WASHINGTON POST 12/1/63 E4

A Further Outlook

[illegible]s a Schoolboy, Oswald Pinched and Bit . . .

[illegible] Kapital Was His Bible But Moscow Spurned Him and Even Fidel Castro Said No

By Laurence Stern and Alfred E. Lewis
Staff Reporters

[illegible]—A man had just washed [illegible] in a brilliant north Texas [illegible] glistened on the faces [illegible] who had come to greet the [illegible] and the First Lady. It was [illegible] setting for tragedy.

[illegible], as the official motorcade [illegible] toward the spaghetti-like maze [illegible] Dallas underpass they cracked [illegible] from overhead—the three shots [illegible] reverberated around the world [illegible] will echo timelessly in the Na[illegible] memory.

[illegible] his senseless lurch [illegible] history, a [illegible] was dead. An obscure and [illegible] young man, Lee Harvey [illegible] flashed before the world's [illegible] then he too was destroyed [illegible] convulsion of events.

[illegible] ever-tightening chain of evidence [illegible] to have assured Oswald a secure [illegible] infamy in the history books [illegible] future. Yet he died proclaiming [illegible], without the benefit of [illegible]. Then, as Oswald's lips are [illegible] forever, the doubts and sus[illegible] over the tragedy in Dallas may [illegible] the Nation for years to come.

Open Case

[illegible] VISIBLE FACTS of what hap[illegible] on the morning of Nov. 22 [illegible] familiar to the American people [illegible] moment itself has been [illegible] countless television tapes [illegible] and magazine pages.

[illegible] the covert chain of events cul[illegible] in the three rifle shots that [illegible] in downtown Dallas are still [illegible] investigated by platoons of Fed[illegible] and local police. The case is not [illegible].

[illegible] the morning of Nov. 22, Lee [illegible] being driven to work in [illegible] Dallas by a coworker, B. [illegible] had an ungainly [illegible] "Window [illegible]" Oswald explained curtly when [illegible] about the bundle.

[illegible]

tiny $8-a-week room. Apparently impatient at the floundering of the bus in the chocked downtown traffic, Oswald was seen to get off after several blocks. He flagged a cab and told the driver to drop him off at a corner five blocks beyond his rooming house.

"He came dashing in about 1 o'clock," recalled housekeeper Earline Roberts, "ran into his room and grabbed a zipper jacket and ran right out again. I said to him, 'You're in a mighty big hurry, aren't you?' and he never answered me, and he hasn't answered me yet."

Fitted a Lookout

OSWALD HEADED north toward a neighborhood shopping center. Police Pvt. J. D. Tippit, riding alone in a scout car, hailed him over. A lookout had been broadcast for a "white male, 5 feet 10, 150 to 160 pounds and about 30 years of age."

Oswald talked to the officer for several minutes and then Tippit got out of his car and began to walk toward him, around the front of the car. The policeman was stopped by three bullets fired into his chest from a distance no greater than the width of his motor.

Tippit died almost instantly and Oswald darted off through a vacant lot, where three spent revolver cartridges were found.

John C. Brewer, a 22-year-old shoe salesman, noticed the disheveled-looking Oswald as he slipped into a lobby between the two display windows of a Hardy shoe store at the sound of approaching police sirens.

"He stood with his back toward the street. He was breathing hard and his shirttail was out," said Brewer. "His hair was mussed up and he looked scared—as though he was hiding from someone." Brewer had been listening to a radio broadcast of President Kennedy's assassination and decided to keep his eye on the man.

The police car drew up almost to the store lobby, then made a U-turn and disappeared. Oswald walked up the street toward the Texas Theater. On the marquee was the movie title, "War Is Hell."

"He managed to slip in (without paying) without the cashier or the usher [illegible] him," said Brewer. "I talked to the usher, 'Butch' Burroughs and [illegible] I locked all the emergency exits and asked the cashier to call [illegible]. We took our stations at the [illegible] exits."

Above is Lee Harvey Oswald as he looked when he was living in Moscow and was applying for Russian citizenship. Below is the letter he wrote during the same period to the Navy Secretary, John Connally, asking for reversal of his undesirable (he called it "dishonorable") discharge from the Marine Corps. Connally was one of the victims Nov. 22.

