

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: 3/18/64

FROM : A. Rosen *RW*

SUBJECT: JACK L. RUBY, aka
LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

Tolson	
Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Casper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Flynn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Holmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

On March 17, 1964, Mr. Howard Willens, President's Commission, by telephone referred to the letter from the Commission dated March 12, 1964, wherein requests were made for detailed photographs, a plat of the area where Officer Tippit was killed and other items. It is noted Mr. Gauthier and additional personnel went to Dallas on March 16 to prepare the requested material. Mr. Willens stated that the Commission had requested that this material be available by April 1, 1964. He stated that in view of a rescheduling of Commission hearings, he desired to know whether it would be possible to have the requested material prior to April 1. As alternate dates for the hearings he mentioned March 26 and March 30.

The work being handled with reference to the Commission's request was discussed with Mr. Gauthier in Dallas and he advised that in view of the progress which has now been made on this project, it would be completed and could be delivered to the Commission for use on March 30, 1964. Mr. Gauthier understands that the Commission desires to use the material on March 30 and it will therefore have to be delivered prior to that date.

After checking with Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Willens was advised that the material would be available to the Commission in sufficient time for the Commission to make use of it on March 30.

1 - 62-109090

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Gauthier

JRM:mpd (10)

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 44-346-13

OK
10/3
10/3

REC-17

MAR 23 1964

2690

 XEROX

MAR 24 1964
MAR 25 1964 *ju*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: March 17, 1964

FROM : A. Rosen *A. Rosen*

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION
ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

W. J. ...
J. ...
...

Fraser
7410

While discussing other matters with J. Lee Rankin of the President's Commission on March 16, 1964, Mr. Rankin brought up the matter of an independent examination of the rifle slug which was found on the stretcher which President Kennedy's body was on in Dallas, as well as bullet fragments found in the President's body during the autopsy at the U. S. Naval Hospital at Bethesda.

Mr. Rankin advised the Commission certainly relied on the examination conducted by the Bureau Laboratory; however, there was strong feeling in the Commission that an independent examination would be advantageous because of the fact that the Bureau had conducted the principal investigation into the assassination of the President as well as having handled the Laboratory examinations. Mr. Rankin advised he was aware of the possibility of a difference of opinion on the part of an outside examiner but nevertheless they felt this independent examination necessary. He indicated he would request the Bureau to handle the delivery of the rifle, bullet and bullet fragments to an independent examiner.

Mr. Rankin was advised that a letter had been prepared by the Bureau and sent to the Commission on March 13, concerning this matter, expressing the Bureau's views concerning this procedure. Mr. Rankin advised he had not seen the letter as yet; however, it was the desire of the Chief Justice for the Bureau to maintain as much control over items of an evidentiary nature as possible to make certain they were not lost. It was suggested to Mr. Rankin that prior to making any final decision as to the procedure to be utilized he might desire to review the Bureau's letter which thoroughly outlined the Bureau's position and Mr. Rankin advised he would do so. The Bureau's position as outlined in the letter of March 13, is that any material to be examined by an independent examiner should be delivered to the Commission by the Bureau and the Commission make all necessary arrangements for handling the delivery of the material to the independent examiner.

- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

JRM:mpd;jgs (9)

3 XEROX

10/11/64
...

Telephone call
3/11/64
...

And this is what I want

100-1071060 UNREC
INDEXED
199 MAR 26 1964

MAR 26 1964

SIX

CC - Q

Memo to Mr. Belmont from A. Rosen
Re: Assassination of the President

In a separate interview

Mr. Willens stated that probably the first of next week or shortly thereafter teams of attorneys assigned to the Commission staff would be going to Dallas, Texas, to take depositions from a number of witnesses regarding various aspects of the over-all investigation. He advised situations may arise where the Commission representatives would need assistance from our Dallas Office and inquired as to the names of individuals who could be contacted by members of the Commission staff. Mr. Willens was furnished the names of the SAC and ASAC and was told that any requests of the Dallas Office should be handled through them. Appropriate instructions are being issued to the Dallas Office relative to handling contacts by representatives of the Commission staff with the Dallas Office.

The foregoing is submitted for information.

Q ✓ JRM I want any requests made of our Dallas office to be first cleared here.

