

44-895

When he got out of the elevator on the third floor of the building, his identification and photograph were again checked by an officer. He stated that one of the men from the press got off the elevator with him. SMITH did not know his name. The man apparently was without identification. The officer checking the press identification cards immediately referred this man to a Dallas Police Sergeant.

Mr. SMITH determined that the best place for photographing OSWALD would be in the basement of the Dallas Police Department. He left the third floor and went to the basement of the building where his identification and photograph were again checked by a Dallas Police Officer.

He advised that he knows of no unauthorized people who were present in the basement of the Dallas Police Department on Sunday morning, November 24, 1963, or anyone who was in the building without proper identification.

He advised that he possesses no information that anyone conspired with JACK RUBY in the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He further advised that he has no information that anyone in an official capacity with the Dallas Police Department or anyone acting under the cover of law conspired with RUBY in connection with the shooting of OSWALD.

He stated that he did not see or talk with JACK RUBY on Sunday morning, November 24, 1963 prior to the shooting of OSWALD. He advised that he does not know JACK RUBY or LEE HARVEY OSWALD and possesses no information concerning any connection between these two men.

Mr. SMITH advised that after the shooting of OSWALD and the identity of JACK RUBY was made available to the news people, he recalled that he had possibly seen JACK RUBY at a news conference in the Show Up Room of the Dallas Police Department Building sometime between 9:00 and 9:30 p.m. on November 23, 1963. He advised that he

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believes this conference was brought about by the pressure brought upon the Dallas Police Department by the late arriving news media people and that OSWALD was brought into the Show Up Room for about three minutes for the purpose of photographs and questions.

He further advised that he heard from one of the newsmen in Dallas, whom he believes was FERD KAUFMAN, Associated Press, Dallas, Texas, that JACK RUBY was present on Saturday evening, November 23, 1963 when District Attorney HENRY MADE held a press conference. He recalls that District Attorney MADE made a comment during the Sunday night press conference that RUBY had asked him a question during the conference of Saturday night and was present in the room with the press. *TOM YUAD*

Mr. SMITH further advised that FERD KAUFMAN advised him that he had received a business card from JACK RUBY and that RUBY had invited him to visit his club. Mr. SMITH does not know where KAUFMAN met RUBY. He assumed it was somewhere around Dallas Police Department on Friday or Saturday, November 22 or 23, 1963. He advised that he is also under the impression that other news media people who had had an occasion to talk to JACK RUBY during November 22 or 23, 1963 had also received such invitations from RUBY and his business card.

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Date 12/4/63John Smith

JOHN A. SMITH, Remote Video Operator, advised that his home address is 22 [redacted] Texas. SMITH advised he has been employed by this company since 1945.

**SMITH furnished the following information:**

He advised he was the Remote Video Operator for the mobile unit of WBAP-TV on November 24, 1963, at Dallas, Texas. SMITH said the crew set up between 7:30 and 8:00 AM, on November 24th. He said that WARREN RITCHEY was the cameraman located on top of the truck and that I. N. WALKER was the remote audioman located in the truck with him, SMITH.

SMITH said that a man he now knows as JACK RUBY or JACK RUBENSTEIN was first noticed by him at about 8:00 AM, on November 24, 1963, at which time this person was standing on the sidewalk on the Commerce Street side of the Dallas Police Department. SMITH explained that he, SMITH, was in and out of the mobile unit several times and that the mobile unit was parked facing east on Commerce about twenty-five feet from the ramp leading to the basement of the Dallas Police Department. SMITH said at the time he observed RUBY he did not pay particular attention to this person and, actually, had the impression of someone "just killing time" and very nonchalant.

SMITH said that, as best he can recall, about ten minutes after first seeing RUBY on the sidewalk on the side of the Police Department, or about 8:10 AM, this person walked over to the truck and asked, "Have they brought OSWALD down yet?" SMITH said he answered, "No." SMITH said after RUBY asked this question he walked away from the truck. SMITH said RUBY did not seem interested other than just "passing time." SMITH said he recalls RUBY had on a grey hat and a greyish topcoat.

SMITH said he recalls he next saw RUBY at about 10:00 AM, at which time he saw him on the sidewalk on the Commerce Street side of the Police Department next to the ramp leading to the basement of the Police Department. SMITH said he never saw RUBY talking to anyone at any time and he

on 12/4/63 at Fort Worth, Texas File # DL 44-1639

by Special Agents EARLE HALEY & ROBLEY D. MADLAND Date dictated 12/4/63  
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was alone each time he recalls observing RUBY.

SMITH said further he had no other information concerning this matter.

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Date December 2, 1963

HILL SOSIN, 4044 Meridian Avenue, Miami Beach  
 a reporter for the "Miami Daily News," was interviewed by telephone at his request, and he furnished the following information:

On November 24, 1963, he was in Dallas, Texas, following the events subsequent to the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY. During the morning of November 24, 1963, he was on the third floor of the Dallas Municipal Building, and with other reporters, proceeded to the basement of this building to observe the transfer of prisoner LEE HARVEY OSWALD. SOSIN stood seven or eight feet to the left of the television cameras, so that he could have an unobstructed view of the armored car in which OSWALD was to leave the building. As OSWALD, with accompanying officers, approached the television cameras, SOSIN observed a figure dash out from the right side of the cameras. This figure ran to OSWALD and shot him, and SOSIN later learned this individual was JACK RUBY.

