

AFFIDAVIT IN ANY FACT

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF DALLAS

BEFORE ME,

Ruby Smith

RUBY SMITH

a Notary Public in and for said County, State of Texas, on this day personally

appeared James R. Davidson - 4708 Wedgewood, Falair, Texas - MO 4-3206

Who, after being by me duly sworn, on oath deposes and says:

I was in Dallas to cover the assassination of President Kennedy. I was called by ABC of New York on Friday afternoon, November 22 to represent them. I arrived in Dallas about 7:15 p.m. Friday, November 22, 1963. My crew and I were set up on the third floor of the Police and Courts Building most the time. Warren Ferguson - free lance - sound man - 5406 Windswept, Houston, MO 5-6461, was the sound man and Bill Lord, Staff Reporter for APG - New York, 7 West 66th Street, New York, 36, was in control. We worked from the third floor of the Police and Courts Building Friday night, all day Saturday and most of Saturday night. Since the shooting of Oswald Sunday morning, November 24, 1963, I have seen Ruby personally while photographing him and have also seen pictures of him. To the best of my knowledge, I never saw Jack Ruby prior to the shooting of Oswald on Sunday, November 24, 1963.

On Sunday morning, Bill Lord moved us to the jail office to cover the transfer of Oswald to the County Jail. This was about 8:30 a.m. From 8:30 a.m. until about 10:00 a.m. I spent most of the time standing on a shelf with a camera waiting for Oswald to come out of the elevator. This shelf is on the last wall of the jail office.

Warren Ferguson was with me as the sound man. Bill Lord had been called to one of the pay phones just outside the jail office and he remained on this phone to New York to keep the line open before and during the shooting of Oswald.

At about 10:00 a.m. an officer came into the jail office and stated we would have to clear the room. Everyone but the police personnel were removed.

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Warren Ferguson and I then set up in the hall just outside the jail office where I could get a picture of Oswald through the jail office window as he left the elevator. We stayed here until the officers brought Oswald off the elevator and through the jail office door into the entrance to the parking area. I got some movie film of Oswald and the officers leaving the elevator and going through the jail office. I then followed through the double doors into the entry area to the parking area. I was outside the double doors taking sound movie at the time the shot was fired. There were a number of people between me and Oswald and these people blocked my line of vision so I did not get a good shot of Oswald. Warren Ferguson was with me during this time. A cluster of officers re-entered the jail office and I backed into the hallway just outside the jail office and took shots of the activity in the jail office through the jail office window. After the jail office was cleared, I went inside and received permission from a lieutenant to photograph the inside of the jail office.

Either a UPI or a CBS cameraman was in the jail office prior to 10:00 a.m. on Sunday morning, November 24, 1963. His sound crew was with him, but at about 10:30 a.m. the sound crew was sent to cover an interview with Mrs. Connally at Parkland. The UPI or CBS cameraman had a Bclax hand camera and until we were cleared from the jail office, he stood at the East counter inside the jail office. A two man NBC crew was also in the jail office standing at the same counter with the UPI or CBS man. When the jail office was cleared the NBC crew and the UPI or CBS man moved to the corridor outside the jail office with me and all of us were taking pictures through the same window.

As soon as the NBC crew had photographed Oswald leaving the elevator, they took their equipment and ran down the corridor inside the Police and Courts Building toward Commerce Street to attempt to obtain a picture of Oswald being driven to the County Jail.

The UPI or CBS man after photographing Oswald coming off the elevator ran out the double doors entering the basement parking area ahead of Oswald. I understand he got pictures of the shooting and that he got knocked down during the melee.

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I don't recall any of the other press representatives that were present in or around the area where Oswald was shot.

When I entered the basement on Sunday morning, November 24, 1963, my credentials were checked by a police officer as we left the elevator. I did not have any identification pinned on my clothes. I was in and out of the basement 2 or 3 times during the morning of November 24, 1963. My credentials were checked each time I returned to the jail office area.

I have been interviewed by an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

James R. Davidson
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 24 DAY OF November A.D. 1963

Ruby Smith
Notary Public, Dallas County, Texas

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