

1

Date 11/25/63

Detective J. R. LEAVELLE, 7703 Rilla Avenue, Dallas, Texas, Homicide and Robbery Bureau, Dallas Police Department, advised about 11:15 a.m., November 24, 1963, LEE HARVEY OSWALD was taken from the Homicide and Robbery Bureau, Dallas Police Department, located on the third floor of the City Hall Building, for the purpose of transporting him to the Dallas County Jail. OSWALD was handcuffed and was thereafter handcuffed to the left hand of LEAVELLE. LEAVELLE stated that Detective L. C. GRAVES had hold of the left arm of OSWALD. He stated that Captain J. W. FRITZ, Homicide and Robbery Bureau, and Lieutenant R. E. SWAIN, Burglary and Theft Bureau, proceeded in front of them, and L. D. MONTGOMERY, Homicide and Robbery Bureau brought up the rear. All of the above mentioned individuals proceeded from the third floor by way of the jail elevator to the jail office located in the basement of the City Hall Building. Homicide and Robbery detectives E. R. BECK and C. N. DHORITY had previously departed for the purpose of getting the transportation cars into position.

Detective LEAVELLE and GRAVES after arriving in the jail office hesitated at the door leading from the jail office into the outside corridor until they obtained an all-clear signal from Captain FRITZ who had proceeded into the corridor ahead of them. LEAVELLE stated that thereafter, he and GRAVES, with OSWALD between them as previously described, proceeded from the jail office into the corridor leading out into the underground parking area. It was noted in the corridor that uniform officers were lined up along the wall, and that news media were gathered on the auto ramp to the left and front of LEAVELLE and the escorting officers. The car in which OSWALD was to be transported was on the ramp and was backing up to the position where OSWALD could get in. Captain FRITZ was in the lead and was stopped at the edge of the ramp waiting to get into the front seat of the car. GRAVES and LEAVELLE stopped momentarily for the car to back up. When the bumper of the car got even with the right side of LEAVELLE, JACK RUBY darted from the crowd of news media about six feet away and had gun in hand. RUBY shot OSWALD at a distance of approximately fifteen inches away.

406

CD-5

on 11/24/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 89-43
DL 44-1639
 by Special Agent JAMES W. BOOKHOUT /wvm Date dictated 11/24/63

2
DL 44-1639

LEAVELLE stated that when he saw RUBY dart at OSWALD, he jerked on OSWALD's handcuff at approximately the exact time of the shot and pushed RUBY back with his hand on OSWALD's left shoulder. LEAVELLE stated that GRAVES at the same time grabbed RUBY's hand and took the gun away from him.

407

5/407