



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1178

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File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

November 23, 1963

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY  
DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER 22, 1963

President John F. Kennedy was shot and killed by an unknown assailant at approximately 12:30 p. m., November 22, 1963, in Dallas, Texas. Investigation was immediately instituted in an effort to identify and apprehend the person responsible for this assassination.

At approximately 2:00 p. m., information was received that a suspicious person had entered the Texas Theater which is located about six tenths of a mile from the four hundred block of East 10th Street in Dallas where J. D. Tippitt, a Dallas Police Department patrolman had been shot and killed about 1:13 p. m. Officers of the Dallas Police Department and FBI Agents converged on the theater and took into custody Lee Harvey Oswald who resisted arrest and attempted to fire a .38 caliber revolver which was taken from his person. ?

State complaints were filed on November 22, 1963, charging Oswald with the murder of President Kennedy and Patrolman Tippitt.

Investigation has established that Oswald was employed at the Texas School Book Depository which has been identified as the building from which the fatal shots were fired at the President. A fellow employee stated he took Oswald to work on the morning of November 22, 1963, at which time Oswald was carrying a package of sufficient length to contain a disassembled rifle and which Oswald said consisted of curtain rods. Oswald was observed on the fifth floor of the building in which he was employed at approximately 11:50 a. m., November 22, 1963. Oswald was again observed inside the building shortly after the shooting but could not be found thereafter. Another fellow employee stated shots were fired "right over his head" while this employee was watching the car occupied by President Kennedy passing in front of the building. A witness to the shooting stated that the shots were fired by

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a white man from a window on the sixth floor of the building in which Oswald was employed. This witness later selected Oswald in a line-up as the person who resembled the individual he observed fire the rifle from the window. The witness could not make a positive identification. Mrs. Earlene Roberts, 1026 North Beckley Street in Dallas, stated Oswald, using the name of O. H. Lee, had lived at her residence since October 14, 1963, and at about 1:00 p. m., November 22, 1963, came to her residence, picked up a jacket and left hurriedly.

A 6.5 caliber Italian carbine rifle with a four-power scope was found on the sixth floor of the building in which Oswald was employed and from which the shots at the President were fired. Investigation by our Chicago Office has revealed that a weapon of this description and identical serial number was sold to one A. Hidell, Post Office Box 2915, Dallas, Texas, on March 23, 1963, for \$21.45. This Post Office Box at that time was rented by Mrs. Lee H. Oswald, believed to be the mother of suspect. Oswald, at the time of his arrest, had in his possession a Selective Service card in the name of Alex Hidell. The recovered rifle as well as the .38 caliber revolver taken from Oswald, were immediately brought to the FBI Laboratory for examination.

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It was determined that a bullet found on one of the stretchers at the hospital following the admittance of President Kennedy had been fired from the rifle referred to above. Examination also identified two bullet fragments found in the Presidential car as having been fired from this same weapon. Other examinations in the FBI Laboratory are continuing.

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A brown paper bag possibly used to carry the rifle was found near the window on the sixth floor of the building from which the shots were fired. A latent fingerprint developed on this bag by the FBI Identification Division was identified with the left index finger impression of Lee Harvey Oswald.

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