

Oswald's Room Yields Map of Bullets' Path

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Officers who searched Lee Harvey Oswald's room found a map on which a line marked the path of the bullets which killed President Kennedy and wounded Gov. John Connally.

This was learned by The Dallas News Sunday night from a reliable source who has seen the map.

He told The Dallas News:

"This was a map of the City of Dallas. Oswald had placed marks at major intersections along the motorcade route—three or four as I recall. There also was a line from the Texas School Book Depository Building to Elm Street. This was the trajectory of the bullets which struck the President and Gov. Connally."

This map was apparently the "major evidence" which Police Chief Jesse Curry reported officers had uncovered. Chief Curry refused to reveal the evidence, but said it definitely linked Oswald to the assassination of President Kennedy.

Officers theorized that Oswald, who was himself shot to death Sunday, marked the other intersections while considering spots from which a sniper could get a good shot at the Kennedy motorcade. He knew it would move even slower than usual at these intersections.

Had Oswald faced a jury, Dist. Atty. Henry Wade would have used the map as "Exhibit A" in his legal fight to send the murder suspect to the electric chair.

Wade would have bolstered testimony of officers by calling Mrs. Earline Roberts to the stand. The 58-year-old housekeeper, who cleaned Oswald's room, saw the map in the room.

But Jack Rubenstein slipped into the City Hall basement Sunday and shot Oswald to death as officers transferred him to the county jail.

Rubenstein's bullet sealed Oswald's lips, ending with sudden

finality any chance of a confession.

His death wiped out plans to bring him to trial, but it did not end speculation.

Did Dallas police have the real killer?

Yes, said Police Chief Jesse Curry, Homicide Capt. Will Fritz and Wade.

"This is the man who killed the President," Fritz said.

But there were those who pointed out Oswald had denied he was guilty.

After Oswald died, Fritz told reporters, "The case is closed."

The veteran homicide officer referred to the assassination of President Kennedy and the wounding of Gov. Connally.

Fritz was convinced Oswald alone was involved.

A spokesman for the FBI emphasized, however, that it did not consider the matter closed.

"We will not consider it closed until we have obtained all the evidence we can," the spokesman said.

In a hastily called press conference, Wade bared evidence Sunday evening he said would have convicted Oswald.

But he did not mention the map.

Wade praised the Dallas police department and said the evidence was being bared because "the media all over the world" were asking about it.

Wade said the state has six witnesses who saw Oswald on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository Building—the spot from which the shots were fired. He remained when other employees left for lunch.

Oswald's palm print was on one of the boxes found there; three shells and a gun were found at the scene—and ballistics tests proved the gun was the death weapon. Oswald's palm print was found on the rifle.

The gun was purchased from a Chicago mail order house under the name of "Hiddel." Oswald's handwriting matches that found on the order. In Oswald's

wallet was the same name and post office box number used to order the gun. Pictures of Oswald holding the gun were found in his wife's home in Irving.

Oswald was seen carrying a package wrapped in brown paper into the depository Friday morning. He said it was a curtain rod. But officers are convinced it was a rifle which had been broken into two parts. Brown paper was found later in the building. (If broken into two parts, the weapon could have been quickly reassembled.)

Police saw Oswald in a corner inside the building immediately after the assassination, started to arrest him, but were told by the manager he was "all right."

Other witnesses place him on a bus on Lamar Street. He told the driver the President had been shot. When he sat a lady asked Oswald about it and Oswald laughed loudly and told her the President had been shot. He got off the bus in Oak Cliff.

Another witness saw him come into his rooming house hurriedly, and saw him leave after changing clothes.

Three witnesses saw Patrolman J. D. Tippit stop to question Oswald, who shot and killed Tippit. Oswald also was seen crossing a vacant lot while ejecting shells from the revolver and reloading. He was seen entering the Texas Theater where officers found him and subdued him.

Before he was subdued, he held a revolver against the head of Officer M. N. McDonald and pulled the trigger. But the bullet did not fire.

Wade said Oswald's palm print was found on the rifle that was the death weapon. Paraffin tests showed Oswald had recently fired a gun; nitrate residue was found on both his hands and that this happens when a rifle is fired.

Wade said the "case is closed" but said investigation will continue to seek accomplices. And he will seek the death penalty for Oswald's slayer, Rubenstein, even if Rubenstein enters a guilty plea.