

Johnson Orders F.B.I. to Look Into All the Aspects

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ing ways to bring out for the public the evidence pointing to Oswald.

The feeling was that it would be tragic and divisive if there were any doubts in the country and the world about the events. Today's shooting of Oswald, on top of past events, might create such doubt, it was believed.

At the Justice Department, officials said there was "strong evidence" of Oswald's guilt. Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation actively assisted the Dallas police in their investigation of the crime.

Despite a Dallas police statement this afternoon that the case was closed, the F.B.I. continued its inquiries. An official made clear that the decision to go on rested not on any doubts but on the importance, in this of all cases, of leaving no remote possibilities untouched.

"The case will not be closed until all the facts are in and every lead followed up," a Justice Department official said.

The F.B.I. is also helping in the inquiry into Oswald's murder. Asked whether any bureau agents were in the corridor when Oswald was shot, an F.B.I. spokesman declined comment.

Disturbing Elements

Even before today's sudden denouement, there were elements in the Oswald case disturbing to persons concerned about civil liberties. Among the elements were the lengthy questioning of him without access to a lawyer and the police statements to the press declaring him, in effect, guilty.

The feeling in Washington generally was that, for the sake of the American conscience and the world's opinion, it was vital that Oswald be treated and tried fairly. Today's event was thus the more disturbing.

The Justice Department showed its concern by sending

the head of its criminal division, Assistant Attorney General Herbert J. Miller Jr., to Dallas this afternoon. The decision was made by the Deputy Attorney General, Nicholas deB. Katzenbach.

Will Discuss Case

Mr. Miller will talk with F.B.I. men working on the case and with the United States Attorney in Dallas, Barefoot Sanders. He is also expected to confer with state and local prosecutors and police officials.

What is generally not understood abroad—and perhaps not altogether appreciated in this country—is that the Justice Department has no control over local police or prosecutors. It can advise and confer, but that is all.

The department, through Mr. Sanders, was in close touch with the Dallas officials for the last two days. The visit by Mr. Miller is designed to re-emphasize the Federal interest and willingness to cooperate.

In the confusion now covering the assassination, the important thing from the Federal Government's point of view is to assure the impartiality and persuasiveness of any evidence linking Oswald to the crime.

Various methods might be used to assure impartiality. One would be to have evidence examined by an outside group having no connection with the investigation.

Evidence Offered

By FRED POWLEDGE

Special to The New York Times

DALLAS, Nov. 24 — The police offered today a mass of evidence they contend proves beyond reasonable doubt that Lee H. Oswald assassinated President Kennedy.

The evidence, made available by the local police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Secret Service, included finger and palm prints showing that

Oswald was near the window when the assassin's bullets were fired; ballistic evidence that Oswald's rifle had fired the bullets, and a letter Oswald wrote ordering the weapon from a mail-order store.

Local authorities said they had an airtight case against the pung malcontent, who was shot to death this afternoon, by a Dallas cabaret operator, 48 hours after the President's death.

Federal authorities were more cautious in their statement about the case. But everyone concerned privately expressed the belief that Oswald, now beyond the reach of justice, was the murderer of the President.

Capt. Will Fritz, homicide specialist for the Dallas Police Department, said after Oswald's death today that, in his estimation, "the case is closed."

Chief of Police Jesse Curry said he felt certain now that Oswald was the President's murderer.

Hery Wade, Dallas County District Attorney, who was to have prosecuted Oswald, said "I think we have sufficient evidence to prove Oswald was the man who killed the President."

Tonight the District Attorney added that he felt that it was "beyond reasonable doubt and as a moral certainty" that Oswald was the assassin. He said he had "no concrete evidence or suspicions" that other persons were involved in the killing.

Oswald also was charged with the murder of Patrolman J. D. Tippitt shortly after the President's assassination Friday. Mr. Wade had announced that he would ask a jury to send Oswald to the electric chair.

"I have no doubts in this case," he said.

Capt. O. A. Jones, of the police department's criminal investigation division, said today that "as new evidence turned up, the case would be closed."