H

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Schrodar
- 1 - Mr. Rogge
- 1 - Mr. Hines

3/18/64

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAR 18 1964

62 107100 - UNREC

TO SAC DALLAS

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI

John F. K...

PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION, ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

8:06 P.M.
MAR 18 3 19 PM '64
FBI - READING ROOM

PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ADVISED THEY INTEND TO HAVE ATTORNEYS IN DALLAS FOR NUMBER OF WEEKS TAKING DEPOSITIONS FROM VARIOUS WITNESSES CONCERNING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF MATTERS RELATING TO ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT. AT PRESENT IT IS KNOWN HOWARD WILLENS OF COMMISSION STAFF WILL BE IN DALLAS MARCH NINETEEN, ARRIVING AT APPROXIMATELY TWELVE NOON AND WILL CONTACT YOUR OFFICE SOON AFTER ARRIVAL. WILLENS WILL BE JOINED OVER WEEKEND BY ADDITIONAL ATTORNEYS. HE HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT IN EVENT HE HAS ANY REQUESTS TO MAKE OF DALLAS OFFICE THEY SHOULD BE MADE DIRECTLY TO YOU OR ASAC. YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO ADVISE BUREAU OF ANY REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMISSION AND TO TAKE NO ACTION RELATIVE TO THESE REQUESTS UNTIL THEY ARE CLEARED WITH BUREAU.

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-107100-181

JRM:mpd (12) *JRM*
 1 - Mr. Sullivan *R*
 1 - Mr. Conrad *R*
 1 - Mr. Branigan
 XEROX
 MAR 20 1964
 MAR 20 1964

NOTE: Memo from Rosen to Belmont 3/17/64, same was prepared setting forth information concerning contemplated work of Commission in Dallas and instructions set forth in this teletype comply with Director's desires in handling personnel of Commission staff.

V. C.

INITIALED
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

2-10-64

E

E

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 20 1964

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Sh...

APR

FBI DALLAS

514 PM CST URGENT 3-20-64 FLL

TO DIRECTOR (62-109060)

FROM DALLAS (100-10461) 1P

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, NOV. TWENTYTWO, SIXTYTHREE, DALLAS, TEXAS, MISC. INFO CONCERNING.

REBUTEL MARCH FIVE LAST REQUESTING TRANSCRIPT OF ALL RADIO TRANSMISSIONS FROM LOCAL AND STATE POLICE DURING PERTINENT ACTIVITY RELATING TO ASSASSINATION AND SUBSEQUENT EVENTS, AND DALLAS AIRTEL TO BUREAU MARCH SIXTEEN, SIXTYFOUR, ENCLOSING LETTERHEAD MEMORANDUM CONTAINING TRANSCRIPT PERTINENT RADIO TRANSMISSIONS BY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

TRANSCRIPT OF DALLAS PD AND DALLAS SO RADIO TRANSMISSIONS BOTH OBTAINED TODAY. BOTH OF CONSIDERABLE LENGTH AND EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO SUBMIT SAME IN APPROPRIATE LETTERHEAD MEMORANDUM BY MARCH TWENTYTHREE NEXT.

END

PLS ACK FOR TWO MSGS PLS

WA LRA

FBI WASH DC

P

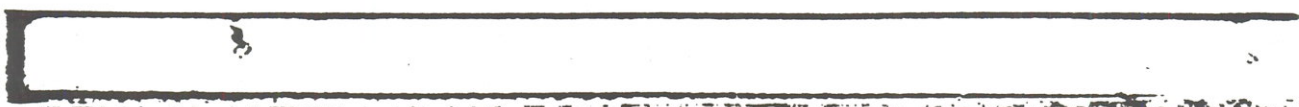
REC-25

EX-115

This is the original

2691 APR 6

72 MAR 25 1964



*Ma
JBI
OK*

FBI

*REC-3
INTEGRAL*

Date: 3/17/64

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)
FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (89-67) (P)
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, 11/22/63, Dallas, Texas

*J.F.B. [unclear]
L. [unclear]*

Enclosed to the Bureau are 8 copies of letterhead memorandum, Dallas is being furnished two copies of letterhead memorandum, reflecting interview conducted by SA TOM E. NEAL with PAT CARDER, Manager, Cuboid Department, Women's Shoes, first floor, Joske's Department Store. Two copies of this memo are being furnished U.S. Secret Service, San Antonio this date.

