

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

6679

TESTIMONY OF LEO J. GAUTHIER

Mr. Specter. Would you state your full name for the record, please?

Mr. Gauthier. Leo J. Gauthier.

Mr. Specter. And by whom are you employed, sir?

Mr. Gauthier. The Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mr. Specter. And what is your rank with the Federal Bureau of Investigation?

Mr. Gauthier. Inspector. I am in charge of the Bureau's

exhibit section, where we prepare investigative aids, consisting of diagrams, charts, maps, three-dimensional exhibits, in connection with the presentation of cases in court.

Mr. Specter. How long have you been employed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation?

Mr. Gauthier. Twenty-nine years.

Mr. Specter. Did you have occasion to reconstruct certain models to scale in connection with the investigation on the assassination of President Kennedy?

Mr. Gauthier. Yes, I did.

Mr. Specter. And what model reproduction, if any, did you make of the scene of the assassination itself?

Mr. Gauthier. The assassination data, concerning the scene of the assassination, was developed by the Bureau's ^{EXHIBITS SECTION} including myself, at the site on December 2, 3, and 4 of 1963. From this data we [redacted] built a three-dimensional exhibit.

DECLASSIFIED PER 204
7/5/77 BY 62-109060-3468

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

6580

one-quarter of an inch to the foot. It contained the pertinent details of the site, including street lights, catch basin, ~~concrete~~ structures in the area, ^{INCLUDING} buildings, the grades, ~~scale~~ scale models of the cars that comprised the motorcade, ~~CONSISTING OF~~ ~~including~~ the police lead car, the Presidential car, the follow-up car, the Lincoln open car ~~in~~ the Vice President was ~~riding~~ riding in, and ~~the~~ follow car behind ~~the~~ the Vice Presidential follow car.

Mr. Specter. On the model of the scene itself, Mr. Gauthier, did you reproduce a portion of the scene which is depicted in Commission Exhibit No. 876?

Mr. Gauthier. Yes, I did.

Mr. Specter. Handing you that Commission Exhibit number, I will ask you to describe what it represents in toto.

Mr. Gauthier. This is an aerial view of the site known as ~~DEALEY~~ Plaza, in Dallas, Texas.

It indicates the large buildings that surround this area. They are numbered one through eleven. It indicates the main streets -- Commerce, Main, and Elm Street, and the roadways through the plaza, including the triple underpass.

Mr. Specter. I now hand you a document which has been marked as Commission Exhibit No. 877 and ask you if that document was obtained by you in connection with the survey for the model which you prepared.

Mr. Gauthier. Yes. This is a description of ~~Dealey~~ Plaza

~~DEALEY~~

Setting for

CONFIDENTIAL

6681

setting the historical background and the physical description.

Mr. Specter. I move at this time for the admission into evidence of Exhibits 876 and 877.

The Chairman. They may be admitted.

(The documents referred to were marked Commission Exhibits 876 and 877 for identification, and received in evidence.)

Mr. Specter. Inspector, I now hand you two photographs marked as Commission Exhibit Nos. 878 and 879 and ask you to state what those depict.

(The documents referred to were marked Commission Exhibits 878 and 879 for identification.)

Mr. Gauthier. Commission Exhibit No. 878 is a view of the scale model looking towards the northeast with the Texas School Book Depository Building in the background, together with the Daltec Building, and a portion of the Dallas County Court House. It includes the pergola to the left, and the pericycle structure on the right with the reflecting pool in the immediate background.

It also shows the roadway through the Plaza, which is an extension of Elm Street, upon which appears miniature scale models of the vehicles in the motorcade.

Mr. Dulles. What motorcade is this?

Mr. Gauthier. We are depicting the Presidential motorcade at the time of the assassination, the motorcade that passed that area.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

6602

Mr. Dulles. And this was done on what day?

Mr. Gauthier. Our data to build this was compiled on December 2, 3, and 4. It took about five weeks to prepare this ^{EXHIBIT} ~~work~~ in Washington. ~~Memorandum~~.

Mr. Specter. Would you now describe what is shown on the photograph?

Mr. Gauthier. Commission Exhibit No. 879 is a view of the scale model looking towards the southwest ~~southwest~~ ^{IN THE DIRECTION OF}, the triple underpass, from the ~~exterior~~ position on the sixth floor ~~out of~~ of the southeast corner window.

Mr. Specter. I now hand you two additional photographs marked as Commission Exhibit 880 and 881, and ask you to state what they represent.

(The documents referred to were marked Commission Exhibits 880 and 881 for identification.)

Mr. Gauthier. Commission Exhibit No. 880 is a scale dimension view of the sixth floor looking towards the southeast corner of the Texas School Book Building.

Mr. Specter. And in the corner of that photograph is the area depicted which has been described as the possible site of the rifleman?

Mr. Gauthier. That is correct.

Mr. Specter. Will you now describe what Exhibit 881 shows?

Mr. Gauthier. Commission Exhibit No. 881 is a three-dimensional view of the Dallas Police Department Garage, showing the jail

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

office and the ramps leading down from Main Street and Commerce Street. Positioned on the ramps are ~~hand~~ ^{SCALE} models of an armored van and two police squad cars. There are also miniature mock-ups of individuals -- representing ~~individuals~~ ^{POSITION OF PEOPLE} in this area of the basement garage.

Mr. Specter. And what event is depicted in that model, if any?

Mr. Gauthier. This represents the arrangement, physical arrangement in the basement at the time Lee Harvey Oswald ^{WALKED} ~~walked~~ cut from the elevator through the jail office ^{ON TO} ~~into~~ the basement ramp.

Mr. Specter. And where have these models been maintained since the time they were prepared by the Commission?