Refer to SecNav

Lee H. Oswald
U.S.M.C.R. 1653230
Kalinina St. 4-24
Minsk, U.S.S.R.
January 30, 1961

Secretary of the Navy
John B. Connally Jr.
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Sir,
I wish to call your attention to a case about which you may have personal knowledge since you are a resident of Ft. Worth as I am.
In November 1959 an event was well publicated in the Ft. Worth newspapers concerning a person who had gone to the Soviet Union to reside for a short time (much in the same way E. Hemingway resided in Paris.)
This person in answers to questions put to him by reporteds in Moscow criticized certain facets of american life. The story was blown up into another "turncoat" sensation, with the result that the Navy department gave this person a belated dishonourable discharge, although he had recived an honourable discharge after three years service on Sept. 11, 1959 at El Toro, marine corps base in California.
These are the basic facts of my case.
I have and allways had the full sanction of the U.S. Embassy, Moscow USSR, and hence the U.S. [illegible]

His 'Dishonorable' Discharge Bothered Him Even as an Expatriate in Moscow

marked by an X and even a line showing the trajectory of the shot at the Presidential limousine.

No Doubt

THIS ARRAY of evidence was outlined for the press at a news conference last Sunday by Dallas County District Attorney Henry Wade, a man who prides himself on his conviction record. Wade closed the session with this exchange.

"Q—Would you be willing to say in view of all this evidence, that it is now beyond a reasonable doubt at all that Oswald was the killer of President Kennedy?"

"A—I would say that without any doubt he is the killer—the law says beyond a reasonable doubt, to a moral certainty, which I have—there is no question that he was the killer of President Kennedy."

"Q—That case is closed in your mind?"

"A—As far as Oswald's concerned."

Justice Department officials, the FBI and the Secret Service are convinced that Oswald pulled the trigger that fired the bullet that killed the President. But there are still many unresolved questions. And rumor feeds upon rumor in the superheated atmosphere of Dallas, a town that is receptive to conspiratorial theories.

Was the assassination planned with anyone else? Did it have the sanction of an organization, a political party, a foreign power? After all, the speculation goes, Oswald was a Marxist with a demonstrated interest in both the Soviet Union and Fidel Castro. These thoughts are racing wildly through the community and will have to be stilled, if they can be, by responsible authorities.

Many Intangibles

DID OSWALD know Jack Ruby, the man who murdered him in the sight of a national television audience last Sunday? Slow motion replays of the shooting suggest that Oswald saw Ruby as he advanced through the crowd of newsmen and recognized him. Also, one of Ruby's burlesque house performers claimed to have spotted Oswald in the place a week prior to the assassination. Later he hedged on his story and said he wasn't sure it was Oswald.

At this time, Federal investigators and Dallas Police say there is no evidence that the two men knew each other.

Many suspicions have been expressed, especially in foreign newspapers, that [illegible]

seconds to get off the three precisely placed shots.

Since the weapon was clip-loaded (the clip was recovered by police) it was possible to fire in rapid sequence without reloading. The sniper had only to crank the rifle's bolt. Oddly, Oswald's Marine Corps marksmanship record was only average. There is no evidence that he practiced shooting. Early last month, however, Oswald had a Dallas gunsmith mount telescopic sights on his Italian carbine.

FBI Denial

HOW DID OSWALD finance a trip to Mexico City in late September? Who provided the car that drove him there? These questions are being intensively investigated by the FBI. The answers are not yet apparent. When Oswald was arrested on Friday after the assassination he had only $13 with him. His job paid him only $1.25 an hour.

A report that Oswald received telegraphed money in $10 to $20 denominations has been denied by Western Union officials. The story of the wired money was published in a Dallas newspaper yesterday. FBI spokesmen issued their standard "no comment" on the development. (See story on Page A3)

Dallas police and private sources declare that the FBI had been keeping tabs on Oswald's movements in Dallas and had, in fact, interrogated him on Nov. 16 in the suburban Dallas community of Irving, where his wife was living.

FBI sources have denied that they had spoken to Oswald in Dallas and said they did not have him under active surveillance at the time. However, these reporters overheard an FBI agent caution one acquaintance of Oswald's not to discuss FBI contacts with the assassination suspect. Agents did keep close tabs on Oswald in New Orleans after he was arrested and convicted of disorderly conduct for handing out pro-Castro material.

Even with advance knowledge of Oswald's presence in Dallas, those who know him insist, nothing in his behavior suggested that he was capable of murder. The New Orleans arrest was his only police record. Still the question persists—shouldn't the FBI have notified Dallas police or the Secret Service of Oswald's presence in the textbook building along the motorcade route?

Was Oswald out to gun Connally or just the President? In 1961 Oswald sought the assistance of Connally, as Secretary of the Navy, to reverse a dishonorable discharge that he received from the Marine Corps after it was learned that he had sworn allegiance

...of hand ... political banter. ... Kennedys, Vice ... Sen. ... Gov. and ... returned to the ... Air Force One.

