

to the post office-the substation where Oswald has his post-office box. Couldn't have arrived-it couldn't have arrived there prior to 5 a.m. on the 25<sup>th</sup>, and it wouldn't have been distributed any time prior to 8 a.m. He could have got it by 8 a.m.-I'm sorry, but he couldn't have cashed it until after 8 a.m., because the supermarket didn't open until 8 o'clock. And the initials of the, of the person in the supermarket who had authorized the cashing of this check, indicated that this person had worked from 8 a.m. until 12 noon on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September. So Oswald had to have cashed the check sometime between 8 a.m. and 12 noon on the 25<sup>th</sup>. So, giving him as much time as possible, suppose he <sup>did it</sup> ~~wxxix~~ at 8 o'clock? He could then have left New Orleans. He crossed the border <sup>into(sic)</sup> ~~at~~ Laredo, according to the Mexican immigration records, at approximately 2 p.m. on the 26<sup>th</sup>. So, we've got a blank and we've no indication of where he was, from 8 a.m. on the 25<sup>th</sup> until 2 p.m. on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Now, he could not have gone by bus, and we know that he crossed the border into Mexico on the bus, and he went to Mexico City in the bus, and he came back (from Mexico City on the bus). We know that he called a person by the name of <sup>in</sup> ~~of~~ Horace Twiford, ~~at~~ Houston, and said that he wanted to talk to him. Which suggested to us, not unreasonably, I think, that he planned to be in Houston, where he would not have been if he'd gone to Dallas. He could not have gone by <sup>the</sup> bus from New Orleans to Dallas and back to Laredo in/time that he had. He could have driven from New Orleans to Dallas and then caught a bus ~~xxxxixix~~ down. And

the interesting part of it is that if he'd taken the bus on the night of the 25th from Dallas, he would have changed busses in a place called Alice, Texas, and, and, gotten on a bus from Houston that would've been the same bus that he would've been on if he'd come directly from New Orleans. <sup>P</sup> And he was on that bus, ~~so~~ so that, in this sense, the thing, the thing sort of ties together. There were no bus tickets sold, however, ~~in~~ <sup>from</sup> Dallas, to Laredo, during this period of time when Oswald could've bought a ticket. And there was a ticket sold--there were four tickets sold--that day, from Houston to Laredo. Ah, ...people thought that Oswald could have been one of the guys who bought one of the tickets...very shaky... couldn't do anything about it...testimony very much. <sup>P</sup> Uh, one of the things that fascinated me about Oswald's movements, his landlord said that he'd left the apartment, or that the landlord didn't see him any more,...lookin' for him because Oswald hadn't paid his rent, and didn't, that Oswald was ~~not~~ not around the apartment after the evening of the 24th. Uh, one of the things that I was never able ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> quite understand - and the landlord said he saw - one of the neighbors said he saw Oswald get on a streetcar or a bus on the afternoon of the 24th with <sup>P</sup> a, uh, bag, a suitcase in his hand, wto of 'em, which he apparently took to, uh, Mexico and then brought back to Dallas. <sup>P</sup> Well, Oswald's post-office box, post office substation, was in downtown New Orleans. And that's where he picked up the check. Couldn't have gotten the check before 5 a.m. on the morning of the

morning of the 25th. There was a place within three blocks of the post office where he had previously cashed checks, where he, from the place he worked, and also some unemployment checks. But he didn't cash the check there. He went three miles through New Orleans, back to a supermarket near his apartment to cash the check. And, when you sit back and speculate, ~~which is all~~ <sup>and this is all</sup> you can do- you've got a few hard pieces of evidence- we know where he cashed the check, and we know where he got it- it is hard to really figure how credible the testimony that he left the apartment on the 24th was, but alright, lets assume for the moment that it is true, why did he go all the way back to the supermarket near his house to cash the check rather than cashing it within three blocks of the place he picked it up, and then, apparently, if the theory the Commission adopted was, that he did, simply, leave New Orleans on the bus and go to Houston and then down to Laredo. ...went all the way back downtown <sup>in</sup> New Orleans to catch the bus and leave. I've never been able to understand that. Uh, and, and, I don't know if there is any explanation for it. Maybe he'd just be ridin'...an irrational kind of thing, but I don't know why he did it. Uh, we checked out all of the, <sup>all</sup> of the inexpensive hotels in downtown New Orleans, and this is one thing the FBI really loved the Commission by the time they got through (sic), because the FBI never engaged, they never conducted an investigation like this one, really, a

...out there, beating themselves up and down the street <sup>of</sup> ~~in~~ downtown New Orleans for about a week, checking out every flophouse in New Orleans, to find out whether Oswald or anybody with a name that was similar to his had checked into a hotel and stayed in downtown New Orleans on the night of the 24th, which we'd thought that he might <sup>do</sup> if the testimony--and this is all based on the very shakey testimony of his neighbor, that he'd seen him leave on the afternoon of the 24th. Well, we weren't able to find (an ~~easy~~ answer).