SOSIN said that in the basement of the municipal building, numerous police officers were stationed, and they represented several organizations, such as the Dallas Police Department, Sheriff's Office, Texas Rangers, and United States Secret Service. As members of the press entered the basement, their credentials were carefully examined by these officers. Members of the press identified themselves with press cards, Department of Defense cards, or other identifying cards. He said the officers particularly examined the photographs on these cards, and closely observed the individuals carrying the cards. It was his opinion that the security in the basement was very good, and he noted that his Department of Defense card was examined several times by different officers.

SOSIN, being a stranger in Dallas, was not acquainted with everyone present, and had no way of knowing who was authorized to be in the basement, and who was unauthorized.

On 12/1/63 at Miami, Florida File # Miami 44-1412  
 by Special Agent ROBERT K. LEWIS/nab 519 Date dictated 12/2/63

ME 44-1413

It was his understanding that only police officers and members of the press were authorized to be in the basement, and he pointed out that several persons were excluded or removed from the basement by police officers. SOSIN never talked with RUBY, and has no knowledge of any possible conspiracy between RUBY and any police officer.

SOSIN said that as a matter of hearsay, it appeared that practically everyone in the Dallas Police Department knew RUBY, and were so used to seeing him at the police station that he was accepted as a belonger or "part of the scenery."

SOSIN said he had no actual facts one way or another as to a possible association between OSWALD and RUBY. He added that it was his understanding from "general talk" in Dallas that RUBY was practically berserk as a result of President KENNEDY's death.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date Dec. 11, 1963~~SIMX~~ STANDARD

JAMES H. STANDARD, reporter, Oklahoma Publishing Company, advised he traveled to Dallas, Texas, at approximately 12:00 <sup>ORLA</sup> noon, November 22, 1963, to cover the assassination of President KENNEDY for his newspaper. He stated on November 22 and 23, 1963, he spent his time talking to witnesses concerning the assassination and attempting to locate other eye witnesses and photographs of the assassination.

STANDARD advised during this period of time he did not see JACK RUBY at any time in the Dallas Police Department or that vicinity. He stated some of the reporters, names unrecalled, had mentioned RUBY was present at the District Attorney's conference regarding OSWALD and the assassination and had asked the District Attorney a question concerning OSWALD and the assassination. He stated he could not verify this information because he was not present himself at the District Attorney's press conference.

STANDARD stated he was present in the Dallas Police Department basement alleyway on the morning of November 24, 1963, when OSWALD was to be transported to the Dallas County Jail. He advised he gained entrance to the alleyway through the door from the Police Department Identification Section adjacent to the jail elevator door from which OSWALD was removed. He stated as he entered the door to the alleyway he was confronted by two policemen requesting he exhibit press credentials. He informed these policemen he had no press card and exhibited a credit card and a group insurance card which identified him as an employee of the Oklahoma Publishing Company. He said one of the policemen did not want to permit him to pass; however, the other officer agreed to pass him only after a complete search of his person. STANDARD was of the opinion the security measures set up at the Dallas Police Department were very rigid and he knew of no one present in the basement alleyway who had not exhibited credentials to gain entrance.

STANDARD stated he saw no one present in the alleyway who was not connected with law enforcement or news media.

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on 12/10/63 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # DL 44-1639

by Special Agents GLENN E. SILVEY &

OC 44-430

by Special Agents DAVID H. McCLUGAGE/csh Date dictated 12/10/63

STANDARD advised as the police brought OSWALD from the elevator toward an armored car and a police cruiser parked in the alleyway, he saw an unknown person, later identified as JACK RUBY, burst from the crowd toward OSWALD who was being escorted by numerous policemen. He heard one policeman, identity unknown, shout "You son of a bitch," and an instant later a shot was fired by this individual and OSWALD fell to the floor. He stated almost instantaneously, a large group of policemen pounced on this person and subdued him. STANDARD stated there was considerable turmoil at this time and he was unable to recall any statements made by RUBY, policemen or newsmen present.

STANDARD advised he neither heard nor saw anything at this time or at a later date to indicate anyone had conspired with RUBY in any way to shoot OSWALD.

STANDARD advised he had never interviewed RUBY and further he had no information whatsoever to reflect any connection between RUBY and OSWALD.

STANDARD advised he departed from Dallas, Texas, on the afternoon of November 25, 1963, and that during the early afternoon of November 25, 1963, he had again been thoroughly checked by an officer of the Dallas Police Department to establish his connection with the Oklahoma Publishing Company.

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Date 12/2/63

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Robert Thornton

JAMES ROBERT THORNTON, newsman, WFAA Radio, Dallas, who resides at 7819 Milstone Drive, Dallas, advised he arrived at the City Hall, Dallas, on November 24, 1963, shortly before 10:00 A.M. He carried a portable tape recorder and planned to cover events there when and if LEE HARVEY OSWALD was transferred from the City Jail to the Dallas County Jail. He said he had learned from press reports several hours earlier that he might be transferred that morning.