Hig 9/23

PAT CARDER advised that the shoe department, Volks Department Store, Dallas, Texas, will have the name and address of Mrs. GORMAN who purchased a set of Cuboid Arch Supports from the shoe department on 11/21/63. The name and address of persons making these purchases are kept at the shoe department of the store where Cuboid Arch Supports are sold.

*Lead card
set to follow DEAR*

LEAD

DALLAS

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

Will, through Volks Department Store, locate and interview Mrs. GORMAN concerning statements she made to PAT CARDER on 11/21/63 for any specific details she might have concerning the above.

San Antonio taking no further action in this matter.

3-Bureau (Encl 3)
2-Dallas (Encl 2)
2-San Antonio
TEN:cjn
(7)

E.C. WICK

EX 104

[Handwritten signature]

4 MAR 21 1964

72 M. Approved: 1964 *[Signature]*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

cc of each returned as Techy app



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

San Antonio, Texas
March 17, 1964

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
F. KENNEDY, 11/22/63, Dallas,
Texas.

On March 16, 1964 (Mr. PAT ^VCARDER, Manager, Cuboid
Department, Women's Shoes, first floor, Joske's Department
Store, San Antonio, Texas,) advised that at about 8:00 p.m.
November 21, 1963, he was demonstrating his product at Volks
Department Store, Dallas, Texas, and sold a set of Burns
Cuboid Arch Supports to a (Mrs. GORMAN.)

(Mrs. GORMAN, a woman age 50-55,) stated that she
knew all of the political factions in Dallas and made the
statement that the people engaged in Dallas city politics
were a bunch of left-wings. She stated that she could tell
things that would "curl your hair". From her conversation
she inferred that Communists were in the city government of
Dallas. Mr. CARDER stated she made the statement "all hell
is going to break loose here tomorrow". She did not mention
President KENNEDY or the parade that was to be held at Dallas
on November 22, the next day. (She indicated that her husband
was in the brokerage business) but did not indicate what type.

This document contains neither recommendations nor
conclusions of any kind. It is the property of the FBI, and
is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

COPIES DESTROYED

44 DEC 29 1972

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

W. J. ...

Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Casper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Evans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Holmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TO Mr. Belmont

DATE: March 19, 1964

FROM A. Rosen *A. Rosen*

SUBJECT ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963
DALLAS, TEXAS

Belmont
Sullivan

The Dallas Office called today and advised that United States Attorney H. Barefoot Sanders, Dallas, had telephonically advised attorneys from the President's Commission had arrived in Dallas today and were in his office. He advised they intended to interview between 50 and 100 witnesses within the next two to three weeks. Sanders requested the Dallas Office to locate six individuals that the attorneys advised they desire to interview on Friday morning and request these individuals to appear at the Office of United States Attorney Sanders.

In making this request, United States Attorney Sanders stated that if the Bureau would not handle this request, he would have to ask the assistance of the Secret Service in locating these witnesses.

The Dallas Office was advised that inasmuch as the United States Attorney's Office had the names of the individuals and the addresses, this did not appear to be a matter that should be handled by the Bureau; and that Mr. Sanders should be told that the location of witnesses for the President's Commission where the names and addresses were available, was a matter that should be handled either by the United States Attorney's Office or whomever they should designate, but that it was not a matter that the Bureau should handle.

The Dallas Office was further advised that in the event the United States Attorney's Office was unable to locate these witnesses and it became a matter of a fugitive-type investigation to locate the witnesses, then the Dallas Office could accept a request to locate the witnesses and advise the Bureau promptly.

The foregoing is submitted for information.

REC-26 62 100000 2693

MAR 21 1964
XEROX
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Conrad

Rosen
Sullivan

MAR 23 1964

COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

68 MAR 26 1964

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-43131

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

REC-3

TO : Director, FBI (62-109060)

DATE: 3-13-64

FROM : Legat, Paris (62-148) (RUC)

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY
11/22/63
DALLAS, TEXAS

ReBuairtel 3-2-64.

Enclosed for the Bureau is a copy of the January 9-16, 1964, issue of "Candide". Miss V. MILDRED XIARHOS, Press Office, American Embassy, Paris, stated on 3-9-64 that "Le Nouveau Candide", which is the exact title of the newspaper, is a weekly paper which was founded in 1961. She described its political orientation as "ultra-Gaullist". The article by JOACHIM JOESTEN, mentioned in reference airtel, appears on page 9.