... the presidential party ... ready at Dallas's Love ... pictures in Dallas were ... by 70° and throngs had ... the way from the airport ... motorcade route ... Dallas's ... noon, on the sixth ... Texas School Book Depository building, Charlie Givens, a ... porter, saw Oswald and asked if he wanted to go to lunch. "Not now," Oswald replied. "Just send the elevator back up."

Although the sixth floor of the textbook storage building is a dead storage area, the presence of Oswald, a stock clerk, in the deserted area did not appear to arouse Givens' suspicions.

At 12:20 p.m., the President's motorcade was making a sharp S-turn from Main st. and swinging into a ramp that passed under a railroad overpass. The limousine, its protective bubble top packed away, had just passed the windows of the textbook building.

The wife of Gov. John Connally turned to the President and gaily observed, "Mr. President, you can't say Dallas wasn't friendly to you."

Then came the three shots, the horror and bedlam that were re-enacted time and time again on the television screens of the world.

A Backfire Noise

AT THE MOMENT the shots were fired, Roy S. Truly, director and superintendent of the Texas School Book Depository, was on his way to lunch with another company executive and they decided to look on as the President drove by.

"I heard what I thought was a backfire noise," Truly said. "Then I heard someone yell, 'Someone up there has a gun!'"

"That's my building!" Truly shouted back. "I work in there."

He was quickly joined by a policeman, and they ran up the steps to gether, the officer with gun drawn. The two men scrambled up the stairs to the second floor. As they made their way to a back stairway, the policeman saw Oswald standing beside a soft drink machine, sipping from a Coke bottle.

The officer ran toward Oswald and held the revolver at close range. "He's all right, He's one of my employes," shouted Truly. The two men then continued on their way. Later, the employe described Oswald's demeanor as "cool as a cucumber ... seemed a little bothered ...

... met a girl clerk who ... 'Oh my land! the President ...

... jumped on a bus headed for ... area of Dallas, where he ... himself during the week in a ...

Ten police cars drew up almost to the door. Jarry, who made a U-turn and ran around, saw Oswald walked up the street toward the Texas Theater. On the marquee was the movie title, "War Is Hell."

"He managed to slip in (without paying) without the cashier or the usher noticing him," said Brewer. "I talked to the usher, 'Butch' Burroughs and he and I locked all the emergency exits and asked the cashier to call police. We took our stations at the emergency exits."

When the police arrived, the war film was stopped and the lights were flashed on. From the stage, Brewer singled out Oswald in the sparse audience. The suspect started out of his seat and moved toward the advancing policemen, then retreated to his chair.

Pvt. N. M. McDonald, who has more than eight years on the Dallas force, came up behind Oswald. "I ordered him to stand up," said McDonald. "He answered, 'Well, I guess it's all over now.' He raised his hands—and suddenly he made a fist and slugged me in the nose. Blood gushed over everything."

Slowed the Trigger

OSWALD HAD DRAWN his revolver, and as the two men grappled over the weapon, they fell into adjoining seats.

"I got my hand on the butt of his gun," said McDonald. "I could feel Oswald's hand on the trigger. I jerked my hand and was able to slow down the trigger movement. He didn't have enough force to fire it."

Oswald smashed the pistol against McDonald's face, leaving a 4-inch gash. But by this time other policemen had reached the struggling pair and pounced on Oswald.

Oswald was pummeled by the arresting officers until his face was puffed and battered. "Kill the President, will you?" one officer shouted in a shocked voice. As they led the suspect out of the theater, someone shouted, "Kill the sonuvabitch."

"I'm not resisting arrest," Oswald shouted repeatedly. "This is police brutality!"

At 7:15 that night, long after President Kennedy's body had been returned to Washington, Lee Oswald was formally charged with the murder of Patrolman Tippit. At 11:36 p.m., Oswald was charged with the murder of John F. Kennedy. When he confronted newsmen in the Dallas police station, Oswald professed to know nothing about either slaying.

Oswald did acknowledge to Dallas police that he bought the pistol, believed to be a Colt revolver, two months before.

After his arrest, Oswald stuck to his declarations of innocence despite grueling hours of questioning. There was a defiant set to his face, an arrogant curl on his lips.

Token Security

FRIDAY NIGHT, after Oswald was charged with the murder of Tippit, he was taken into a lineup basement room of the police station. Some 125 newsmen were jammed into the place