Another newsman, one CHURCH IRWIN, also of WFAA, was stationed at the Dallas County Jail in order to work with him in covering that event. *Tex.*

That morning he entered the building through the first floor and took an elevator to the basement, entering same without exhibiting his press pass, no inquiry being made of same. He explained that he is at the City Hall almost daily and is well-known to all the police officers there. He walked around a few minutes and then walked out of the building to the Main Street entrance of the police department garage. There he entered the garage by the Main Street ramp. A police officer, name unknown, asked for his press pass and he exhibited same. His pass was issued by Chief of Police J. E. CURRY in July, 1961, and bears number 259. He then walked through the garage and back to the entrance to the corridor through which it was expected OSWALD would walk. Soon an unidentified Dallas Police Department detective required all newsmen with the exception of two network television men to move to the East side of the ramp in the garage. He took his position about five feet from the numerous television cameras and was there when he heard a shot fired which he later found out was a shot fired by JACK RUBY which killed LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

So far as he knows the two television network men were the only newsmen allowed in the basement corridor at the time OSWALD was brought out of the City Jail. He identified those two men as TOM PETTIT of New York (NBC representative) and BOB HUFFAKER of KRLD, Dallas, who was serving for CBS.

on 11/20/63 at Dallas, Texas 523 File # DL 44-1639

EDWIN D. KUYKENDALL and

by Special Agent LEO L. ROBERTSON:jj Date dictated 12/2/63

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He advised he <sup>did</sup> not see JACK RUBY in the basement, garage or City Hall prior to the shooting. He is not personally acquainted with JACK RUBY. He does not know how RUBY gained access to the area. He noticed there was an armored car on the ramp and two police cars had been brought to the south ramp. It appeared the police were taking considerable security precautions because he saw several officers asking some of the other newsmen for their press passes. He did not observe anyone in the area where OSWALD was shot other than police officers and newsmen. He remembers, however, there was either a utility man or electrician who appeared for the purpose of doing some kind of work and was checked out by the police after which the electrician or utility man proceeded with his task in that vicinity. He could not tell that person's identity but presumed he was some kind of a building employee. He said all of the news representatives were required to exhibit their passes before they were allowed to leave the City Hall basement after the shooting had occurred. He said the police, therefore, undoubtedly learned if any unauthorized persons were there at that time. He has not heard any other individuals give any explanation as to how JACK RUBY came to be there.

He has no information that would indicate any individual has conspired with JACK RUBY concerning the shooting of OSWALD. He has no knowledge that RUBY talked to any other individuals there prior to the shooting and he only saw RUBY for the first time just momentarily before the shot was fired. He has no information that would indicate any police officer has been closely associated with RUBY or allowed RUBY permission to be in the area. He has no knowledge of any relationship or prior acquaintance between RUBY and OSWALD.

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Date November 29, 1963

HOMER J. VENSO, 1812 Junius, advised he had been employed for the past ten years as an engineer for WBAP-TV, Fort Worth, Texas. He stated his main duties consisted of operating a sound camera. He stated that on November 23, 1963, he operated a sound camera for WBAP-TV on the Third Floor of the City Hall at Dallas, Texas, in the general area of the office of the Chief of Police. He stated that on November 24, 1963, he operated WBAP-TV camera number 2 in the basement of the Dallas City Hall. He stated his assignment was to obtain film of the removal of LEE HARVEY OSWALD from the Dallas Police Department to the Dallas County Jail. He stated he set up his camera, facing west, aiming directly into a hall leading to elevators. This hall intersects at right angles; a broader hall or area-way which ran from Main Street on the north to VENSO's right to Commerce Street on the south, which was on VENSO's left. He stated there was a lot of confusion in the basement because there were many members of the press and police department present. He stated he had been admitted to the area on showing his press pass and had no reason to believe anyone was present who was not supposed to be there.

VENSO stated that while taking pictures of OSWALD leaving the City Hall, he observed the scene through a five inch viewfinder which he said was like a tiny television screen on top of the camera. He stated that he was concentrating on taking the picture and did not actually notice anyone on the screen except OSWALD until a man, wearing a light colored hat, jumped in front of OSWALD and fired a shot at OSWALD's mid-section with what VENSO assumed was a pistol. VENSO said he learned later this man's name was JACK RUBY but stated he had never seen him before to his recollection, on November 24, 1963, either on the Third Floor of the City Hall or in the basement. He stated that because RUBY appeared first on the right-hand side of the screen, then he must have gained entrance to the elevator area from the Main Street or north side of the building. VENSO said he had not observed RUBY in conversation with anyone.

VENSO said he had not taken any test shots prior

on 11/29/63 at Fort Worth, Texas File # DL 44-1639

by Special Agent JOSEPH T. SCHOTT/ash Date dictated 11/29/63

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to the shooting sequence as such because he had been shooting film continuously in the basement for an hour or two before the shooting activity occurred.

VENSO stated he had reviewed this film later and noted that RUBY first appeared on the right side of the screen, then disappeared briefly and reappeared with his back to the camera when the shot was fired. VENSO stated this disappearance of RUBY from the screen resulted in VENSO's receiving orders from the sound truck outside the building to change to a broader lens so that OSWALD would appear more clearly on the screen. This change caused RUBY to disappear briefly from the screen.

