

30 December 1985

Professor Jerry Rose  
Editor The Third Decade  
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Dear Jerry,

After we spoke on the phone the other day, I was troubled about the reliability of my recollection that I had learned of the curtain rod story only when the Warren Report was published. I therefore checked the NBC logs, published by Random House, in Seventy Hours and Thirty Minutes. I found the following two items:

Saturday November 23, 1963, 12:43 p.m. Curry says:  
"Oswald is known to have brought a large package to work with him yesterday morning—believed to be his rifle..."

Sunday, November 24, 1963, 9:02 p.m. Robert MacNeil says: "Friday morning Oswald takes to work a long slim package wrapped with paper and string. He tells a neighbor it is a window blind."

Although I have not checked the newspapers for these days, I think that we must assume from the broadcasts alone that Yates could have heard the curtain rod story before he went to the FBI on the 26th. Therefore, the only elements in his story to Dempsey Jones on the day before the assassination were (1) that he had picked up a boy in Oak Cliff (2) that he had taken him to Houston and Elm (3) that this boy had a package not described at that time."

But it seems to me that even on the basis of these three elements alone, one must conclude that the person to whom Yates gave a lift was a "false Oswald".

Incidentally, I forgot to mention on the phone that I have no copy of the article I sent you and would be grateful for a xerox.

Best personal regards,

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