

Date 3/7/64

1
JAMES ELBERT ROMACK, 10825 Benbrook Drive, Dallas, Texas, telephone BR 9-2831, furnished the following information:

On March 6, 1964, ROMACK read an article on the front page of the "Dallas Times Herald" for that date regarding JAMES RICHARD WORRELL in which WORRELL is quoted as saying that he observed a man run from the back door of the Texas School Book Depository (TSBD) Building immediately after the assassination of President JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, on November 22, 1963. Mr. ROMACK stated that, since he was observing this back door of the TSBD Building immediately after the assassination and since he did not see anyone come out this back door, he called the Dallas Office of the FBI on the night of March 6, 1964, to make his observations known and to point out that because of his own observation of the back door and because he saw no one leave immediately after the assassination he believes the story actually attributed to WORRELL is not factual. He stated since he actually saw nothing he had never contacted the FBI previously but felt that in view of the statement in the newspaper article that WORRELL would testify before the President's Commission investigating the assassination of President KENNEDY, November 22, 1963, that he should make his observations available to officials.

ROMACK stated he is employed by the Co-ordinated Transportation Company (CTC), a division of the Missouri-Kansas-Texas (MKT) Railroad Company, with offices at 301 N. Record Street, Dallas, Texas. On November 22, 1963, at about lunch time, he was not otherwise occupied and was standing at a point approximately 110 feet north of the northeast corner of the TSBD Building talking to POP RACKLEY of Ennis, Texas, who at that time was also employed by CTC. While they were talking, he heard three distinct rifle shots which, by their sound, were somewhere in his vicinity. He stated he immediately knew these were rifle shots since he has a 30.06 rifle and had recently returned from an elk hunt in Colorado with the recollection of the sound of rifle shots fresh in his memory. He stated he was immediately alerted because of hearing rifle shots in the downtown area of Dallas and within a minute he saw a uniformed police officer run alongside the east wall of the TSBD Building coming from the southeast corner toward the northeast corner. He stated the officer on reaching a point where he could see behind the TSBD Building immediately ran back around in front of or on the southside of the building.

897/26

On 3/7/64 at Dallas, Texas File # 100-10461
by SA BARDWELL D. ODUM:vm:eab Date dictated 3/7/64

Mr. ROMACK stated that from the time he heard the shots he had looked toward the TSBG Building and had under his immediate observation the loading dock and the back door which are on an inset from what would be the northeast corner of the building. He stated he is positive that no one came out of this door or out of the loading dock doors which are immediately adjacent before the policeman ran along the side of the building, and he pointed out that after the policeman went back to the front of the building he, ROMACK, kept the door and dock under particular scrutiny since he realized from the actions of the policeman that someone might come out of the back of the building. At that time, ROMACK was standing, according to his estimate, about 110 feet north of the nearest or northeast corner of the TSBG Building, and was in a direct line straight north of the east wall of the building, so that if the officer had continued running north he would have come directly to ROMACK.

ROMACK stated that neither he nor RACKLEY saw anyone come out of the building. Within three minutes after the shots were fired, SAM PATE appeared in Radio Station KEOX's red station wagon coming from behind ROMACK. ROMACK took down a barricade which was across the street, under construction at that time, and allowed PATE to cross the barricade area and stop his station wagon about 50 or 60 feet from the northeast corner of the TSBG Building. ROMACK stated he walked over to the station wagon and talked to PATE for some twenty-five or thirty minutes, during which time he could see the loading dock and back door of the TSBG Building. He stated neither he nor PATE nor RACKLEY saw anyone come out of this back door. He stated he remained at this point until he heard that Officer J. D. TIPPIE had been shot and estimated that this was thirty or forty-five minutes after the rifle shots.

ROMACK stated he does not believe it is possible that anyone came out of the back door of the TSBG Building within the first few minutes after the rifle shots were fired, particularly anyone running, without him (ROMACK) seeing this person.

ROMACK also stated he has looked at the photograph of JAMES RICHARD MORRELL which appeared on Page 1 of the "Dallas Times Herald", March 6, 1964, and does not recall seeing this individual in the area near the back door of the TSBG Building on November 22, 1963. He pointed out, of course, that after the first five or ten minutes there were numerous persons in the entire area, most of whom were officers, either uniformed or plain clothes, looking for the assassin.