Some people testified that they had seen him on the bus, and that he talked to them, and told them-- they assumed that he had come from New Orleans on the bus. ~~He~~ didn't tell them that. Marina testified that he'd gone by bus. And that's the only evidence that he did that. Now, it would obviously've been nice if we could've found anybody - any other contact that Oswald had had with anybody who might have driven him to Dallas. That is something we were never able to find. I'll close up this rather rambling discourse on the evidence the Commission was holding(?) by saying one thing-- <sup>shows</sup> (:) two things, I guess--at least: When it became clear that we were not able to--~~resolve~~ <sup>Sylvia</sup> we were not going to be able to resolve ~~Mr.~~ Odio's testimony ourselves --it was just bare(:)--he could've been there--he had time--we wrote a letter to the FBI asking the FBI to find the three people that had been in Mrs. Odio's apartment. And that's, that's the old beurocratic game, I suppose, y'know, of putting the monkey on somebody else's back, eh, because, eh,

I would not have wanted to accept the responsibility of, of not having tried to find these other <sup>three</sup> people ... prove it wasn't Oswald. It was pretty clear to me - in fact, ... tone ... letters, "Okay boys, what're you gone do with this one?"

Well, we went ahead and concluded, on the basis of the probabilities, ah, that Oswald was not in her apartment...couldn't connect up...with anybody else, and I had the impression, myself, throughout this entire period, for what I ~~then~~ thought was pretty good reasons, which is something, one of the things that can never be reflected in the record, -maybe I should have thought of it in a different way- but I had the impression that Mrs. Odio was not - she wanted to get information from me that would help her involve Oswald with these other people, with these pro-Castro Cubans...pro-Castro Cubans. I had the feeling she really wanted to involve Oswald with pro-Castros, which would, of course, have been to her, y' know, advantage, if she could have involved the pro-Castros in the assassination. Ah, she was very...<sup>P</sup> (curious?) about Oswald's movements, and wanted to sorta get information in a conversation that we had after her testimony ah, that would help corroborate the story. She still believes that Oswald was in her apartment.

We wrote a letter to the FBI. We drafted the section of the Report dealing with Mrs. Odio and Oswald's presence in about the middle of chapter six of the Report and it was the night of the 20th or 21st of September, 1964, we were going over the page proofs of this section of the Report for the last time. It was going

back to the Government Printing Office for the last time, and that was going to be it, and a courier from the FBI came in with a letter from Mr. Hoover reporting that the FBI had found the three men that were in Mrs. Odio's apartment. There I am! Marvelous. What am I gonna do with this section of the Report that's locked into page proof, the footnotes are in there, the pages are in there, if we change the page, page numbers its going to foul up every footnote in the whole Report. And, uh, so I went down to Mr. Rankin... and said, "What're we gonna do, Mr. Rankin"?

Mr. Rankin, in a very proper governmental response, said, "That's not the right question, Mr. Liebler. The question is what are you going to do?" (laughter) So, we decided we were going to have to rewrite that section of the Report, there was no question about that. He (?) agreed. And, ah, it had to be done by 12 o'clock that night. He said the proofs had to be back over at the Printing Office. The Report (had to go to press) the next day. Well- (laughter), ah (laughter) over, overriding policy reasons (laughter) and, ah, (laughter) and, ah, so!

I sat down and rewrote the whole section, and used the same number of footnotes, and, ah (laughter) the same number of pages, approximately-it was a little bit longer. And it went over physically, on yellow pad, on yellow scratch pad like this, in my handwriting, which is not very clear, to go into final, in the, in the Printing Office. And, ah, indicating that the FBI had found these three guys. They found one of them in Johnsondale, California.

And all I had at that ~~time~~ point was a letter from the FBI, said they'd found them, and they were gonna send their report, later. They were to follow up with the actual report.

