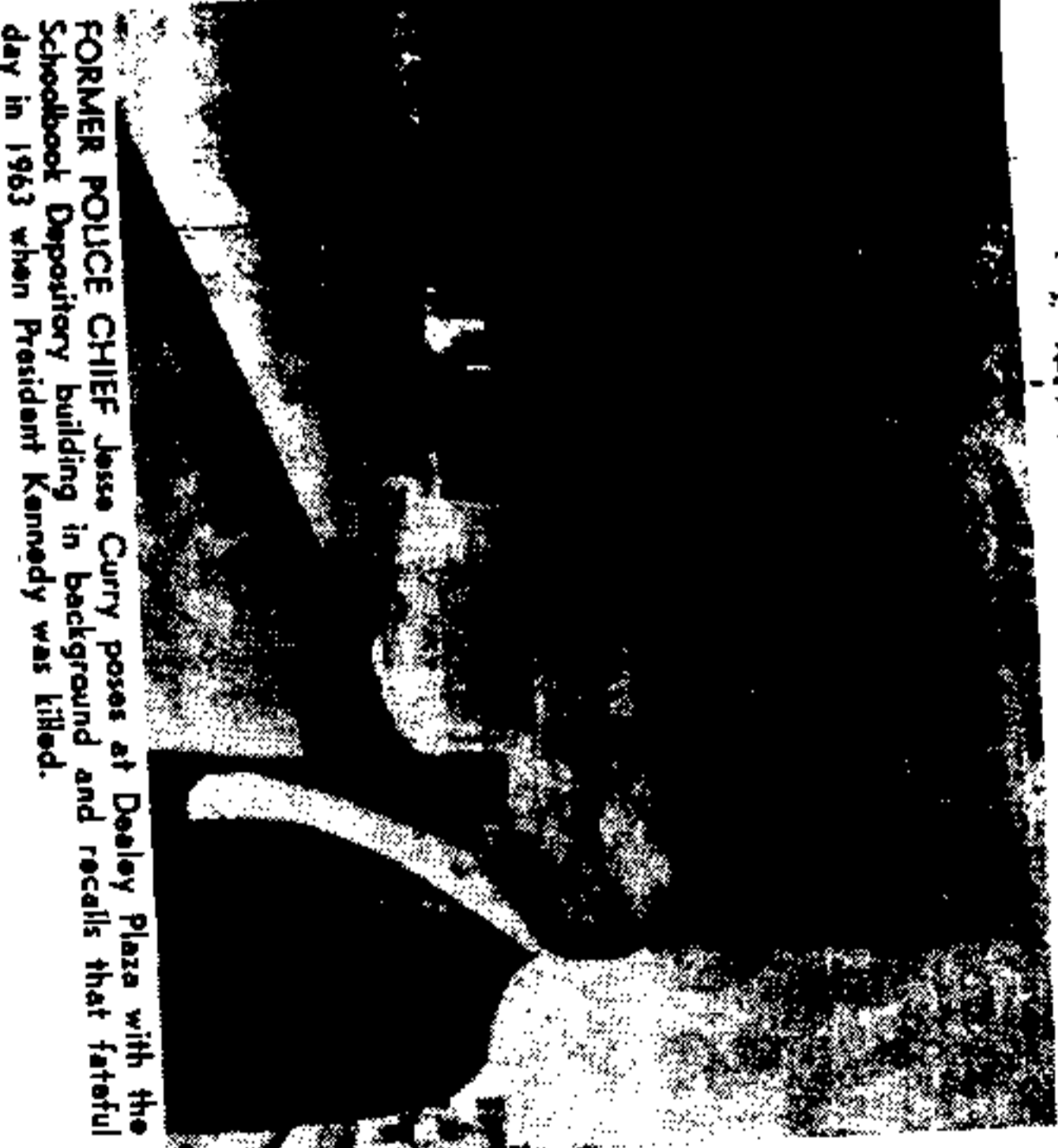
MRS. MARIE TIPPIT, widow of Dallas police officer J. D. Tippit (who was slain, witnesses said, when he stopped Lee Harvey Oswald for questioning after the President was shot) has "become more self-reliant," says her present husband, Police Lt. Harry Thompson. They live quietly and comfortably about three miles from the former Tippit residence. After Tippit's death, the widow and her family received more than \$500,000 in gifts from a sorrowing public.

MRS. MARGUERITE OSWALD, mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, says she "just gets by" on sales of occasional stories to magazines and through sales of "things connected to Lee's life." She hasn't seen her former daughter-in-law, Marina, in years. She lives in Fort Worth.

FARL RUBY, brother of Jack Ruby, still operates Cobo Cleaners in Detroit, Mich. He insists that "Jack was no part of any conspiracy—and efforts to show that he was won't show anything of the kind." The brother spent \$30,000 on Ruby's court defense. (Jack Ruby is buried in Westlawn Cemetery, northwest of Chicago.)