VENSO said all of the film he shot was furnished to the National Broadcasting Company and that all of his orders on how and what to shoot were given to him by an NBC official from New York, named FRED RHINESTONE (PH) who was in the sound truck watching all proceedings on a viewer.

VENSO said he had no reason to believe there had been any breach of security on the part of the Dallas Police Department in wilfully allowing JACK RUBY to enter the basement.

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Date November 29, 1963

A filmed sequence shot on 16 mm. film was reviewed in the projection room of WBAP-TV in the presence of JOHN H. TAKERSLEY, Engineer, WBAP-TV who operated the projector. TEK

This film was reportedly shot by cameraman number two of WBAP-TV manned by HOMER J. VENBO, WBAP-TV cameraman, shows the scene in the basement of the Dallas, Texas, Police Department just prior to and during the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. This film sequence lasts approximately 60 seconds.

In the beginning of the sequence, the head of a man wearing a light colored felt hat, appears on the right side of the film. His left profile is clearly visible for a few seconds. Several other individuals, apparently policemen and representatives of news media, appear in the film but none of them apparently engaged in conversation or seem to be with the man in the light colored hat.

All eyes seem to be looking toward an entrance hall from which LEE HARVEY OSWALD was then lead by Dallas detectives. When OSWALD appeared, the man in the light colored hat, later identified as JACK RUBY, disappeared briefly from the film and then the back of his head appears directly in front of OSWALD as he apparently leaped at OSWALD, and the sound of an explosion is heard.

This scene is described in a running commentary by TOM PETTIT, announcer, National Broadcasting Company, who appears on the film.

on 11/28/63 at Fort Worth, Texas File # DL 44-1639

by Special Agent JOSEPH T. SCHOTT/csh Date dictated 11/29/63

Date December 2, 1963

THAYER WALDO, News Reporter, Fort Worth Star Telegram, advised his residence was Apartment 524, 200 Burnett Street, Fort Worth. He stated he had been employed by the Star Telegram for approximately one year. He stated that he was sent to Dallas, Texas at approximately 9:40 a.m. on November 22, 1963 to cover the arrival of President JOHN F. KENNEDY at Love Field and at the Dallas Trade Mart. He stated he attended the breakfast given for the Presidential party in Fort Worth, Texas that same morning prior to going to Dallas, and at this breakfast was given a large tag identifying him as a newspaper reporter. He stated he hung this tag on his lapel and used it as identification for the next three days. tek

He stated that while at the Dallas Trade Mart on the morning of November 22, 1963, he learned President KENNEDY had been shot and proceeded at once to Parkland Hospital. He stated that after remaining at Parkland for approximately thirty minutes, he received an assignment from his newspaper to go to the Dallas Police Department headquarters and cover that building in the event that any suspects in the shooting were taken into custody. He said he drove his personally owned automobile from Parkland Hospital to the Police Department and went at once to the third floor where the Homicide Division is located. He said he went up on the elevator to the third floor wearing his press tag and no one questioned him or asked for further identification. He stated he remained on the third floor for several hours and sometime that evening, attended a press conference in a large assembly room in the basement of the same building. He said at this press conference, Chief of Police JESSE CURRY addressed the members of the press assembled there and LEE H. OSWALD was shown to the reporters for three or four minutes then taken out. WALDO said that during this Friday night press conference, there were no security checks by the Police Department or anyone else as far as attendance was concerned. He stated he noticed several outsiders there, specifically,

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JOSEPH L. SCOTT and

by Special Agent B. TOM CARTER/rmsDate dictated 12/2/63

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two building janitors and several teenagers. The doors of the assembly room were not closed and it seemed to him that anyone could have wandered in. WALDO said he did not see JACK RUBY at this press conference but heard later from several people, whom he could not recall specifically at the moment, that RUBY had been at the conference.

WALDO said he slept the night of November 22, 1963 at the Statler Hilton Hotel and returned to the third floor at the Dallas Police headquarters on the morning of November 23, 1963. He said he went to the third floor on the elevator still wearing his press tag, and no one questioned him. He said he remained for several hours on the third floor and saw an individual whom he learned later was JACK RUBY handing out cards advertising the Club Vegas. WALDO said these cards entitled members of the press to come to the Club Vegas for free drinks. WALDO said he was given one of these cards by RUBY and does not know what he did with it as he cannot now find it. He said most of the individuals receiving the cards were so busy and preoccupied with news gathering that they threw the cards on the floor.

WALDO said that sometime during the evening of November 23, 1963, Chief JESSE CURRY made the announcement to members of the press that OSWALD would be moved from Dallas Police headquarters to the Dallas County Jail by 10 a.m., November 24, 1963. WALDO said he was in the back of the crowd when this announcement was made and at first, understood CURRY's announcement to be that OSWALD would be moved at 10 a.m. the next day and was surprised that the Chief would name a specific time for moving such a controversial-type of prisoner. However, WALDO said he was later informed by several members of the press who were standing closer to CURRY that CURRY's exact statement was OSWALD would be moved by 10 a.m. the next day.

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On hearing that, WALDO said he at once assumed that the Police intended to transfer OSWALD surreptitiously sometime during the night of November 23, 1963 or the early morning hours of November 24, 1963.

