

OSWALD, Lee Harvey W/M 24
MURDER 11-22-63 of JOHN FITZGERALD
KENNEDY, W/M 46, PRESIDENT of the
UNITED STATES.
ASSAULT TO MURDER: Governor
JOHN B. CONNELLY

FILE OF: Sheriff's Department
Dallas County, Texas
BILL DECKER, SHERIFF
Dallas Texas April 16, 1964
Sub H 8328 25 years
Bill J. Decker Sheriff

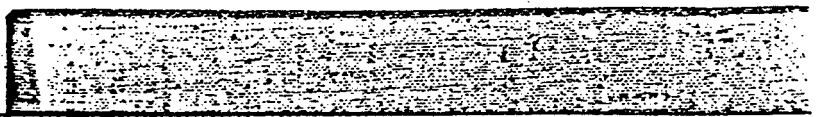
Ex. No. 5323 DECKER, J.E. Deposition
Dallas 4-16-64

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CRIME REPORTS



COUNTY OF DALLAS
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO COMMIT MURDER

Report 400 Serial No. 1A-20-63

Classification of Crime

400 SIOCC OF LIA SERGENT

Dallas, TEXAS

Name of injured party John B. Connally

Where Committed

Res. Address Austin, Texas

Reported by

Phone

Address

Date Committed November 22, 1963

Time Reported November 22, 1963

Time Committed

Reported to

Person Attacked

Investigating Officers

John B. Connally W/M

Persons Arrested

Arrest No.

Property Attacked

Leo Harvey Oswald W/M

Arrest No.

How Attacked 6.25 Italian rifle

Arrest No.

Date 11-24-63

Means of Attack

By

Object of Attack

Suspect

Trademark

Hair Color

Eye Color

Vehicle Used

Height

Weight

Age

Nationality

Buill

Occupation

Marks

Dress

The complainant, THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, was riding in a motorcade with JOHN KENNEDY, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES and their wives. 3 shots rang out coming from the Texas School Book Depository building, located at the corner of Elm and Houston Streets.

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY STOLEN	ESTIMATED VALUE	RECOVERED	
			Quantity	Date

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the above recovered articles delivered to me by
Date _____ (Signed) _____

TO INVESTIGATION OFFICER: Complete this report by writing in missing data: if available. Write on reverse side details of your investigation and names and addresses of witnesses.

Case Filed: Yes No Inactive (not cleared) Date November 22, 1963
This offense is: Unfounded Cleared by arrest Arresting Officer: *A*

On November 22, 1968, at approximately 11:15 AM, I was picked up at my office by Chief of Police Jesse Curry in his automobile and we proceeded to Love Field to await the arrival of President John F. Kennedy. After arriving at Love Field, Chief Curry and I were joined by Mr. Forrest Sorrells, Special Agent in Charge of the Dallas Office of the U. S. Secret Service and Mr. Winston G. Lawson, a Special Agent of the U. S. Secret Service White House Detail.

After the President's arrival, the Motorcade was formed with Motorcycle Escort first in Line followed directly by Chief Curry's automobile in which Chief Curry was driving, Mr. Lawson, riding in front right hand seat, Mr. Forrest Sorrells riding in rear right hand side of automobile and I was seated in the rear left hand side of car. The Presidential automobile was directly behind us as we escorted the Motorcade on its route through Dallas. There had been no incidents during the entire route of the motorcade and we arrived at Elm Street at approximately 12:31 PM. Mr. Lawson had just looked at his watch, stating it was 12:31 PM and remarking that we would be approximately 5 minutes late in arriving at Market Hall.

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As the Motorcade was proceeding down Elm Street, I distinctly remember hearing 2 shots. As I heard the first retort, I looked back over my shoulder and saw what appeared to me to be a spray of water come out of the rear seat of the President's car. At this same moment, Mr. Lawson said, "Let's get out of here and get to the nearest hospital". When I heard the shots I noted motorcycle officers coming off their cycles and running up the embankment on Dealey Plaza. At the same time, Chief Curry was on his intercom radio giving instructions to the motorcycle escort to move out- Code 3 to Parkland Hospital. We moved out immediately at which time I took the microphone and requested the DPD Dispatcher 521 to advise my Station 5- Radioroom to notify all officers in my department to immediately get over to the area where shooting occurred and saturate the area of the park, railroad and all buildings, also advising all deputies to return to the station and stand by for emergency assignment. This was being done as we were proceeding Code 3 out Stemmons Expressway and was approximately 1½ to 2 minutes from the time the shooting occurred. We arrived within minutes at the Emergency entrance to Parkland Hospital where I got out of the car and stood at the side of the Presidential automobile while

the President was removed from the automobile and placed on a stretcher carriage and taken into the emergency room. I waited until Governor Connally was also removed from the automobile and both Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs. Connally had also entered the hospital at which time I then went to an automobile belonging to the DPD, Homicide Division and requested them to return me to the scene of the shooting. I had seen Mr. Forrest Sorrells also get into another automobile which was also proceeding back towards the City, also proceeding Code 3.

