

That description of Oswald

On the description of Oswald that was sent out, Lane had this comment:

THE COMMISSION REPORT which, we were informed, was to answer all of the unanswered questions, does not even contemplate the more difficult ones.

On what basis was Oswald's description dispatched by the Dallas police? When Oswald was arrested, it was stated that he was wanted solely in connection with the murder of Officer Tippit. That was later confirmed by Dallas authorities.

The Commission concedes that Oswald's description was sent out at 12:45 p.m. and that Tippit was not shot until 1:15 or 1:16 p.m. Was Oswald wanted for the murder of Tippit while Tippit was still alive?

The Commission concedes that it is unable to determine how Oswald's description was sent out by the police.

All they need do, one suspects, is to ask the police officer who dispatched it about its origin. Instead, they conclude that the description dispatched at 12:45 p.m. described Oswald as "white, slender, weighing about 165 pounds, about 5 feet 10 inches tall, and in his early thirties" (Page 144). "Probably," says the Commission, the description came from Howard L. Brennan. Brennan claims that he was more than 100 feet from the Depository and that he saw the upper portion of Oswald's body while Oswald stood at a sixth floor window.

How could Brennan judge a man's height when he saw only a portion of his body? The sworn statement made by Brennan to the police on Nov. 22, 1963, according to the Commission, made no reference to Oswald's height (page 144) and gave a different weight. It seems then that the Commission's guess that the police description "probably" came from Brennan is inaccurate.