After CURRY 's announcement, WALDO went to the Statler Hilton Hotel and stayed the night. At about 7 a.m. or 7:30 a.m., November 24, 1963, WALDO telephoned the Homicide Division of the Dallas Police Department and spoke with a sergeant whose name WALDO does not recall. WALDO identified himself over the telephone by name and by newspaper and asked the sergeant if OSWALD had been moved. WALDO said the sergeant said, "No, he would be moved in 1½ or 2 hours." WALDO said he was surprised to hear that OSWALD was still held in custody at the Police Department and walked over to Police headquarters at about 10 a.m. that morning. He stated that between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., he was standing with a group of newspapermen on Commerce Street at the end of the corridor or ramp which runs beneath the Dallas Police Department from Commerce Street on the south to Main Street on the north. He said that GEORGE BUTLER, who is a lieutenant or captain in the Dallas Homicide Division, came to the Commerce Street end of the ramp and called out to the group of reporters, "Come in." WALDO said he and the other reporters entered the ramp at which time a uniformed officer checked their credentials.

WALDO said he noticed that in the ramp, three Police cars were parked in a straight line one behind each other facing toward Commerce Street. He said the ramp was so narrow that it was necessary to squeeze between the ramp or corridor aisles in order to get to an area in the corridor where a hallway intersected the ramp at right angles from the west. WALDO said that this hallway connected the ramp with an elevator from the jail upstairs and it was WALDO's understanding that OSWALD would be brought down in the elevator and out to the ramp through the hallway.



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WALDO stated that he and an American Broadcasting Company (ABC) reporter stood behind the third car in the ramp and back of this car was just to the south of the hallway entrance. WALDO believes the ABC man is named DUNCAN, but does not know whether it is his first name or last name. He said this man was a regular employee of WFAA radio station in Dallas. This man held in his hand a long hooded microphone which was connected by a cord with a tape recorder.

WALDO said that when the Dallas detectives escorted LEE OSWALD out of the hallway leading to the elevator and into the ramp, it was necessary for them to walk within a few feet of the rear end of the parked Police car where WALDO was standing with the ABC man. WALDO said as they passed, the ABC man pushed the microphone out in front of OSWALD's face and asked, "Do you have anything to say?". OSWALD turned his eyes toward the microphone and just then WALDO said a man in a hat made one long lunging step from WALDO's right to the front of OSWALD, shoved out his hand so that it was pressed almost against OSWALD's body, and there was a white flash and an explosion. WALDO said he never saw the gun but knew at once what had happened because he was standing so close. WALDO said that he did not recognize JACK RUBY as the assailant at that time and did not get a good look at him at that time because detectives leaped forward to overpower the assailant and there was a lot of confusion while he was dragged from the ramp area.

WALDO said that he had seen the television pictures of the shooting later and felt that he recognized RUBY as the man from the Club Vegas whom he had observed on the third floor at the Dallas Police Station on the night of November 23, 1963.

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After the shooting, WALDO said that no members of the press were allowed to leave until they identified themselves and for the rest of the day on the third floor, strict security was maintained by the Dallas Police Department and reporters and everyone on the third floor was required to show identification every time they entered the floor through the elevator or came up the stairs.

WALDO stated he did not recall seeing RUBY while on the third floor on the night of November 23, 1963 talk to anyone except when handing out his cards. WALDO said he had no knowledge whatsoever of any prior relationship between JACK RUBY and LEE H. OSWALD.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 12/4/63

I. N. Walker  
 IRA N. WALKER, JR., Remote Audio Operator,  
 WBAP-TV, advised that his home address is 6912 Hightower.  
 WALKER stated he has been employed at WBAP-TV since 1948.

WALKER furnished the following information:

WALKER advised that a person now known to him as JACK RUBY or JACK RUBENSTEIN was first noticed by him, WALKER, on the morning of November 24, 1963, at which time WALKER was on the remote mobile unit for WBAP-TV, along with JOHN SMITH and WARREN RITCHIEY. WALKER advised that their mobile unit was set up on the Commerce Street side of the Dallas Police Department, facing east, and located about twenty-five feet from the ramp leading to the basement of the Dallas Police Department.

WALKER said that on the morning of November 24, 1963, that the first time he recalled seeing JACK RUBY was shortly after the mobile unit was set up, which would have been between 7:30 and 8:00 AM. WALKER said he first saw RUBY shortly after the armored truck was backed into the basement of the Police Department. WALKER said he does not recall what time this would have been; however, at that time, RUBY came to the window of the truck and asked, "Has he come down yet?" WALKER said he answered, "No."

WALKER said that a short time later, time not recalled, RUBY again came to the window and asked the same question, at which time WALKER said he again answered, "No."

WALKER said he did not see RUBY on the sidewalk on Commerce Street at any time and, actually, never saw RUBY other than the two times when he came to the window, as mentioned above.

WALKER advised he had no further information concerning this matter.

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on 12/4/63 at Fort Worth, Texas

File # DL 44-1639

by Special Agents EARLE MALEY & ROBLEY D. MADLAND/ Date dictated 12/4/63

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Date 12/2/63

**LOU WOOD**, Field Producer, CBS News, Southern Bureau, residence, 2729 Jefferson Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that the only CBS personnel that he knew anything about being in the basement of the Dallas Police Department, on November 24, 1963, was **NELSON BENTON**.

