

Telephone call from Dick Sprague, 2/27/67 Monday 8 a.m.

He is just back from a trip to Dallas, which was "fantastic." He met Hennie Birnbaum, CBS producer of the WR documentary which is now in the works. Could not get New Orleans newspapers at the out-of-town stand--the States Item sells out instantaneously. LIFE has definitely resumed its WR investigation, has engaged a man named Keefer, from Miami, to take charge of it. A Dallas rumor is that UPI and LIFE will collaborate on the story.

The DCA (Wolpert) film has been much edited. Dick saw the unedited film. The Dealey Plaza footage was taken by one photographer, who moved around a lot. Rudolph Brink did the editing, excising everything that did not show JFK, since he was interested solely in a JFK documentary.

The unedited film shows three or four men running from the grassy knoll to the underpass, at about frame 350. It definitely shows a puff of smoke at the corner of the wall per Moorman photo, swelling. No question but that it is smoke. The problem is: are the 3 or 4 men running to escape from the scene, or to search for the assassins?

The Willis color slides are remarkable, much much more clear than the black-and-whites in the exhibits. Willis no. 5, the black solid blob IS A MAN, you can see his face (flesh-color), and he is holding SOMETHING pointing toward the head-shot, standing just in the crack of the cement wall, crouching. But the "car" or "station wagon" in the Esquire photo is only an optical illusion.

Wes Wise of KRLD is convinced that there was a conspiracy but the head of the station backs the <sup>W</sup> and does not give Wise a forum for his convictions.

Dick had dinner with Gewirtz and a man named Jim Burke, formerly a writer for Esquire. Shortly after 11/22/63 Burke talked with Robert Oswald and they agreed that he would ghost-write a book for Robert--a pro-Oswald book taking the position that he was innocent. But after his WC testimony, Robert stopped the book. He believed LHO not guilty because when they went hunting together he could not hit the side of a barn. When he went to testify, Robert said he was going to ask the WC two questions: when he returned, he said that they had not given him satisfaction. Robert said that Lee had told him something when he visited him in the Dallas jail on 11/23/63 that convinced Robert he was innocent. Burke said that Robert appeared twice before the WC, the second time after an interval of some months. He had been living in a house that was little more than a shack. After he returned from the second WC appearance, he moved to Wichita Falls and bought a \$50,000 house and a new car.