

Date 3/13/64

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Mr. JOHN H. BRINEGAR, owner, The Gun Shop, 11448 Harry Hines Blvd., telephone CH 7-2600, advised he has been a gunsmith for the past 30 years. He stated at the end of World War II, "GI's" began bringing Italian Carcano 6.5 rifles back to the United States. He advised that subsequently New York gun dealers began importing this rifle from Italy by "boat loads" and, as a consequence, this rifle has had wide distribution. Mr. BRINEGAR stated this rifle was a very cheap rifle and could have been purchased for \$3.00 each in lots of 25. Mr. BRINEGAR advised that likewise 6.5 ammunition manufactured by the Western Cartridge Company also had wide distribution throughout the United States and could be purchased through any number of wholesale dealers.

Mr. BRINEGAR advised that in his personal opinion the scope on the rifle used by LEE HARVEY OSWALD would have been mounted by the factory. He explained that in mounting the scope the bolt would have to be altered. This expense plus the expense of drilling the necessary holes for the scope mounting would amount to not less than \$15.00 and it would be impractical to spend this amount on a "\$3.00 gun."

Mr. BRINEGAR advised that people test firing rifles as a rule would either do so at a gun club or would use the Trinity river bottom. He explained that the levee on either side of the river, about 35 feet high, provides a suitable abutment.

The photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD was exhibited to Mr. BRINEGAR and he stated he was not able to identify this individual as being a person to whom he had previously sold 6.5 ammunition.

877/114  
on 3/12/64 at Dallas, Texas 114 File # DL 100-10461  
by Special Agent ALFRED D. HEELEY:vm Date dictated 3/13/64