In summary, JOESTEN discusses two main topics:

1. LEE HARVEY OSWALD was not the slayer of Patrolman TIPPIT.
2. OSWALD probably was not the assassin of the late President KENNEDY.

In support of his first assertion that OSWALD did not kill TIPPIT, JOESTEN notes the following points:

1. OSWALD's clothing which he was wearing when he left his rooming house and which he still had at the time of his arrest, differs materially from the dress of the slayer as described by an eye witness.
2. In the account given by an eye witness of the TIPPIT slaying, the actions of the murderer do not appear to be those of a suspect fleeing the scene of the KENNEDY slaying.

XEROA
1 MAR 24 1964

rec...
1 - Bureau (Enc. 1)
1 - Liaison Section
1 - New York, 100-20099
1 - Dallas, 89-43
1 - Bonn (sent direct) (100-414)
1 - Paris

53 MAR 26 1964
(7)

REC-3 62-109060-2694

UNREC COPY AND COPY OF ENCL FILED

MAR 16 1964
MAR 16 1964

Paris 62-148

3. The firing pin of the revolver in OSWALD's possession was bent and the weapon was in poor operating condition.

In support of his second statement to the effect that OSWALD probably was not the assassin of the late President KENNEDY, JOESTEN cites the following points:

1. OSWALD's reported behavior and composure in the book depot when police officers rushed in immediately after the shooting were not those of a man directly involved in the shooting.
2. After having left the book depot and when he was presumably enroute to his residence, OSWALD took a bus whose route headed toward the scene of the assassination. According to JOESTEN, this was not an action that could logically be expected of a principal involved in the murder.
3. The route followed by the KENNEDY motorcade turned right on Houston Street and left on Elm Street, which brought it near the book depot. This route was not previously announced and was not the normal route that an individual would expect the procession to follow toward the intended destination. JOESTEN concludes therefore that OSWALD could not have had prior knowledge of the route and therefore would have been unable to plan the assassination point located in the book depot.
4. JOESTEN states that there is no proof that the fatal shots came from the book warehouse and adds that the throat wound suffered by the late President appears to indicate that a shot was fired from in front of the motorcade from a position on the bridge.

The Bureau may wish to have the article translated in its entirety, and if this is done, it is requested that a copy of the translation be furnished to this office.

TRANSLATION FROM FRENCH

From "Le Nouveau Candide," number 141, January 9-January 16, 1964, issue.

Why I Say: Oswald Did Not Kill Kennedy

The Dallas Police Have A Man in Jail
Whose Name They Refuse to Disclose

By Joachin Joesten

Joachin Joesten is an American journalist who has written a book about Kennedy and several works on the intelligence services. In Dallas, he conducted his personal inquiry into the death of the President. He has no claims to having discovered the truth. However, he found a number of discrepancies, contradictions and absurdities which give the lie to the official version of the Dallas Police and of the FBI. He simply cannot believe in this "antiseptic" version of a crime committed by a maniac superimposed on another crime committed by another maniac. Naturally, we let him have full responsibility for his hypotheses. However, in Washington, the Warren Commission does not seem to lend credence to the FBI version and, in the various embassies, not a single diplomat seriously believes that Kennedy was the victim of a solitary assassin. Slowly, America is being seized by doubt.

Oswald is not the man who killed policeman Tippit. It is very unlikely that Oswald was the assassin of Kennedy. These are the two conclusions of the personal inquiry which I have conducted in Dallas.

I am not the only person who today entertains doubts about the official version of the Kennedy assassination. The Warren Commission, which was asked by President Johnson to shed full light on the Dallas affair, has let it be known that it is skeptical. It has just publicized that it does not accept any of the premises and any of the conclusions of the official FBI report which, as is known, places the blame on Oswald.

COPIES

44 DEC 29 1972

ENCLOSURE

The Warren Commission is determined to start the inquiry all over by interrogating all witnesses once again, particularly those already questioned by the police. When the Commission was created, word went out that it expected to complete its report within two months. Today, the Commission members admit that it will take them at least one year of work. This period of time gives an idea of the doubts which are entertained even in official circles about the inquiry of the FBI and the Texas police.