WILL FRITZ, veteran Dallas police homicide captain, who tried in vain to get a confession from Lee Harvey Oswald, resides in retirement at the White Plaza Hotel near the police station. He declines to discuss the case, referring even old friends to "the Warren Report." In 1964, Fritz said, "Oswald impressed me as well-trained and determined. He was very cool; he was built into his way of thinking."

DR. MALCOLM O. PERRY, the surgeon who originally told a press conference that the wound on President Kennedy's throat "appeared to be an entry wound," today says he wishes now he could reclaim those words that helped give rise to various conspiracy theories. Dr. Perry, at Southwestern Medical School, says he deformed the wound of the original bullet hole to insert a tube in the patient's throat. "I never really had time to look at the wound," he says.



FORMER POLICE CHIEF Jesse Curry poses at Dealey Plaza with the Schoolbook Depository building in background and recalls that fateful day in 1963 when President Kennedy was killed.

Shift of Oswald seemed simple

The move of Lee Harvey Oswald, suspected presidential assassin, from his cell at the City Jail to a similar enclosure at the County Jail seemed simple enough at the time.

Police Chief Jesse Curry, careful to avoid any charge that the now world-famed prisoner was being mistreated and kept out of sight of the world press, decided on a daytime transfer.

"Even if we had transferred him at three in the morning, many dozens of reporters and cameramen would have been there," Curry reasoned at the time. "Everyone knew the move was coming. If the question of the prisoner's safety was involved, as it was, the daytime transfer seemed to offer more advantages than disadvantages," Curry said at the time.

Officer L. C. Graves, who was directly involved in the move of Oswald on the ill-fated Sunday morning, said, "I've tried to forget it, so put it in the back of my mind."

"MOST PEOPLE, even yet, when they ask me about it soon begin to act as if they were there; they've drawn their own conclusions about everything. They're not really interested in hearing from anyone who had the direct experience. So I've learned not to say anything."

"Yes," Graves said, "I supposed in the mind of every officer there is always a thought that something could go wrong. But just before we started down with the prisoner, we found he had two sweaters. One was beige."

'No way to forget it'

Ex-chief of police recalls wrath of the world

In the continuing and sickening aftermath of the Kennedy assassination, Police Chief Jesse Curry sat in his car outside Parkland Hospital with a visibly shaken friend who was to become, in a few minutes, the President of the United States.

It was some time after 1 p.m. on Nov. 22, 1963.

"I was waiting to take Mr. Johnson to Love Field for the return flight to Washington," Curry recalled for The Times Herald in his fourth floor office at One Main Place. "At that time, photographer (Joe Laird of The Dallas Morning News) came to the car. Mr. Johnson raised his camera, and Mr. Johnson caught only a glimpse of it and his pistol grip.

"I haven't mentioned it before, but he hit the floor and said 'Omgod, don't shoot!'," said the former Dallas police chief.

He related that Johnson was seriously considering the possibility that the shooting of President Kennedy and Gov. Connally might be part of a plan "to wipe out the entire government."

CURRY MADE ANOTHER revelation that was not included in a book he

did that now has sold more than 100,000 copies:

"When we started to the airport, I was told by the Secret Service men in the back seat to stop for nothing, and to hurry. I ran through red lights all the way with my siren on. Vice President Johnson said 'Shoot that damned siren down,' and I did.

"We came within inches of getting hit by a truck . . ."

In the charged and saddened atmosphere at the plane — Air Force One — Curry came inside as Dist. Judge Sarah T. Hughes administered the oath of the presidency to Lyndon Baines Johnson.

"I have often thought that the plane ride must have been the longest flight anyone ever made for Mr. Johnson," said Curry.

Anyone from Texas, and particularly Dallas, was considered a villain at that time. Curry already could sense that. But Curry was to come under the most severe criticism of all in the weeks to come.

THOUGH THE Secret Service is charged with the responsibility of guarding the President — and Curry had offered more police help than the

Leavelle recalls seeing Ruby's arm come up

Remember James Leavelle, the detective in white suit and white hat who had a look of consternation on his face in the famous Pulitzer Prize winning photograph by the Times Herald's Bob Jackson?

Jack Ruby, dark hat pulled low on his head, had just fired a .38 calibre bullet into the side of accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald. Leavelle, handcuffed to Oswald that Sunday morning, Nov. 24, 1963, and now nearing retirement as a detective officer after 24 years on the force, remembers that walk to destiny in vivid detail. Leavelle revealed that he had joked with Oswald just seconds before the incident.

"Seriously, Lee," said the officer who was at the right side of the man-cled prisoner, "if someone takes a shot, you hit the floor."

LEAVELLE SAID Oswald turned serious and said, "I'd do what you do." And Leavelle said he reassured him.

Secret Service accepted — it was, from the first announcements on radio and television, someone the fault at the Dallas Police Department that such a thing could happen.