Upon my arrival at the Texas School Book Depository Bldg, I observed many officers of my department present and I contacted Allan Sweatt, Chief Criminal Deputy of my Department and Inspector Sawyer of the Dallas Police Department and they were getting witnesses together and also informed me that the building was secured. I was advised that Deputy Sheriff Luke Mooney had found empty cartridges on the 6th floor of the building and that he was standing by waiting the arrival of the Crime Search Unit of the Dallas Police Department. Mr. Jimmy Kitching, Chief of Identification Bureau of my department had also arrived at the scene, however, I ordered him back to the Sheriff's Department and advised that the Crime Search Unit was enroute and we would hold secure any evidence

21

pending their arrival. Within a few moments the Crime Search Unit arrived and were permitted to enter the building.

At this time I was notified that another of my Deputies, Eugene Boone had found the rifle on the 6th floor of the building and I also advised him to stand by the evidence until the Crime Search Unit was ready to take over.

I then sent Chief Criminal Deputy Allan Sweatt back to the Sheriff's Office to see that statements were taken from witnesses who had been sent to the office earlier by both Deputy Sweatt and Inspector Sawyer.

At approximately 1:30 PM, I received word on Inspector Sawyer's car radio that a Dallas Police Officer had been shot on Jefferson Street in Oak Cliff and that the suspect was supposedly at large in the area on foot. I immediately got ahold of officers who were present including Deputy Sheriff's, Dallas Police Department Officers and FBI officers who were at the scene, advising them of the shooting and dispatched them to Oak Cliff to assist in the search. At this time, Officer Sweatt also reported to me that he had already sent 4 detectives to Oak Cliff to assist in the search for the suspect who had killed the police officer.

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After my first arrival at the Texas School Book Depository Building from Parkland Hospital, Captain Fritz of the DPD, Homicide Division arrived and he went on up into the Texas School Book Depository Building, leaving a pair of his officers down stairs where they opened up their automobile and brought out rifles to assist them in securing the building. Shortly thereafter Captain Fritz came to my office where he contacted his department by telephone and advised me that the suspect, Lee Harvey Oswald had been apprehended in the Texas Theatre in Oak Cliff. Also he advised me that Oswald had been employed in the Texas School Book Depository.

After arriving at my office, Allan Sweatt advised me that when the first of the witnesses had been brought to my office, that he had opened the Polygraph Room to be used for the interrogation of witnesses and that ^{Deputy Sheriff} Mrs. Rosemary Allen, and Mr. Wallace Heitman, FBI Agent were interviewing and taking statements from the witnesses who seemed to have the most valuable information. Upon the arrival at my office of Mr. Forrest Sorrells, I had Chief Criminal Deputy Allan Sweatt take Mr. Sorrells to this room where Mr. Wallace Heitman and Mrs. Rosemary Allen were interviewing witnesses and taking statements.

[Handwritten signature]

After the capture of Oswald in the Texas Theatre, Deputy Sheriff E.R. Walthers contacted me and I ordered him and Deputies Harry Weatherford and J.L. Oxford to go to a house located at 2515 West 5th Street in Irving, Texas, to meet there Detectives Rose and Adamcik of the DFD, Homicide Division, which they did.

After gaining permission from Mrs. Ruth Payne and Mrs. Marina Oswald at this location, these officers searched the premises.

Mrs. Payne gave Deputy Walthers a telephone number where she said that Lee Oswald had been staying at, however, she stated she did not know the address. Officer Walthers then called me by public service giving me this information, whereupon I had Allan Sweatt, Chief Criminal Deputy and Deputy Clint Lewis attempt to locate this address both by Criss-Cross and also verifying same through telephone company. Mr. Sweatt reported to me that the address to this telephone number was 1026 North Beckley.

