

Date 11/23/63

Mr. SEYMOUR WEITZMAN, Deputy Constable, Dallas County Constable's Office, was interviewed in the presence of Detective C. W. BROWN, Homicide Bureau, Dallas Police Department. He furnished the following information:

At about 12:15 p.m., November 22, 1963, he was assigned to observe the route of President JOHN F. KENNEDY's motorcade through downtown Dallas, Texas. His station was located on the corner of Main and Houston Streets, next to the courthouse, in Dallas. He observed the car in which President KENNEDY was riding to travel north on Houston Street and turn west on Elm Street. Shortly after the President's car turned the corner along Elm Street, he was looking in another direction and heard three sounds in rapid succession, which he believed to have been gunshots. He believed these sounds to have come from a north-westerly direction from where he was standing. He heard someone say that the "shots" had come from behind a wooden fence which is located west and a little north of the intersection of Houston and Elm Streets. He immediately started running in that direction and climbed over the fence. Another officer followed him over the fence. When they arrived at a point on the other side of the fence which is near the railroad track, some railway employees told him they had heard the sounds and believed they came from the old Texas Building, which building is now called the Texas Schoolbook Depository building, which is located just north of the northwest corner of Houston and Elm Streets. He then entered this building and started a search of the various floors in the building. A few minutes later, Captain J. WILL FRITZ, Dallas Police Department, arrived and ordered a thorough search of the sixth floor of this building.

He, WEITZMAN, along with Dallas County Deputy Sheriff S. BOONE, began a minute search of the sixth floor of the building. He was concentrating his search in the southwest corner of the sixth floor, while BOONE was searching the northwest corner of the sixth floor. BOONE called his attention to a rifle which he had found between some boxes located near the northwest corner of the sixth floor.

He made the notation of the time, 1:22 p.m., when this gun was found, and called to his attention by Deputy BOONE. He

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recorded that time on the back of his copy of a warrant or summons which he was carrying in his pocket.

Mr. WEITZMAN described the rifle which was found as a 7.65 caliber Mauser bolt-action rifle, which loads from a five shot clip which is locked on the underside of the receiver forward of the trigger guard. The metal parts of this rifle were of a gun metal color, gray or blue, and the rear portion of the bolt was visibly worn. The wooden portions of this rifle were a dark brown in color and of rough wood, apparently having been used or damaged to considerable extent. This rifle was equipped with a four-power 1.5 scope of apparent Japanese manufacture. It was also equipped with a thick brown-black leather bandolier type sling.

After he had observed this rifle to the extent described above, Captain FRITZ appeared and took the rifle from him. He did not make note of any serial number on the rifle. He observed Captain FRITZ eject one rifle round of ammunition from this rifle. At this point, he discontinued his search of the sixth floor of the building and thereafter became engaged in regular patrol work in connection with investigation being conducted by law enforcement officers from all law enforcement agencies in Dallas County.