Mr. WOOD stated that he, at the time of the shooting, was in the studios of KLRD-TV, the Dallas CBS affiliate. He stated he learned later that BENTON, the Bureau Manager for CBS News, Southern Bureau, was in the KLRD-TV remote truck parked on the street just outside the City Hall. BENTON had told WOOD that upon observing the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD on the TV monitor in the truck that BENTON had immediately gone down into the basement of City Hall where the shooting had occurred. Mr. WOOD stated BENTON is presently in New Orleans, where he resides at 3201 St. Charles Avenue.

Mr. WOOD stated that possibly there was a CBS film crew in the basement at the time of the shooting and, if so, it would have consisted of Cameraman LAURENS PIERCE and Soundman LEROY ROLLINS. Mr. WOOD stated PIERCE and ROLLINS are both residing at the Holiday Inn, Dallas, at the present time, but that their home residences are in Montgomery, Alabama.

Mr. WOOD was interviewed at the Holiday Inn, North Central Expressway, Dallas, where he is presently residing in Room 143.

on 11/30/63at Dallas, TexasFile # DL 44-1639by Special Agent ROBERT M. BARRETT/eahDate dictated 11/30/63

44-1639

An article entitled "Officer Says He Saw Ruby" (no date line) on page one of The Dallas Times Herald, Sunday edition, December 8, 1963, read as follows:

"A Dallas police officer said Saturday that he saw self-appointed executioner Jack Ruby come through the Main Street entrance of the City Hall basement minutes before he fired a fatal, point-blank shot into the body of Lee Harvey Oswald.

"The officer, stationed near the armored car at the Commerce Street exit from the basement, told The Times Herald:

"Jack Ruby, Oswald's assassin, came from the north (Main Street) entrance down the ramp. There were many police officers and press representatives in the area.

"Ruby jumped out of the crowd as Oswald passed and fired one shot point-blank at Oswald."

The name of the "police officer" was not contained in the newspaper article.

On December 8, 1963, SA GASTON C. THOMPSON contacted (telephonically) JAMES LEHRER Dallas Times Herald reporter who covers the "Federal beat" in Dallas, Texas, and ascertained the reporter who prepared the above article was DARWIN PAYNE (WH 6-5892) and the "police officer" referred to in the article was Sergeant PATRICK T. DEAN, Dallas Police Department.

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Date December 10, 1963

~~PATRICK DEAN~~ PATRICK DEAN ~~P. DEAN~~  
~~P. DEAN~~

Sergeant PATRICK P. DEAN, Dallas Police Department,  
 residence 2822 Nicholson Drive, furnished the following  
 information: DALLAS Tex.

On December 7, 1963, at approximately 1:30 P.M., DEAN received a telephone call at his residence from a person identifying himself as DARWIN PAYNE, representative of the "Dallas Times Herald" newspaper. Mr. PAYNE stated his reason for calling was to verify statements made by DEAN to the radio and television news media on November 24, 1963, shortly after the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the basement of the Dallas Police Building. PAYNE then asked several questions pertaining to that interview on November 24, 1963. The questions asked by Mr. PAYNE seemed to be verbatim of the interview on November 24, 1963.

To the best of DEAN's recollection, the questions asked were as follows:

"Were you at the armored car when the shot was fired?"  
 DEAN answered yes to this question.

"Did you see the person that fired the shot at the time it was fired?"  
 DEAN answered no to this question.

"Did you see the person that fired the shot shortly after it was fired?"  
 DEAN answered yes to this question.

"Where? Was he inside the jail office and on the floor at that time?"  
 Answer - "Yes, he was on the floor and being restrained and handcuffed by several plain clothed officers."

"Did you recognize the subject at that time as a person you knew by sight?"  
 Answer - Yes.

"Did you or had you seen this person prior to this time in or around the City Hall?"

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by Special Agent PAUL L. SCOTT/jn

Date dictated 12/10/63

Answer - No.

"And you didn't see this person enter from the Main Street ramp?"

Answer - Definitely not.

The next question asked by PAYNE was, "Did you see anything at the time of the shooting?"

DEAN assumed by this question that he meant a flash from the gun fired and he asked him if this was what he meant and PAYNE said yes, whereupon, DEAN told him that he saw smoke from the blast and that he ran immediately to the scene to control the crowd.

DEAN said this terminated the questioning by Mr. PAYNE and DEAN inquired of PAYNE as to the reason for him calling as all of the information he asked about was old news. PAYNE then stated to DEAN that he was just verifying the results of the previous interview and that he did not really know what the "Dallas Times Herald" planned to do with the information. DEAN reiterated to PAYNE that he had not seen RUBY at any time before the shooting in or around the City Hall.

On Sunday, December 8, 1963, when DEAN arrived home, he noticed an article appearing in the "Dallas Times Herald" relative to an officer seeing JACK RUBY enter the police building prior to the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. After reading the article, DEAN reached the conclusion that this article possibly had evolved from the telephone conversation with Mr. DARWIN PAYNE on the previous day.

DEAN contacted a friend at the "Dallas Times Herald" to ascertain the identity of the reporter preparing the article appearing in the paper on December 8, 1963. He learned that DARWIN PAYNE had been on duty on December 7, 1963 and recognized PAYNE as being the name of the person who had called him.