At this time I requested that David Johnston, Justice of the Peace, to issue a search warrant for the premises at this address, which he did and he personally delivered the search warrant to that location for officers to search the premises. Information was obtained at this address from the landlady to the effect that a man by the name of O. H. Lee had been

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living at this location for a period of two weeks.

All copies of statements were turned over to me for correlation and dissemination and I saw that copies of all statements were given to the Secret Service, the F.B.I. and the Dallas Police Department.

I have maintained the originals of all in my possession.

Officers of my department then started turning in supplemental reports to me as to their activities during and after the assassination. The 14 uniformed officers that had been assigned as security at the Market Hall were ordered returned to the station.

I remained in my office until approximately 9:30 PM, on Friday, November 22nd, remaining in contact with my office via telephone from my home. I returned to my office, Saturday morning at approximately 6:30AM. All during the day, Saturday, November 23rd, I remained in contact with the Dallas Police Department in the event they should have decided to move the prisoner, to the County Jail. Extra security provisions were made and special quarters prepared to receive the prisoner when the transfer would be made.

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The taking of statements from witnesses was continued on Saturday.

At approximately 3:30 PM, Saturday afternoon, I was advised from City Hall that the transfer of Oswald might take place.

At this time, it was noticeable that several hundreds of spectators were forming around the entrance to the County Jail and at this time, I notified the City of this action. I then ordered special officers to the area and began roping off area to keep spectators away from the drive-in entrance to the County Jail.

Late in the afternoon, after hearing several times that Oswald was ready to be transferred, the Press and other News Media, Cameras, TV, etc, began converging on the Sheriff's Office and County Jail area, trying to make plans for the use of electrical equipment, cameras, etc.

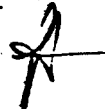
I remained in my office until approximately 8:00 PM when Jimmy Kear , WBAP, Channel 5, notified me that it was on TV that Oswald would be transferred to the County Jail at 10:00AM on Sunday morning, November 24th. I later confirmed this with City Hall. I remained in my office Saturday night until approximately 9:30 PM, at which time, I ordered Allan Sweatt, Chief Crim. Deputy and other Detectives who were on ~~xxxxxx~~ this special assignment and Mrs. Rosemary Allen, who had all been standing by in the event they were needed, to go to their homes.

I arrived at my office early Sunday morning to re-check all security measures that had been provided for the transfer of Oswald.

For additional security, I had placed all members of the Press in a small room adjoining my private office and had the doors to this room secured so that none of the Press could get to the prisoner as he was being brought into the jail.

I together with special members of my department were outside the drive in entrance to the County Jail, awaiting the arrival of Oswald, when we received a "flash" on live TV which was on in my office, that shots had been fired in the basement of the City Hall and that a riot was in progress.

At this time, the Press who had been secured in this room adjoining my office made effort to get out. I ordered the doors released and the Press proceeded to get to City Hall at great speed. I later learned that it was Oswald who had been shot in City Hall and that Jack Ruby had been taken in custody for the shooting. I was later notified that Oswald had died in the emergency room at Parkland Hospital.



DEPUTY SHERIFFS PARTICIPATING IN INVESTIGATION NOVEMBER 22, 1963

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1. Allan Sweatt, Chief Criminal Deputy
2. Eugene Boone
3. Luke Mooney
4. A. D. McCurley
5. E. R. (Buddy) Walthers
6. Harry Weatherford
7. J. L. Oxford
8. Jack Faulkner
9. C. L. (Lummie) Lewis
10. C. J. Jones
11. Harold Elkins
12. John Wiseman
13. C. C. McCoy
14. W. W. Mabra
15. C. L. (Clint) Lewis
16. Charles Polk Player
17. L. C. Smith
18. Jack Watson (radio)
19. Roger Craig
20. Cecil Gentry
21. Ralph Walters
22. Billy Courson
23. Frank Vria
24. Charles Turner
25. James Ramsey
26. Sam Webster
27. Billy Joe Victory
28. Hiram Ingram
29. W. C. Owens

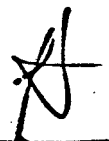
Secretaries and Typists

1. Ann Price Turner
2. Rosemary Allen
3. Evelyn Cox
4. Aleen Davis
5. James Mulleady

14 Uniformed Patrolmen who were assigned special duty at Market Hall.

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WITNESS
AFFIDAVITS

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive letter 'A' with a horizontal stroke extending to the right.