A White Cotton Jacket

In all likelihood, one of the first witnesses called by the Commission will be Mrs. Helen Markham from Dallas. She was one of the eyewitnesses to the assassination of Tippit committed on November 22 at 1:15 P.M., 45 minutes after Kennedy was shot.

Upon being questioned on that very same afternoon by the reporters of the "Morning News" of Dallas, Mrs. Markham gave the following description of the assassin of Tippit: "... a man who must have been about 30 years old, with a crew cut, wearing a white cotton sports jacket."

According to the reporters of the above newspaper, this description was confirmed by the other eyewitnesses to the Tippit murder. Mrs. Markham furnished it without the least hesitation. The journalists say: "She had no trouble in recalling what the assassin looked like," and go on to quote one of Mrs. Markham's phrases: "I thought he was going to kill me too and at such a moment one looks with the full power of one's eyes."

Now then, Lee Oswald was not 30 years old, but only 24 and, if anything, looked younger. His hair was not cut in a crew cut, but he wore it flat and combed straight back. In particular he was wearing a dark olive-brown coat with a zipper and not a white cotton sports jacket.

Oswald's pictures taken shortly after his arrest show him wearing this dark coat with a zipper and, concerning this detail of his attire of a capital importance, I have had the confirmation of Oswald's landlady. This landlady is Mrs. Gladys Johnson whom I have questioned for three quarters of an hour. She told me that Oswald, the last time he left the house, shortly before Kennedy was shot, was wearing a brown coat. She told me: "he even went like this as he was leaving the house," and imitated the gesture of one who is closing the zipper of a jacket. "He zipped it up."

To Get A Conversation Going

The description of the assassin of Tippit does not correspond, therefore, to Oswald's description. Now then, the Dallas Police have not let it be known whether Oswald and Mrs. Markham had confronted each other and the latter recognized the suspect as the assassin of the policeman.

Mrs. Markham's testimony, as recorded by the "Morning News" journalists on the same occasion, contains another troublesome piece of information: the description that she furnished of the scene of the crime. "He (the assassin) walked toward the police car, bent over to speak through the window and started a conversation with the policeman. Then the policeman got out of the car, walked around the back of the car as though he wanted to say something to the man. Suddenly, they both stopped, looked at each other, and the man pulled out his gun and killed the policeman."

This description makes the official version of the assassination of Tippit doubly unlikely. It is unlikely, in the first place, from the standpoint of Oswald as the assassin. Can we imagine Oswald, if he truly was the assassin of the President, placing his elbows on the window of a police car to start a conversation?

It is unlikely also from the standpoint of police agent Tippit. According to the official statements of the Dallas Chief of Police, Jesse Curry: "Shortly after the description of the assassin of the President was put on the air, patrolman Tippit saw a man who seemed to answer this description."

A Section of Town Full of Little Streets

How can we possibly imagine that Tippit accosted this man without being on his guard and allowed him to pull out a gun first?

On the other hand, an inexplicable circumstance is for Oswald to be in the part of town where policeman Tippit was killed. Very probably, Oswald was trying to leave Dallas for Fort Worth which is at a distance of about 50 kilometers. Very probably, he wanted to travel by bus or hitchhike as he did quite often. His mother was living at Fort Worth and as was also his brother from whom he had already borrowed money in the past.

The logical thing for Oswald to do was to go down Beckley Avenue, where he lived, and turn right on West Jefferson Boulevard where he could catch the bus traveling National Route 80 in the direction of Fort Worth. It is on this section of Jefferson Avenue that the theater is located where Oswald was arrested.

However, Tippit's car was standing on the left of Beckley Avenue, on the east section of Jefferson Boulevard. Why would Oswald walk in a direction opposite to Fort Worth and why would he make his way into a section of town which is a maze of narrow streets without any important thoroughfares and a veritable mouse trap? The investigation did not say anything in this connection.

On the other hand, we can very well visualize how Oswald, walking toward the west along Jefferson Boulevard, was frightened when he saw police cars, with their shrieking sirens, rush past to get to the site where Tippit was assassinated, and how then he looked for a refuge in a movie theater where he was apprehended.