Mr. Gauthier. These models were delivered to the Commission --

Mr. Specter. Prepared by the F.B.I. -- pardon me.

Mr. Gauthier. The models were delivered to the Commission ^{PRESIDENTIAL} ~~and installed in the~~ building ~~in their~~ exhibits room on the first floor, on January 20, 1964.

Mr. Specter. Mr. Chief Justice, I now move for the admission into evidence of the photographs 878, 879, 880, and 881.

The Chairman. They may be admitted.

(The documents heretofore marked for identification as Commission Exhibits 878, 879, 880 and 881, were received in evidence.)

Mr. Specter. Did you participate in the on-site tests made

CONFIDENTIAL

6604

In Dallas?

Mr. Gauthier. I did.

Mr. Specter. Was a survey made of the scene used to record some of the results of that on-site testing?

Mr. Gauthier. Yes.

Mr. Specter. And by whom was the survey made?

Mr. Gauthier. The survey was made on May 24, 1964, by Robert H. West, County Surveyor, a licensed State land surveyor, located at 160 County Court House, Dallas, Texas.

Mr. Specter. Have you brought the tracing of that survey with you today?

Mr. Gauthier. I have, yes.

Mr. Specter. And have you brought a cardboard reproduction of that?

Mr. Gauthier. A copy of that made from the tracing, yes.

Mr. Specter. Would you produce the cardboard copy made from the tracing for the inspection of the Commission at this time, please?

Would you produce the tracing at this time, please?

Mr. Gauthier. Yes.

The tracing is wrapped ~~in here~~ and ~~it is~~ sealed ~~in the envelope~~.

Mr. Specter. Without breaking the seal, I will ask you if the cardboard which has been set up here -- may the record show it is a large cardboard. I will ask you for the dimensions in just a minute.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Does the printing on the cardboard duplication of the tracing which you

Mr. Gauthier. Yes.

Mr. Specter. May it please the Commission to take the tracing 882, and not take it cut, because it represents it, and place Commission Exhibit 383 into evidence of both of Exhibits 382 and 383.

The Chairman. They may be admitted.

(The documents referred to were Exhibits 382 and 383 for identification, and I will now call Mr. Gauthier.)

Mr. Specter. Will you now describe the tracing to the Commission? Inspector Gauthier, indicating, first size of the cardbcard?

Mr. Gauthier. This is a copy of 40 inches in width, 72 inches in length. The scale of one inch equals 10 feet. — in other words,

From the data compiled on that drawing, the area where the tracing was prepared.

The area is bounded on the north by the DEPOSITORY

and on further here by railroads,

Mr. Specter. Indicating a general area from the School Book Depository?

Mr. Gauthier. Yes, I am pointing

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

6686

On the east it is bounded by Houston Street.

On the south by Main, which is a roadway going through
DEALEY Plaza.

And on the west by the triple underpass.

Located on this plat map are ~~the~~ street lights accurately located, a catch basin, certain trees, location of the trees, the delineation of the concrete pergola, which you see here on the photograph, the outer boundaries of the pericycle, and the reflecting pool -- locating exactly the window in the Texas

DEPOSITORY School Book Building, in the southeast corner; and also a tabulation of the measurements and angles that the surveyor has compiled from certain positions identified for him on the

street by an ~~observer~~ from this window, an ~~observer~~ from the position of Mr. Zapruder --

Mr. Specter. When you say this window, which window did you mean?

Mr. Gauthier. The window on the sixth floor of the Texas DEPOSITORY School Book Building, the one in the southeast corner, the furthest window.

Mr. Specter. And when you identify the Zapruder position, what did you mean by that?

Mr. Gauthier. This is a concrete abutment of the pergola, located in the area upon which Zapruder was standing at the time the movies were made.

(At this point, Senator Cooper entered the hearing room.)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

6687

(At this point, Representative Ford withdrew from the hearing room.)

Mr. Specter. Are there any other positions noted on the diagram that you have been describing showing where other movies were made?

Mr. Gauthier. Yes.

(At this point, Chief Justice Warren withdrew from the hearing room.)

Mr. Gauthier. We also locate the position of Mr. Nix, who also made movies of the motorcade at certain points on the roadway.

Mr. Specter. On what street was Mr. Nix standing?

Mr. Gauthier. I am pointing now to the south side of Main Street, approximately in front of the concrete pylon of the south pericycle structure. That is a short distance from the intersection of Main and Houston.

Mr. Specter. A short distance west of the intersection?

Mr. Gauthier. West.

Mr. Specter. And what other position is shown of the situs of a movie team?

Mr. Gauthier. We have another position here by Mrs. Mary Muchmore, who made movies of the motorcade movement along the Elm Street roadway on November 22, 1963.

Mr. Specter. I now hand you a schedule which I have marked as Commission Exhibit No. 884 and ask you what figures are contained

CONFIDENTIAL

6333

screen.

(The document referred to was marked Commission Exhibit 823 for identification.)

Mr. Gauthier. This is a copy of a tabulation which appears on the plat map. It contains certain positions marked as frame numbers. It indicates elevations and a column dealing with angles of sight ~~and~~ from ^{the frame} these positions to the window and so a horizontal line.

It also contains angles of sight, degrees of sight and distances from these positions to a point on the top of the bridge, handrail height.

Mr. Specter. May it please the Commission, that concludes the description of the general setting.

I would like to move now at this time for the admission into evidence of Exhibit 824, which constitutes all of the exhibits used heretofore.

Mr. McCloy. It may be admitted.

(The document heretofore marked for identification as Commission Exhibit 824, was received in evidence.)

Mr. Specter. May it please the Commission, that completes the testimony of Inspector Gauthier.

I would like to call Mr. Shaneyfelt.

Mr. McCloy. Mr. Shaneyfelt: