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DL 89-43

JHD/zms

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA JARRELL H. DAVIS at Wichita Falls, Texas:

W. M. FARRAR, 4728 Alamo, on December 4, 1963, advised he was in the Bailey Gun Chop, 2511 Avenue G, during the latter part of October or the early part of November, 1963 and observed an Italian 6.5 x 54 rifle on a rack and asked Mr. BAILEY where he got that bunch of junk, and BAILEY said a man brought it in to have it repaired. He added this rifle had approximately a 21" barrel and a brown laced leather boot on the stock. He mentioned the rifle had a leather sling and a 7/8" tube diameter scope which was so marked on the scope. He mentioned this scope was mounted slightly off center to the left.

Mr. FARRAR further advised that on the following Saturday, which was either November 2 or November 9, 1963, he was again in BAILEY's shop during the noon hour when a man in his 20's, about 5'11½" tall, weighing about 160 pounds, with straight semi-cropped hair and in shirt sleeves with no hat, came in and asked BAILEY if his gun was ready. BAILEY asked the man what kind of gun and the man pointed to an Italian 6.5 x 54 rifle and said "There it is on the counter." The man asked BAILEY if the trigger was fixed and BAILEY told him it was as good as he could fix it and told the man to try it which he did. He added the man then asked BAILEY if you could hit a man at 100 yards with this rifle with the scope sitting at an angle on top of the barrel, and BAILEY told him the fact the scope was sitting slightly off to the side did not effect it and you could hit a 6" circle at 100 yards with the rifle.

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Mr. FARRAR further advised the man then asked BAILEY if he had any hunting ammunition for the rifle, and BAILEY said he did not but that Holt's Sporting Goods Store might have some of this type ammunition. He added that he then left BAILEY's and about an hour later, while he was in Holt's Sporting Goods Store, this man came in and asked if they had any 6.5 hunting ammunition and the clerk asked the man if it was for a 6.5 x 54 or 6.5 x 55, and the man did not appear to know the difference between the two guns but said it was for an Italian gun. The clerk then told the man that he did not have any ammunition at that time, but he would have some in about ten days and if he would leave his name, he would let him know when the ammunition arrived. He added the man told the clerk that this would be too long, and he then left the store.

Mr. W. M. FARRAR, on December 6, 1963, was shown a photograph of the gun in instant case and at this time, he advised that a part of the scope on the gun in the photograph did not look like the scope he saw on the gun at BAILEY's shop, and the gun in the photograph did not have a brown laced leather boot like the one did that he saw at BAILEY's. He further added that if the gun in the photograph had a 26½" barrel, it could not be the one he saw at BAILEY's shop because he knows the gun he saw there did not have a 26½" barrel but the barrel was no longer than 21" on the gun at BAILEY's. After viewing a photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, Mr. FARRAR advised he does not recall having ever seen OSWALD prior to the time he saw his picture in the paper and saw him on television. He added, however, the man he saw at BAILEY's Gun Shop was of the general size and appearance as OSWALD.

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WAYNE BAILEY, Bailey's Gun Shop, 2511 Avenue G, on December 5, 1963, advised he does not maintain any records on guns he repairs after they have been repaired and returned to the owner. He stated he does not recall having ever repaired the trigger mechanism on a 6.5 x 54 Italian-made rifle with a scope and had only seen one gun of this type with a scope and that was more than a year ago. After viewing a photograph of the rifle in instant case and a photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, Mr. BAILEY advised he had never seen this rifle so far as he could recall, and that he had never seen LEE HARVEY OSWALD until he saw him on television and observed his picture in the paper. He added OSWALD had never been in his shop, and he had never repaired a gun for him.

Mr. BAILEY further advised that sometime about August, 1963, a 15 year old boy, whose name he does not remember, brought an Italian 6.5 x 54 rifle to his shop and wanted him to buff off some initials on the barrel and reblue the rifle. He added that the young boy told him he did not have the money and would not be able to get the rifle for a month or two until he made enough money to pay him. He added, however, that this rifle did not have a scope on it but did have an oiled leather boot or pad and a leather sling. He mentioned this boy came to the shop numerous times to look at his rifle and see if it was finished and that sometime about the latter part of October or the first part of November, 1963, the boy came in the shop one day and paid him for the work he had done on the rifle and took his rifle and left. He added that W. M. FARRAR had observed this rifle at some time when he was in the shop, but he does not

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recall if Mr. FARRAR was in the shop when the boy came for the rifle or what discussion he himself had with the boy when the boy paid him for repairing the rifle. He further mentioned that this rifle might have been the one that FARRAR recalls, but that it did not have a scope and the front end of the rifle was slightly different from the front end of the rifle in the photograph.

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