"In our opinion we had a conclusive case against Oswald," he said.

The police had formally charged Oswald with murder in the deaths of the President and the patrolman and with assault with intent to murder Texas Gov. John B. Connally Jr. The Governor was wounded during the shooting.

Oswald maintained his innocence during two days of police questioning. Captain Fritz said after his death that the young man "said absolutely nothing before or after he was shot."

A Dallas homicide detective, J. R. Leavell, explained that authorities would continue to compile evidence in the Oswald case. When the evidence is collated, he said, a decision almost certainly will be made to close the case.

The decision will be made by Chief Curry and a municipal justice court. Detective Leavell said he thought the procedure would take about two days.

Bullet Pieces Found

Already the authorities have collected evidence of all sorts. Gordon Shanklin, F.B.I. agent in charge at Dallas, said today that the rifle that killed the President had been traced to Oswald. Numerous witnesses have declared that Oswald was inside the Texas School Book Depository building when the shooting took place. The President and Governor Connally were shot as their limousine passed in front of the building.

Other witnesses have said that they saw a rifle being withdrawn from a window of the building.

The F.B.I. agent noted these other pieces of evidence, which have been assembled by the Dallas police, the F.B.I. and the Secret Service:

• A bullet that Secret Service men removed from a stretcher

of Murder of Oswald

at Parkland Hospital after the shooting, and two bullet fragments removed from the Presidential automobile matched bullets fired by the rifle agents found inside the warehouse. The bullets were fired by a 6.5mm. Italian made Mannlicher-Carcano rifle, the agent said.

Handwriting Tested

¶The rifle was traced to Oswald. The F.B.I. agent said the young man ordered a 6.5 mm. rifle with telescopic sight from a Chicago store last spring. The rifle was sent to an "A. Hidell," at Oswald's post office box here. It arrived by parcel post on March 20.

¶Samples of Oswald's handwriting were sent yesterday to the F.B.I. laboratory in Washington, where they were found to match the handwriting in the letter ordering the rifle.

¶F.B.I. identification experts developed a latent fingerprint and a palm print from a brown paper bag found near the window of the school book warehouse. The bag was apparently part of a chicken lunch the assassin ate in the building. The finger print matched Oswald's left index finger. "The palm print was identical with the right palm print of Oswald," said Mr. Shanklin.

Wife Gives Statement

¶Dallas policemen obtained a statement from Oswald's Russian-born wife, Marina, that he had had a rifle in the garage of her living quarters on the night before the assassination. The young woman also said the rifle was not there on the next day. Authorities said the wife's testimony would not have been admissible in Texas courts, however.

¶A search of Mrs. Oswald's living quarters produced no photographs showing her

holding a rifle and a pistol.

¶A paraffin test, used to determine whether a person has fired a weapon recently, was administered to Oswald shortly after he was apprehended Friday, one hour after the assassination. It showed that particles of gunpowder from a weapon, probably a rifle, remained on Oswald's cheek and hands.

¶One of Oswald's fellow workers at the school book warehouse said the young man carried a long package to work with him on Friday morning. Police have said that Oswald told the worker the package contained window shades.

Quoted by Witnesses

¶Oswald's behavior, when he was arrested in a Dallas motion picture theater, betrayed his knowledge that he was being sought by the police. Witnesses quoted him as saying, "This is it! when the police apprehended him. He drew a revolver and attempted to fire it at a patrolman, but it failed to discharge.

In a television interview tonight, Mr. Wade said that "cards" were found on Oswald "identifying him with the assumed person" who ordered the rifle from the Chicago firm. He did not elaborate.

The District Attorney also said that Oswald, in fleeing the scene of the assassination, rode a city bus for a short time. He "told the driver that the President had been shot, and laughed" said Mr. Wade.

Mr. Shanklin also said today that his agency had not interviewed Oswald before the President's visit. Earlier, Chief Curry had said "somebody" whom he could not identify told him the F.B.I. had talked with the young man, who was admittedly pro-Communist. Later the police chief said he had no personal knowledge of any such interview.