Well, imagine my surprise when I got a copy - and this is one thing I'm going to say about Mr. Lane, he was right about this: eh, I gotta copy of the publisher's proof of Lane's book when I was up in Vermont last summer, and, eh, I went-I started to read through it, and I got to the section on Sylvia Odio. And he said that the FBI had finally developed, in pursuing its investigation, the FBI had developed <sup>d</sup> evidence that showed that these three men could not possibly have been in Mrs. Odio's apartment because they had finally found work records- these guys had checked in, you know, some time clocks in Miami, were working in Miami that day-two of them. They went back and they interviewed the first guy that came up with a story. He changed his story. And the whole thing just collapsed.

These guys, even though they thought-this one guy said that he'd been in Odio's apartment at some point during these ...time, these three couldn't have been there at that time. And, the really ironic part of it was that the Miami Bureau - Miami office of the Bureau- had developed that information on the day before we got the letter from the FBI saying that these three men were the three guys that were in Sylvia Odio's apartment' so that the field office of

the Bureau had already developed information showing this couldn't possibly have happened, while we were sitting there rewriting the Report. (Liebeler's laugh make part of the immediately following words incomprehensible) (probably "saying") that these were the three guys that were there.

Ah, so, I would suppose that one possibility, I guess, and <sup>Garrison</sup> ~~X~~ might try and follow up on this, ~~that~~ that, ah, is to indicate that <sup>if</sup> some of these fellows that were with Oswald, these Mexicans, ah, or Cubans, that appear throughout this story, were in fact, with Oswald, and did, in fact, take him to New Orleans in a car that day, and then, after they- and probably the purpose was- at least, I could argue the purpose would be, to infiltrate Oswald into the, into the, ah, anti-Castro movement to try and get him into <sup>o/</sup>, into Cuba, which is what- and this, this, this is somewhat attractive, as a matter of fact, to someone, because Oswald was trying to get to Cuba. That's what he, that's what he did. He went to Mexico City to try and get into Cuba. And it may be- it's possible, I suppose, that he did go to, ah, to Dallas and talk to Odio, for the purpose of trying to infiltrate himself into that organization because he was...anti-Castro movement...And after that was unsuccessful, Oswald...

Ah, I don't, I haven't, I have not really seen in Garrison's story...New Orleans, very much that would lead me to believe that he had something very substantial. But there is an area here which obviously the FBI and the

Commission at the time were not able to tie down all stories and follow all aspects of the thing, primarily, I think, on the point of establish... the identity or even the existence of Clay Bertrand.

I've been told since then that the Bureau had convinced themselves some time after Garrison started...and they do not think that Shaw is Bertrand. But that's just hearsay.... (Here questions from the audience begin, the first, by a woman, is unintelligible at the beginning)

Q. theory Andrews and Bertrand originally investigated by the FBI and the Warren Commission, how did they get their names involved at all?

L. Well, I've indicated where they got Ferrie's name. This fellow came up and reported it.. Yeah. Ah, Andrews told his story to - he was a friend to a friend of John Rice, the head of the Secret Service in New Orleans at that time. He came to Rice and told him that Bertrand had called him about Oswald and Oswald...and Andrews, and Andrews was the man. And those words...

Q. And Bertrand (mostly incomprehensible)

L. Andrews mentions his name; Andrews mentions his name.

Q (by men)... "told me that she was working in the New Orleans library the day of the assassination. That evening the FBI came there, and they went through - apparently Oswald used the library quite frequently-

L. Yeah.

Q.-they went through, the, uh, records that are found <sup>3/</sup> of the books taken out-

L. That's right.

Q.-and in these books, she said, they found anti-Castro papers. (Here the question becomes incomprehensible, but the questioner asks Liebler's "reaction to that")

L. Well, the list(?) of books that Oswald checked out (incomprehensible)

Q. I don't know of any record of the anti-Castro papers-

L. You meant it is written into the books?

Q. Yeah.

L. You mean anti-Castro books, or-

Q. No, in the books, on all kinds of subjects, were these anti-Castro papers.

L. I don't-I have never heard that. And I don't know whether the Bureau went through the books...or they just got a list. I really don't know the answer to that.

