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DL 100-10461
WGB:mvs

On November 23, 1963, FREDERICK G. SMITH, Oak Cliff Sand and Gravel Company, 4618 South Ewing, Dallas, telephone no. FR. 4-4855, telephonically advised SA EDWIN D. KUYKENDALL that he learned from LAWRENCE SMITH, brick contractor, telephone no. AT. 6-3472, Dallas, who was handling apartment construction at 10th and Denver Streets, southeast corner, that two of his Negro laborers, names not given, saw and witnessed the shooting of the Dallas police officer on November 22, 1963, and should be able to identify the subject who killed that officer.

329/82

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date January 14, 1964

On January 11, 1964, Mr. WILLIAM LAWRENCE SMITH, 12805 Dodson, Mesquite, Texas, was interviewed while he was working in the vicinity of 10621 Larchfield. Mr. SMITH advised that he was brick-laying at 500 East 10th Street, Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963. He said that he left the job and went to lunch, exact time unrecalled, and noticed a man walking west on 10th Street. A few minutes after he got to the cafe located at 10th and Marsalis, GEORGE CHAPMAN, a bricklayer who lives on Carnation Street in Mesquite, Texas, came after him and said "Somebody shot a policeman". SMITH said that he and CHAPMAN returned immediately to 500 East 10th Street and arrived in time to see a police officer being put into an ambulance.

Mr. SMITH said that GEORGE CHAPMAN told him that he did not see the shooting, however, SMITH believes that two of his Negro employees and possibly a third one, may have witnessed the shooting of this police officer.

SMITH said that he later learned that this was Officer J. D. TIPPIT. After seeing photographs of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, he feels sure that the man who walked by him going west on 10th Street while he (SMITH) was going to lunch, was LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

SMITH said that the following individuals may have witnessed the shooting of Officer TIPPIT:

PERRY HOLMES, address unknown, a Negro brick mason tender who lives just east off of Lancaster Road to Cedar Way Drive, the first street left, which is Fatima, first house on left;

FRANCIS KENNIETH, a Negro brick mason tender who lives in the second house on Cardwell Street on the left after turning south off of East Grant Street;

EVERETT AUSTIN, a Negro brick mason tender who lives near Fair Park in the middle of the block on 4th Street.

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 by Special Agent WILLIAM G. BROOKHART Date dictated 1-13-64
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Mr. SMITH advised that he realized that the directions are not too accurate, but in the event that these men have to be interviewed, he will undoubtedly have them working for him regularly in the future, and they can be reached through him by calling him at his home phone, AT. 6-3472. Mr. SMITH said that he is not too certain that EVERETT AUSTIN witnessed the shooting of Officer TIPPIT.

329/84

Date January 18, 19641

Mr. GEORGE CHAPMAN, 1712 Carnation Street, Mesquite, Texas, advised on January 15, 1964 that he was working as a bricklayer in the vicinity of 500 East 10th Street on November 22, 1963.

Mr. CHAPMAN advised he was laying brick at the rear of the building on which he was working, and heard a noise which he thought was made by an individual who was building a garage across the street from where he was working. He said he subsequently went to the front of the building in which he was working and at that time noted that a police officer had been shot.

Mr. CHAPMAN stated he did not observe anything in connection with the shooting of the police officer and could furnish no information concerning same.

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on 1-17-64 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 100-10461
by Special Agent JAMES J. HARD 85 Date dictated 1-18-64
mvg