DEAN called PAYNE at his residence and discussed the article with him and PAYNE stated he had not written the article but had only contacted DEAN to verify a previous interview.

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DEAN advised the statement in this article that he had seen JACK RUBY enter the basement of the police building was false, that he had not seen RUBY enter the police building and he had not stated to anyone that he had seen RUBY enter the building prior to the shooting of OSWALD.



Date Dec. 9, 1963BEN STEVENS

BEN STEVENS, 2806 Anchor Drive, Mesquite, Texas, employed as rewrite man, Dallas Times Herald newspaper, Herald Square, Dallas, furnished the following information:

On December 7, 1963, while on duty at the Times Herald building, STEVENS and reporter DARWIN PAYNE were furnished notes made by reporter DAVID HUGHES following interviews with persons in the vicinity of the Police Building after the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD on November 24, 1963. A portion of these notes pertained to the interview with Sergeant PATRICK T. DEAN of the Dallas Police Department. Reporter DARWIN PAYNE contacted Sergeant DEAN by telephone on December 7, 1963, and read the notes made by HUGHES to determine if the notes were accurate and correct. Thereafter, reporter PAYNE turned the notes over to STEVENS who prepared an article for the Sunday edition of the Dallas Times Herald newspaper. This article appeared on the front page of the Dallas Times Herald on December 8, 1963, under the caption, "Officer Says He Saw RUBY."

STEVENS referred to the article and advised that a portion of the article was taken verbatim from the notes prepared by reporter David Hughes. He said it was his assumption after reviewing the notes that Sergeant DEAN of the Police Department had indicated he had seen JACK RUBY come through the Main Street entrance of the City Hall basement minutes before the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. STEVENS said this paragraph was his interpretation of the notes of reporter HUGHES and there was no other information available to him at the time he prepared this article.

STEVENS is not acquainted with JACK RUBY or LEE HARVEY OSWALD and has no knowledge of any association between RUBY and OSWALD.

STEVENS was not present at the Police Building at the time of the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD on November 24, 1963, and can furnish no pertinent information concerning this shooting or activity at the Police Department prior to the shooting.

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by Special Agent & PAUL L. SCOTT & JAMES S. WEIR/csh Date dictated 12/9/63

Date Dec. 9, 1963

DAVID HUGHES

DAVID J. HUGHES, JR., 2948 Binkley, University Park, Texas, employed as a reporter for the Dallas Times Herald newspaper, Herald Square, Dallas, furnished the following information:

HUGHES was in his office at the Dallas Times Herald Building on November 22 and 23, 1963.

On November 24, 1963, HUGHES was at his residence and saw the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the basement of the Police Building on television. He immediately went to his office at the Times Herald building and was then assigned to go to the Police Building, which he did, arriving about one hour after the shooting occurred. His assignment was to obtain crowd reaction from persons in the vicinity of the building where the shooting took place.

HUGHES first went to the north ramp entrance to the basement located on Main Street and there talked to police officer R. E. VAUGHN who was stationed at that entrance. VAUGHN stated he had been on duty at that ramp entrance for about two and a half hours prior to the shooting. VAUGHN told HUGHES no one was admitted but police officers and press representatives and said everyone who was admitted was required to show proper identification. VAUGHN said even the police paddy wagon had been searched before being allowed to enter the basement of the Police Building. VAUGHN said he heard someone say "Here he comes", and then he heard the shot fired in the basement. He then saw three police officers wrestling for the gun. VAUGHN indicated to HUGHES he had his back to the basement area until he had heard the shot fired. VAUGHN mentioned that prior to the shooting, police had screened everyone entering the building and officers had been stationed at all entrances to the building and at the elevator.

After talking to Officer VAUGHN, HUGHES talked to several other persons at the Main Street entrance to the Police Building and none recalled JACK RUBY going into the building or furnished any information pertinent to the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

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by Special Agent S

HUGHES then went to the Commerce Street ramp entrance. Sergeant PATRICK T. DEAN was at this entrance and at the time HUGHES arrived, DEAN was talking to another reporter, name not recalled. HUGHES overheard some of the conversation between DEAN and the other reporter and also questioned DEAN himself, taking detailed notes of the conversation. During this conversation, DEAN said he was standing by the armored car when LEE HARVEY OSWALD was shot. DEAN said he heard someone shout, "They're bringing him out" and upon hearing this, he focused his attention on the door. DEAN said he did not see the gun but heard the shot and saw smoke from the gun. DEAN said police officers surrounding OSWALD prevented him, DEAN, from seeing much else. DEAN intimated or said something to the effect that RUBY must have come into the basement from the north entrance down the ramp. DEAN did not say he saw RUBY come down the north ramp. DEAN said RUBY jumped out from the crowd as OSWALD passed and fired one shot point blank at OSWALD. DEAN said that following the shooting he, DEAN, ran from the armored car to the site of the shooting to assist in the arrest. When he got there, officers had RUBY on the floor handcuffing him. DEAN then went to OSWALD who was lying on the floor and assisted in placing OSWALD in the ambulance.

HUGHES said he returned to the Times Herald building after questioning persons seeing the shooting and had immediately typed up his notes, using as nearly as possible verbatim statements as made to him by Officers VAUGHN and DEAN.

