

Portions of interviews with former and active Dallas Police officers, regarding the jacket allegedly found near the Tippitt murder site on Nov. 22, 1963. All interviews conducted July 13, 1972.

JOHN T. GRIFFIN

Harris: Are you the one that found Oswald's jacket?

Griffin: No.

Harris: Do you know who did?

Griffin: I couldn't tell you; it's been so long, I don't remember nothing. OK?

Harris: (Explanation about Warren Report, Westbrook, radio transcripts and Batchelor report identifying Griffin as 279).

Griffin: Nope. It wasn't me.

Harris: You don't know who might have found the jacket?

Griffin: Nope; I have no idea. Now if you'll excuse me, I'm fixin' to eat lunch.

Harris: OK. But you're not the one that found the jacket?

Griffin: No, I didn't find it.

E.H. STRINGER

Harris: Were you there when they found it? Or did you--

Stringer: No, unhh unhh. In fact, I never did see it. I was somewhere right around the area, but I wasn't right there where it was found.

Harris: OK. Well, I notice that it had a laundry tag on it, and you had radioed in about the number on the laundry tag....

Stringer: On the what?

Harris: There was a laundry tag on the jacket, and the radio logs show that you had called in the number of the tag. So I thought you might have been there when they found--

Stringer: No. That's a mistake. I didn't radio in about it. In fact, I never did see it.

Harris: Is that right?

Stringer: Right.

Harris: Do you know offhand who found the jacket?

Stringer: I sure don't. I don't know if an officer found it, or if some witness found it, or what. I just don't remember. But I never did see it.

Harris: So they're erroneous in identifying you as calling in the laundry tag number?

Stringer: Yeah, it is. I didn't-- I never did see the jacket. And no, I didn't radio in on it.

W.P. WESTBROOK

Harris: I wanted to ask you a question if I could about the day President Kennedy was shot.

Westbrook: Who is this talking?

Harris: This is Lerry Harris; I'm a student in Dallas.

Westbrook: All right; what d'ya wanna ask me?

Harris: I want to know, were you ever able to recall the name of the officer that found Oswald's jacket?

Westbrook: (Long pause) No.

Harris: OK. I was curious because you know in the Warren Report, they credit you with finding--

Westbrook: Well, we saw the jacket about the same time, I don't know, whether I picked it up first or the other feller picked it up first.

Harris: OK. Do you think it might have been John Griffin?

Westbrook: (Angrily) Feller, you're talking about 12 years ago; don't ask me questions like that.

Harris: Well, I thought since you were in Personnel you might have known--

Westbrook: Feller, I been out of personnel, I quit the police department in 1966.

Harris: OK, so you don't know who found the jacket?

Westbrook: (impatient tone) I-- I think I found it along with another officer, and I don't know who the other officer is.

T.A. Hutson, Assistant Police Chief

Harris: Were you there when they found Oswald's jacket?

Hutson: Uh, I saw it over there, uh huh.

Harris: Do you know offhand who's the officer who found the jacket?

Hutson: No, but if you go to the Warren Report and read that-- go to the library and research-- you can find all that information; it's all in there.

(Here I explained about the Report and Westbrook's testimony)

Hutson: Well, I don't know either; all I know, you know, is all the testimony is there; nothing has changed since then.

Harris: Could it have been J.T. Griffin, John Griffin?

Hutson: I don't know. I don't have any idea. I'm sorry, I can't help you on it.

(I told Hutson I was unable to locate any report from any policeman or anything in the testimony which might indicate who found the jacket).

Hutson: It should be there. Because let me explain this to you. In the interviews by the counsel from the Warren Commission, they traced all that, each one of those physical evidence items like that to the original person. So it should be there. Maybe-- let's see, Westbrook actually had it in his hands, so he picked it up-- he said somebody pointed it out to him, then, huh?

Well, I wish I could help you, but that part of it I do not know. I was there and I remember seeing the jacket. But I did not point it out to him. And to this day I don't even recall-- you know, since Westbrook already had it-- that had taken place.