As to Oswald's arrest in the movie theater, we find new contradictions between the official police report and accounts of witnesses gathered by journalists on the same day.

It was established that Tippit was assassinated at 1:15 and that the alarm was given at 1:18. At 1:33, a cashier of the "Texas Theater" informed police that a strangely behaving individual was in the movie theater. She gave his description which corresponded to that of Oswald.

According to the official report of the Dallas police, policemen hurried into the movie auditorium two minutes later: at 1:35. Such a speed would not be surprising, since the area was swarming with policemen.

The Firing Pin Was Bent

But this information was false. On the day of the assassination of Kennedy, the "Dallas Morning News" indicated that Oswald was arrested at the "Texas Theater" at 2:00 o'clock. This time was confirmed indirectly a little later, by the Dallas Chief of Police, Jesse Curry. In a press conference, he stated that Oswald was arrested 90 minutes after the assassination of Kennedy. The crime took place at 12:30; so Oswald could very well be arrested at 2:00 o'clock, 27 minutes after a cashier alerted the police.

Such are the facts. Although each one of them, taken separately, is not decisive, their accumulation takes all the plausibility away from the version, according to which Oswald killed policeman Tippit. What did actually occur? The Warren Commission will let us know perhaps a year from now. Among all hypotheses one can possibly form, the following appears to me the most plausible.

At a moment when the heads of the Dallas police were informed of Oswald's presence in a movie theater, they felt that the combined evidence against him in Kennedy's murder was weak. The assassination of Tippit came most opportunely. It was easy to make Oswald responsible for it and thus mix up the cards.

It is to be noted that Oswald was legally charged only with the assassination of Tippit and not with that of Kennedy.

To make Oswald bear the responsibility for the murder of a policeman, it was enough to put in his hand the weapon of crime found in the vicinity of the place. Hence, the delay; hence, the scuffle in a movie theater.

A curious detail gives a certain weight to this hypothesis. A special FBI team sent to Dallas from Washington examined this famous revolver and established that the firing pin was bent. Such a disorder could not result from a simple shock, in the course of the scuffle, for instance, but would have to be made wilfully. Why would Oswald damage his revolver? On the other hand, we can understand that policemen, entrusted with "restoring" of this weapon to Oswald, apparently took the precaution of making it useless.

Personally, I am convinced that Oswald did not carry a revolver when he entered the "Texas Theater."

Elm Street Bus

According to the official version, Oswald took this weapon from his room at the same time as his jacket. When I asked the question of his landlady, Mrs. Gladys Johnson, the latter replied indignantly: "Sir, Oswald has never had a revolver here." Indeed, in examining his small room, his drawer, his modest closet, I realized that it would be very difficult for Oswald to conceal a revolver from indiscreet vigilance of Mrs. Johnson and the housekeeper, Mrs. Roberts.

Provided Oswald was innocent of the murder of Tippit, was he still guilty of the assassination of Kennedy? Journalists, who had the time to ask him several questions at the police headquarters in Dallas, were the first to feel doubt.

"Did you kill the President?" asked a reporter. Oswald looked at him in surprise. "But they did not talk to me about this. It is not about this that they questioned me," he replied, like a man who was asked this question for the first time in his life.

That which is still most puzzling, is the conduct of Oswald after the assassination of Kennedy. A policeman who was the first to enter the book depository, accompanied by the superintendent of the establishment, Mr. Truly, found Oswald drinking Coca-Cola, in front of an automatic dispenser. A policeman pointed his revolver at his stomach. "This man is one of my employees," said the superintendent. A policeman then abandoned Oswald, to proceed with the search of the building. "Oswald did not seem to be more excited than you or I would be after such a scene," Mr. Truly stated later.

What did Oswald do afterwards? He left the book depository by the back door, went up Pacific Avenue, turned to the right at Lamar Street and turned to the right again on Elm Street, where, undoubtedly in order to get to his residence, he boarded a bus which went in the direction of the railway viaduct, i.e., which passed by the place where Kennedy had just been assassinated. The congestion produced by the crowds and the arrival of police cars naturally blocked Elm Street. The bus could not advance any farther and Oswald got off to get to his lodging by some other means.

But had Oswald been the assassin of Kennedy, would he take a bus travelling in the direction of the scene of the assassination? Would he not foresee that a congestion would block the traffic? Would he not flee in another direction, knowing that his rifle remained in evidence near the window of the sixth floor?