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT. Not Under Arrest. Form No. 88

**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF DALLAS, TEXAS**

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this the 22nd day of November A. D. 1963
personally appeared Hugh William Betzner, Jr., Address 5922 Velasco, Dallas
Age 22, Phone No. TA 7-9761

Deposits and says: I was standing on Houston Street near the intersection of Elm Street. I took a picture of President Kennedy's car as it passed along Houston Street. I have an old camera. I looked down real quick and rolled the film to take the next picture. I then ran down to the corner of Elm and Houston Streets, this being the southwest corner. I took another picture just as President Kennedy's car rounded the corner. He was just about all the way around the corner. I was standing back from the corner and had to take the pictures through some of the crowd. I ran on down Elm a little more and President Kennedy's car was starting to go down the hill to the triple underpass. I was running trying to keep the President's car in my view and was winding my film as I ran. I was looking down at my camera to see the number of the film as I ran. I took another picture as the President's car was going down the hill on Elm Street. I started to wind my film again and I heard a loud noise. I thought that this noise was either a firecracker or a car had backfired. I looked up and it seemed like there was another loud noise in the matter of a few seconds. I looked down the street and I could see the President's car and another one and they looked like the cars were stopped. Then I saw a flash of pink like someone standing up and then sitting back down in the car. Then I ran around so I could look over the back of a monument and I either saw the following then or when I was standing back down on the corner of Elm Street. I cannot remember exactly where I was when I saw the following: I heard at least two shots fired and I saw what looked like a firecracker going off in the president's car. My assumption for this was because I saw fragments going up in the air. I also saw a man in either the President's car or the car behind his and someone down in one of those cars pulled out what looked like a rifle. I also remember seeing what looked like a nickel revolver in someone's hand in the President's car or somewhere immediately around his car. Then the President's car sped on under the underpass. Police and a lot of spectators started running up the hill on the opposite side of the street from me to a fence of wood. I assumed that that was where the shot was fired from at that time. I kept watching the crowd. Then I came around the monument over to Main Street. I walked down toward where the President's car had stopped. I saw a Police Officer and some men in plain clothes. I don't know who they were. These Police Officers and the men in plain clothes were digging around in the dirt as if they were looking for a bullet. I walked back around the monument over to Elm Street where they were digging in the dirt. I went on across the street and up the embankment to where the fence is located. By this time almost all of the people had left. There were quite a few people down on the street crowded around a motorcycle. I was looking around the fence as the rumor had spread that that was where the shot had

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the 22nd day of November A. D. 1963

Clarence Davis
Notary Public, Dallas County, Texas

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT. Not Under Arrest. Form No. 88

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF DALLAS, TEXAS

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this the 22nd day of November A. D. 19 63
personally appeared Hugh William Betzner, Jr.; Address 5922 Velasco, Dallas
Age 22, Phone No. TA 7-9761

Deposes and says: come from. I started figuring where I was when I had taken the third picture and it seemed to me that the fence row would have been in the picture. I saw a group of men who looked like they might be officers and one of them turned out to be Deputy Sheriff Boone. I told him about the picture I had taken. Deputy Sheriff Boone contacted superiors and was told to bring me over to the Sheriff's Office. Deputy Sheriff Boone took my camera and asked me to wait. I waited in the Sheriff's Office and some time later, an hour or two, he brought my camera back and told me that as soon as they got through with the film and they were dry that they would give me the film. A little later he came in and gave me the negatives and told me that they were interested in a couple of pictures and implied that the negatives was all I was going to get back. To the best of my knowledge, this is all I know about this incident.

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Hugh William Betzner Jr.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the 22nd day of November A. D. 19 63

Allen Davis
Allen Davis
Notary Public, Dallas County, Texas

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SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF DALLAS, TEXAS

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this the 22 day of November A. D. 1963

personally appeared Jim Braden, Address 621 S. Barington Dr.
Apt. 6 Los Angeles, Calif.
Age 49, Phone No. 4725301 Home Office 215 S. La Cienega Blvd.
Deposits and says Beverly Hills, California