On December 7, 1963, HUGHES was asked by the City Editor if he still had his notes covering the interviews on November 24, 1963, and he informed the editor that his notes were still available.

HUGHES referred to the article appearing in the Dallas Times Herald newspaper dated December 8, 1963, captioned "Officer Says He Saw Ruby." He said paragraphs three and four of this article appeared to have been taken verbatim from the notes he typed following the interview with Sergeant PATRICK T. DEAN on November 24, 1963. He referred to paragraph one of this article which states that "A Dallas police officer said Saturday he saw self-appointed executioner JACK RUBY come through the main entrance of the City Hall basement minutes before he fired a fatal point blank shot at LEE HARVEY OSWALD." HUGHES stated this paragraph was not taken from the

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notes prepared by him since the officer did not tell him he had seen JACK RUBY come through the Main Street entrance. HUGHES said this paragraph may have been the interpretation of his notes by rewrite man BEN STEVENS of the Dallas Times Herald or from other information available to STEVENS. HUGHES made available a copy of the notes relative to interviews of Officers R. E. VAUGHN and PATRICK T. DEAN typed by him upon his return to the Times Herald building on November 24, 1963.

HUGHES advised he is not acquainted with JACK RUBY nor is he acquainted with LEE HARVEY OSWALD and has no knowledge of any connection between RUBY and OSWALD.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 8, 1963DARWIN PAYNE, 610 Blalock Street, Apartment #203,Dallas, Texas, furnished the following information:PAYNE is a reporter for the Dallas "Times Herald"newspaper.

On December 7, 1963, PAYNE received an assignment to review notes of "Times Herald" reporter DAVID HUGHES relative to a conversation with Sergeant PATRICK T. DEAN, Dallas Police Department made on November 24, 1963. It was PAYNE's understanding that the notes made by reporter DAVID HUGHES were made on the day of the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, possibly at the Dallas police building. He assumed these notes were made by reporter HUGHES immediately after the shooting in the basement of the police building. He has not talked to HUGHES concerning these notes.

On December 7, 1963, at approximately 3:00 p.m., PAYNE contacted Sergeant P. T. DEAN by telephone at DEAN's residence and read to DEAN from the notes of HUGHES the statements reportedly made by DEAN on the day of the shooting. He believes these statements from the notes of HUGHES were direct quotes of Sergeant DEAN at the time he was interviewed by HUGHES. He told DEAN that he had the quotes made by HUGHES and he wanted to clarify the notes and determine if they were accurate statements. After reading the notes to DEAN, DEAN indicated to him that the notes were accurate as read. As he read each quote from the notes, DEAN assented to the accuracy of these quotes. During the conversation DEAN inquired as to the reason for checking the notes and PAYNE told DEAN he merely wanted to check them for accuracy.

After reading the notes to DEAN over the telephone and verifying the accuracy of the statements contained in the notes, PAYNE furnished the notes to re-write man BEN STEVENS, Dallas "Times Herald" and STEVENS prepared a story for the Sunday issue of the Dallas "Times Herald."

PAYNE referred to the article appearing on the front page of the Dallas "Times Herald", December 8, 1963, captioned, "Officer Says He Saw Ruby" and stated it was his impression that paragraphs 3 and 4 appearing in quotes were taken verbatim from quotes of Sergeant PATRICK DEAN appearing in the notes of

on 12/8/63at Dallas, TexasFile # Dallas 44-1639by Special Agent PAUL L. SCOTT & JOHN E. DALLMAN:ELDate dictated 12/8/63

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reporter DAVID HUGHES. There was additional information in the notes, however, he is not certain that these notes state that Sergeant DEAN actually saw JACK RUBY come through the Main Street entrance of City Hall basement minutes before he fired a fatal shot into the body of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He believed the information appearing in paragraph one of this article may have been paraphrased from another quote of DEAN appearing in the notes of HUGHES.

PAYNE advised he received a telephone call from Sergeant P. T. DEAN on the morning of December 8, 1963, and DEAN denied making the statement which appeared in the Sunday issue of the Dallas "TIMES HERALD."

PAYNE advised he was at the Dallas Police Department on Saturday, November 23, 1963, from approximately 6:00 p.m. until 2:15 a.m. on November 24, 1963. He spent most of this time in the hallway on the third floor of the police building. He was in the hallway at approximately 8:00 p.m. when LEE HARVEY OSWALD was brought from the Homicide Bureau through the hallway and into the elevator on the third floor. PAYNE arrived at the police building and entered through the Harwood Street entrance, and at that time he was not required to show his credentials to anyone before entering the elevator. He then took the elevator to the third floor and was checked by no one on leaving the elevator. He recalled that he observed three high school boys from Colorado in the group of reporters, one of whom exhibited his press card from his high school newspaper while interviewing an officer.

PAYNE did not to his knowledge observe JACK RUBY in the police building during the time he was there on November 23, 1963. PAYNE was not in the police building at any time on November 24, 1963, prior to the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

PAYNE does not know JACK RUBY or LEE HARVEY OSWALD and has no knowledge of any connection between RUBY and OSWALD.

PAYNE advised he has no knowledge of persons including police officers or other police officials who may have conspired with RUBY in the killing of LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

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