

CD 897

Date 4/2/64

JOHN MARTIN, JR., Superintendent of Safety, Room 517, United States Post Office Terminal Annex, 207 South Houston Street, telephone number DL 9-3181, advised he resides at 9846 Shoreview Road, Dallas, Texas, and has telephone number DL 8-3546. MARTIN said he was born September 21, 1905 at Two Harbors, Minnesota.

MARTIN advised that on November 22, 1963, he knew the route of the Presidential Motorcade and had brought his 8 mm. DeLur Movie camera with him for the purpose of taking pictures of the Presidential Motorcade.

At approximately 12:10 PM on November 22, 1963, MARTIN said he left his office at the U. S. Post Office Terminal Annex and took up a position on the west side of Houston Street, a few feet north of Main Street. At approximately 12:30 PM, MARTIN said the car bearing President JOHN F. KENNEDY came into his view and he took pictures of the President as his car turned north on Houston Street from Main Street. After getting movie shots from this position, MARTIN said he ran north on Houston Street and stopped at the north end of the reflection pool which lies west of and is adjacent to Houston Street. He said this is about 135' south of the Texas School Book Depository Building. MARTIN said he took some movie shots of the President as he passed by on Elm Street. A few seconds after the President had passed and was departing from his view, he heard a loud report and first thought that it was a firecracker and a few seconds later heard two more reports and then knew it was rifle fire and that someone was apparently shooting at President Kennedy. MARTIN stated that the shots sounded to him like they came from the Texas School Book Depository Building and said he looked toward where he thought the shots came from, namely the Texas School Book Depository Building, but did not see anyone that aroused his suspicion.

Following the shooting, MARTIN stated the whole area was in a state of chaos with many people running in the direction of the President's car. He said he also ran in the direction of the President's car thinking that perhaps the person who fired the shots had left the building and was being pursued by the police. MARTIN advised when he realized this was not so, he stopped and talked to a man who

on 3/31/64 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 100-10461
 by Special Agent JUGENE F. BIERBAUMS & A. RAYMOND Date dictated 4/1/64
SUBZIR/c-s

DL 100-10461

he ~~presumes~~ was a Secret Service agent and told him the shots had come from the Texas School Book Depository Building. MARTIN said he then ran back toward the Texas School Book Depository Building and when he came to the front of the building, he told a United Press International Photographer and a police officer that the shots had come from the Texas School Book Depository Building and that the building should be surrounded. MARTIN stated he remained by the Texas School Book Depository Building for about ten minutes and returned to the U. S. Post Office Terminal Annex and telephoned his wife.

MARTIN advised that he returned to the area of the Texas School Book Depository Building at about 12:50 PM and took more movies of the scene. He stated it was at about this time that he was standing about 50' north of Commerce Street on the west side of Houston when he saw a cab believed to be a black and white Checker Cab, traveling south on Houston Street. He stated he did not know where the cab came from but the cab was carrying one male passenger. MARTIN described the individual as being a white male in his early 20s, bareheaded, and wearing a dark shirt which appeared to have vertical broken pin stripes. He stated he thought it was unusual for a man dressed this way, to be in a cab in that area at that time, and the thought raced through his mind that "wouldn't it be funny if he were the assassin". MARTIN stated this man looked straight at him and he believes from pictures that he saw subsequently in the newspapers and on television, that this male was LEE HARVEY OSWALD. MARTIN advised that he had never met LEE HARVEY OSWALD and based his possible identification of OSWALD by reference to the above mentioned pictures.

MARTIN advised that he left the area of the Texas School Book Depository Building about 3:20 PM and drove home making one stop en route, arriving there at about 4:40 PM on November 22, 1963.

MARTIN advised that when he got home his son informed him that Life Magazine had been telephoning for him, and left a telephone number and instructions on how they could be reached. He stated he contacted a representative of Life Magazine and his attorney, and agreed to let Life Magazine

1

DL 100-10461

have his film he had taken of the Presidential Motorcade because he felt this film could be a matter of national interest. HARTIN told Life Magazine, to his knowledge, never used the film and returned it to him. HARTIN said he had a duplicate copy of the film made and he had taken 25 feet of film.