Even when, at the cost of one policeman's life, suspect Lee Harvey Oswald was apprehended only 90 minutes after the shots were fired into the President's car the blame-placing did not stop.

One TV commentator showed a picture of Oswald that evening. "This is what he looked like — or did, before the Dallas police hunted him away," he said. Lacking a newer word, many resorted to an old one: Gestapo.

And when Jack Ruby shot Oswald during a transfer to the county jail, the cattails came from all over the world.

Commentator Bob Connelie wrote of Dallas: "Yes, and a collection of some of the dumbest cops in the world of crime — a group of whom I'd-gallon hats, the best of whom couldn't make the assassin face of the borough of Alhambra (N.J.) police department."

"They'd be rejected as extras in Mack Sennett's Keystone Kennedy Kops," Connelie added that the 10-gallon hats covered "pint-size" heads in Curry's department.

EVEN THAT WAS not the worst Curry took. In the waning weeks of 1963, when his hate mail outnumbered his Christmas cards 100-to-1.

Curry's blood pressure went up to 200-120 in the next couple of years and led to his resignation. Today, in a job that includes security, building maintenance and other tasks for Texas Bank and Trust he looks fit and trim on a job he now has held for seven years.

He holds no bitterness about the criticism he got; he is grateful to friends who stuck by him, his Sunday School class, and his staff.

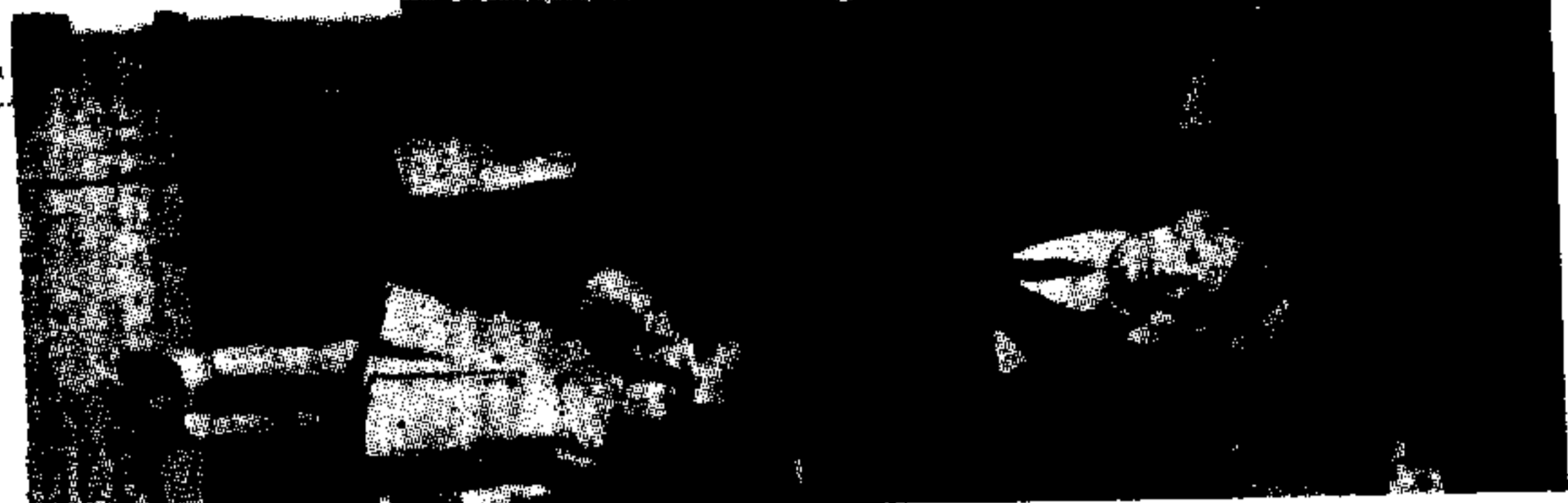
"I was the Chief of Police and this happened in my town; I couldn't say, 'Don't look at me. I'm not responsible.' —so I look at it. There's no way to forget it—but I haven't been obsessed with it. It was an unhappy incident but it serves no purpose to keep after it . . ."

AS FOR DOING anything "different," naturally, Curry says he would guard the desires of the press and the people of America and help Oswald isolated. I could have easily asphyxiated down to the county jail early as possible. (Will Fritz had no real opportunity to question the suspect, with all the noise.

before anyone was aware of Lee Oswald's name.

Tragedy am to bear

—An eyewitness
A horrible scene, little John F. Kennedy Kennedy as it was outside the 57th. His sister Caroline and his mother, Jackie Kennedy, left and Robert Kennedy.



What care for her ballet studies—and dropped the classes. When she graduated from Concord in 1975 she will attend Miss Porter's School, her mother's alma mater in Farmington, Conn. vocations already are shifting to careers childhood summers to a residence of involvement. Last autumn Caroline turned up living with a Mr. Chaffin, Tex., an age-mate of her mother's. And Leavelle said he reassured him.