I am here on business (oil business) and was walking down Elm Street trying to get a cab and there wasn't any. I heard people talking saying "My God the President has been shot." Police cars were passing me coming down toward the triple underpass and I walked up among many other people and this building was surrounded by police officers with guns and we were all watching them. I moved on up to the building across the street from the building that was surrounded and I ask one of the girls if there was a telephone that I could use and she said "Yes, there is one on the third floor of the building where I work". I walked through a passage to the elevator they were all getting on (freight elevator) and I got off on the third floor with all the other people and there was a lady using the pay telephone and I ask her if I could use it when she hung up and she said it was out of order and I tried to use it but with no success. I ask her how I can get out of this building and she said that there is an exit right there and then she said wait a minute here is the elevator now. I got on the elevator and returned to the ground floor and the colored man who ran the elevator said you are a stranger in this building and I ~~xx~~ was not suppose to let you up and he ran outside to an officer and said to the officer that he had just taken me up and down in the elevator and the officer said for me to identify myself and I presented him with a credit card and he said well we have to check out everything and took me to his superior and said for me to wait and we will check it out. I was then taken to the Sheriff's office and interrogated.

Jim Braden

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the 22nd day of Nov A. D. 1963
Equilon Corp
Notary Public, Dallas County, Texas

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VOLUNTARY STATEMENT. Not Under Arrest. Form No. 88

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF DALLAS, TEXAS

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this the 22nd day of November A. D. 1963
personally appeared Howard Leslie Brennan, Address 6814 Woodard
Dallas, Texas
Age 44, Phone No. EV 1-2713

Deposits and says: I am presently employed by the Wallace and Beard Construction Company as a Steam fitter and have been so employed for about the past 7 weeks. I am working ~~on the~~ in the Katy Railroad yards at the West end of Pacific Street near the railroad tracks. We had k nocked off for lunch and I had dinner at the cafeteria at Record and Main Street and had come back to see the President of the United States. I was sitting on a ledge or wall near the intersection of Houston Street and Elm Street near the red light pole. I was facing in a northerly direction looking not only at Elm street but I could see the large red brick building across the street ~~from~~ where I was sitting. I take this building across the street to be about 7 stories anyway in the east end of the building and the second row of windows from the top I saw a man in this window. I had seen him before the President's car arrived. He was just sitting up there looking down apparantly waiting for the same thing I was to see the President. I did not notice anything unusual about this man e He was a white man in his early 30's, slender, nice looking, slender and would weigh about 165 to 175 pounds. He had on light colored clothing but definatly not a suit. I proceeded to watch the President's car as it turned left at the corner where I was and about 50 yards from the intersection of Elm and Houston and to a point I would say the President's back was in line with the last window I have previously described I heard what I thought was a back fire. It run in my mind that it might be someone throwing firecrackers out the window of the red brick building and I looked up at the building. I then saw this man I have described in the window and he was taking aim with a high powered rifle. I could see all of the barrel of the gun. I do not know if it had a scope on it or not. I was looking at the man in this window at the time of the last explosion. Then this man let the gun down to his side and stepped down out of sight. He did not seem to be in any hurry. I could see this man from about his belt up. There was nothing unusual about him at all in appearance. I believe that I could identify this man if I ever saw him again.

H. L. Brennan

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the 22nd day of November A. D. 19 63

Ch. Jones
Notary Public, Dallas County, Texas



**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF DALLAS, TEXAS**

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this the 22nd day of November A. D. 19 63

personally appeared John Arthur Chism, Address 4502 Underwood Drive
Lisbon, Oak Cliff.

Age 23, Phone No. _____

Deposits and says:-

I am married and have three children. I was standing with my wife and three year old boy, we were directly in front of the Stemmons Freeway sign, as the motorcade rounded the corner from Houston onto Elm.

When I saw the motorcade round the corner, the President was standing and waving to the crowd. And just as he got just about in front of me, he turned and waved at the crowd on this side of the street, the right side; at this point I heard what sounded like one shot, and I saw him, "The President," sit back in his seat and lean his head to his left side. At this point, I saw Mrs. Kennedy stand up and pull his head over in her lap, and then lay down over him as if to shield him.

And the two men in the front seat, I don't know who they were, looked back, and just about the time they looked back, the second shot was fired.

At this point, I looked behind me, to see whether it was a fireworks display or something. And then I saw a lot of people running for cover, behind the embankment there back up on the grass.

And at this point, I turned back around and saw the motorcade beginning to speed up, and everybody was laying down but the driver, of course. I didn't notice where it went.

My wife and I began seeking cover, and we went to our car, and then we told the policeman about what we knew.

John Arthur Chism

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the 22nd day of November A. D. 19 63

James J. Muleady
Notary Public, Dallas County, Texas

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