The Plan of the "Morning News"

There was another reason to doubt the official version of the assassination. Oswald would not be able to foresee that Kennedy's car would pass under the windows of the book depository. They wrote in the newspapers after the assassination that it was a "logical route" for the presidential motorcade. On the contrary, this itinerary appeared to me completely illogical.

And I am not the only one to think this, for, a few hours before the assassination, the "Dallas Morning News" published a plan of the official route, different from that which Kennedy was to take.

According to this plan, the only one which was published before the assassination, the presidential motorcade would continue to follow Main Street up to the railway viaduct, subsequently turn to the right and take the Stemmons Freeway to the Trade Mart where Kennedy was to deliver his address (see our plan).

It would be extremely difficult for a rifleman, stationed at the book depository, to reach Kennedy, if his car followed Main Street.

But the presidential motorcade turned to the right at Houston Street, then to the left on Elm Street, to proceed along this road toward the viaduct. It was this detour which made Kennedy's car pass under the windows of the book depository. Oswald would be unable to foresee this detour.

No imperative traffic rule, no street sign ordered automobile drivers emerging from Main Street and going toward the right branch of the Stemmons Freeway to make this double turn for reaching the viaduct from the right.

How to explain the fact that the motorcade was made to follow such a tortuous route? This is one of many mysteries in the Dallas affair. I have below my own hypothesis which should be quite as good as the official version with its gaps and improbabilities.

If the Kennedy car would follow Main Street up to the viaduct, it would take on speed. This double turn, to the right, then to the left, resulted in slowing up the

motorcade and making it reduce its speed to 20 kilometers an hour. This slowing down could not but facilitate the execution of the crime. Apparently, we have to suppose that Kennedy was a victim, not of an isolated killer, but of a real conspiracy, in which Oswald was to be a scapegoat.

Unexplainable Wound

The report of the Dallas police, countersigned by the FBI, categorically rejected a conspiracy hypothesis. But the Warren Commission refuses to accept the official version on this point, since it specifically undertook the task of answering these questions:

1. Did the assassin act alone or with accomplices?
2. Is there any indication of a plot?

Oswald, with his unstable character, his restless life, his fits of violence, would present an ideal "screen" for the conspirators. The fact that Oswald tried to flee Dallas does not prove that he was the assassin of Kennedy. No doubt, he had in his cloudy past other reasons for fearing the police. After having seen a policeman with a revolver confronting him in the book depository, he could have thought that it would be better for him to clear out.

It has not even been absolutely proved that Kennedy was killed by bullets shot from the sixth story of the Texas Book Depository. The wound which Kennedy had on the level with his Adam's apple, will always remain unexplained. It is unexplainable if the rifleman struck from the back. It would explain itself if the bullet was shot from the front, by a killer stationed on the railway bridge, for example.

Was it not at this point that a mysterious suspect was arrested whom the Dallas police keeps in prison? For there is still in a cell in the city a man arrested near the scene of the crime. True, he is no longer implicated in the investigation of the assassination of Kennedy, but simply retained on charges of a "public disturbance." Why is his name being withheld?

America waits for someone to get the truth on the assassination of Kennedy, but, at the same time, it fears this truth. This is perhaps the deep-seated explanation of this confusion and these mysteries.

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Captions of illustrations contained in the article:

(1) A small photo in the upper left:

"Jochin Joesten."

(2) A large photo in the upper right:

"Oswald wore a brown jacket on the day of the crime. The assassin of Tippit wore a white coat."

(3) Photos of a policeman with a revolver, buildings, and a movie marquee:

"A Mystery of 27 Minutes"

"According to the official version, Oswald was apprehended at the Texas Theater (opposite) by officer McDonald (above), at 1:35. Actually, the arrest took place at 2:00 o'clock, twenty-seven minutes after the movie cashier gave the alert. Why was such a long delay necessary when the area was swarming with policemen? Is this one of the mysteries of the Dallas affair?"

(4) A drawing representing a street plan:

"Upon this plan we can find two anomalies in the Dallas affair. Why did the Kennedy car not continue along Main Street up to the bridge, a logical itinerary which was published in a Dallas newspaper? Why did Oswald come back in the direction of the scene of the assassination?"