Q. Well, this is what she says: that they went through them and she was there...that night.

L. Yeah. I wouldn't be surprised if they did go through them, but there



been withheld. There's still the--there's still the problem with the Commission's documents itself (sic), the Commission papers, the memoranda, correspondence files, drafts, transcripts of testimony--much, much less of that has been made available. And that is, as I've indicated before, is, is, an inexcusable situation. It should ~~never~~<sup>8</sup> have happened. The Commission decided fairly early in the game that one of the law ~~yers~~<sup>2</sup> on the staff, that one of the lawyers was assigned this job, of, of making a determination of what--which <sup>of</sup> the Commission's papers should be released at the time we released the Report. And that was never done. The Commission disbanded, the lawyers left, and the old--all the Commission papers were turned over to the Archives without any instructions whatsoever as to what should be done. And the question-- that question was finally raised by, uh, people who were going through them raised it at the Archives. The Archives, uh, kept pestering Lee Rankin about them over a ...period of time, and the general counsel of the Commission, Rankin, wouldn't do anything about it. And I finally got interested in it last summer and I called Rankin, and Rankin, Rankin wouldn't just wouldn't do anything about it. His <sup>position</sup>~~Commission~~ was, the Commission is disbanded, I'm not general counsel for anything any more, I'm not gonna do anything about it, period. And, uh, as a result of this, the chief archivist spoke to the Chief Justice in the summer of sixty-six, last summer. And, uh, well, that, the, uh, the, uh, substance of that conversation has never been reported to me. Immediately there-

after, the Archives went to the <sup>office of</sup> legal counsel of the Justice Department and got an opinion. And the office of legal counsel admitted it was their responsibility, the Archives', to determine which of the papers ~~should~~ be released and which shouldn't. And they immediately embarked upon a review of these papers. Ah, ...if I may say <sup>that</sup> that's absurd because, they'll be lucky if they get those papers reviewed by the time the next President is assassinated, the way they're going. They got one guy working on it.

Q. When (incomprehensible).

L. Pardon?

Q. ...of transcription of what the witnesses-

L. It....but that's, uh, that's, uh, that's, uh, a problem, and I've indicated to the Archives, uh, in fact, I've <sup>been in,</sup> I've -this whole problem has gotten-it got to the point where, in Christmas time...and, uh, told 'im about it, and, uh, and, uh, he'd been generally aware <sup>next to hopeless.</sup> that the situation at the Archives was ~~xxxx~~ and I confirmed it. He wanted, he said, "well, what shall we do about it?" So, I suggested to him- I wrote <sup>him</sup> a memorandum <sup>about it</sup> ~~on that~~, in which I suggested that we set <sup>up</sup> something, that I would-well, let's call it "The Advisory Committee to The Administrator of General Services", who is in charge of the Archives. And lets just get you, and probably Senator Cooper, and probably Senator Russell-anybody that could be interested. Either (i) you talk to Ruseell or Cooper about it...

and I was, I was, uh, ~~gonna~~ talk to, uh, Dulles about it, and ~~xxxxxx~~ we'd get  
~~put~~ two or three staff members on it, and we would, and we would, either  
get some people from the Justice Department in there or ~~get~~ some guys from the  
staff down there that knew, ... in a sense, these fellows... the determination  
that the Archives are, are, totally unsuited to make. Ah, and, and in any  
event, an archivist, bless their heart, is not going to make a determination to  
~~with~~hold or to release. You can bet your, you can bet your ~~xxx~~ bottom dollar that  
the determination will always be weighted in favor of withholding, because they're  
not gonna put their necks on the line when they knew something would embarrass  
somebody. ~~But~~ Because they're ~~not~~ political people, they don't, they're, they're  
very nervous about this kind of thing. Well, I wrote the memorandum report,  
and, and, nothing ever came of it. Subsequently learned through the invariable  
grapevine that Rankin, that, that he sent the memorandum to Rankin, and asked  
Rankin for his <sup>had</sup> to ... on it. Rankin/showed it to Professor Redlich at NYU ~~also~~  
law school, and Mr. Redlich had given Mr. Rankin his views, and, uh, while I'm  
not, uh, I don't know what the views were, I don't have any real doubt as to  
what they were. And, uh, that story came back to me from someone Redlich had  
told it to, and nothin's been done about it.

well,  
A, I've, /I've indicated to the Archives that what they oughta look at first  
are the correspondence and memorenda, that the Commission... The transcript, the

testimony, are really -that's marginal, Because that, because 99, over 99%  
of that , much more than that, is printed in the 26 volumes. There's only a few  
deletions that...printed..that's, you know, cause they...mixed up...Jackie  
Kennedy said, y'know, reference to...and he wants to know why it was  
deleted.Ah, there's, sh, Ford has a complete set of these himself, himself.  
And, uh, (End of Tape. Here the supply of tape ran out, alas.)