

PRISONER LINKED TO CASTRO GROUP

NY-11-23
He Is Subdued in Theater
—Ex-Marine Defected to
Soviet and Returned

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fessed," Chief Curry said. "Physical evidence is the main thing we have."

He murmured seeming assent to a suggestion that such evidence included the assassination gun.

Fingerprint experts had been conspicuous in the procession of officers into and out of the homicide bureau during the afternoon and evening. They included agents of the Secret Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, who collaborated with city, county and state law enforcement officers in investigating the crime.

Three and a half hours before Chief Curry's announcement, Oswald had been arraigned on a charge of murder in the death of the policeman, J. D. Tippitt.

Dallas County District Attorney Henry Wade said there were "a few loose ends" in the case to be wrapped up, and he expected that the case would not go to the grand jury before next week.

Oswald faces a death sentence if convicted.

Appears in Line-Up

After the arraignment, the suspect, a slight, dark-haired man, was taken downstairs to appear in a line-up, presumably before witnesses of the Kennedy assassination.

The sequence of events leading to his arrest was as follows:

As a citywide manhunt began during the hour following the assassination, an unidentified man notified police headquarters, over a police-car radio, that the car's officer had been shot and killed. The car was in the 400 block of East Jefferson Boulevard in the Oak Cliff section, on the edge of the downtown area.

The car's driver, Patrolman Tippitt, had not made any call that he was going to question anyone.

Eight other officers converged on the spot. They found Patrolman Tippitt lying on the sidewalk, dead from two .38-caliber bullet wounds.

They began a search of nearby buildings for the killer.

Then another call came to police headquarters from Julie Postal, cashier of the Texas Theatre at 231 West Jefferson Boulevard, six blocks from the scene of the policeman's slaying. She said an usher had told her that a man who had just entered the theater was acting peculiarly.

The investigating police officers were dispatched to the theater. They began checking patrons, starting at the front of the house.

One of the officers, Sgt. Jerry Hill, said that when they came to Oswald, sitting in the rear four seats in from the aisle, the suspect jumped up and exclaimed: "This is it!"

The Dallas Police Department appeared to be the nerve center of the overall investigation of the President's death, although the various lines this might be

taking were not defined.

State Has Jurisdiction

The Justice of the Peace before whom Oswald was arraigned, David Johnston, said the assassination was a matter of state jurisdiction so far.

Little was known here about Oswald, except reports published locally in 1959 when he went to the Soviet Union after his discharge from the Marine Corps.

He was said to have tried to renounce his United States citizenship by turning in his passport to the United States Embassy in Moscow. The Embassy, it was reported then, advised him to hold on to it until he had some assurance of Soviet citizenship. He was reported to have worked in factories in the Soviet and to have married a Russian girl.

At the time of his quasi-defection, his mother and his brother, a milkman in nearby Fort Worth, sent messages vainly trying to dissuade him.

Shortly after he was escorted from his arraignment last night, a tall, slender woman with a little girl about 2 years old and a baby in her arms left the homicide bureau. An officer said they were the suspect's wife and daughter.

A housekeeper at Oswald's rooming house said the young man entered his room shortly after the shooting of the President, got a coat, and went back out.

The housekeeper, Mrs. Earlene Roberts, said:

"He came in in a hurry in his shirt sleeves and I said, 'Oh, you're in a hurry,' and he didn't say anything. He went on in his room and got a coat and put it on. He went out to the bus stop and that's the last I saw of him."

Mrs. Roberts said Oswald rushed into the rooming house, at 1026 North Beckley Road in suburban Oak Cliff. This was shortly after Mrs. Roberts had learned, in a telephone call from a friend, that the President had been shot. She said she had not connected Oswald's appearance with the shooting.

She described Oswald, who had lived in the house since the end of October, as quiet.

Justice of the Peace Johnston said he was one of four from outlying communities, assembled for the Kennedy visit, who

had been recruited to assist law enforcement officers with the inquiry.

Judge Johnston said Judge Theron Ward had been assigned to the President's death and Judge Joe B. Brown Jr. to the death of the policeman. Judge Johnston and Judge Lloyd Russell were assisting in such matters as the issuance of search warrants and handling the arraignment.

The arraignment involved no plea. Oswald was held without bail for grand jury action and was advised of his rights to counsel.

Captain Fritz emerged from the homicide bureau after the arraignment and said: "We've charged this man with the killing of the officer."

Asked whether Oswald had been linked with the assassination, the officer replied: "He doesn't admit it—we have some more work to do on that case."

The revolver carried by Oswald in the theater was not suspected of having figured in President Kennedy's death.

Police ballistics experts were still studying, with apparently no conclusive findings, the rifle found in the book warehouse.

Captain Fritz said it was of obscure foreign origin, possibly Italian, of about 1940 vintage, and of an unusual, undetermined caliber. He displayed a bullet he said fitted the gun. It was about .30 caliber and about two and one-half inches long, with a narrow tapered nose.

Sergeant Hill said Oswald had a .38-caliber revolver under his shirt, and that in a scuffle that ensued it was fired once, harmlessly. The time was 2:15 P.M. yesterday.

Oswald was subdued, handcuffed, rushed to downtown police headquarters and put in a fifth-floor cell.

At 6:35 P.M. he was taken down to the third-floor homicide bureau. He wore black slacks, black loafer shoes, a white undershirt and an olive plaid sport shirt, unbuttoned. His left eye was slightly blackened, and there was a contusion on his right cheekbone.