

1416 Arch St.
Berkeley, Calif. 94708
January 28, 1968

Mr. Tom Bethell
638 Royal St.
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Dear Mr. Bethell,

When I phoned you on about 25 November 1967 concerning the Oswald literature scuffle, you said you would like to obtain the movies taken by J. Pat Doyle's son Jim. Paul Hoch told me you mentioned it again to him, so I wrote Mr. Doyle (copy of letter enclosed) and then phoned him on 21 and 27 January 1968.

Mr. Doyle was very cooperative and promised to send the film to the address you gave him. I encouraged him to send you the original and retain a copy for himself, but he may send the copy.

Mr. Doyle stated that he gave the film to the FBI immediately after the assassination. About two months after it was returned he and his family viewed the film and noticed that some of it was missing. Some of the pictures taken were close-ups of the arresting officer which were clear enough to observe his badge number. These and certain other views are no longer part of the film.

I included a copy of the FBI report concerning him with my letter to Mr. Doyle. He stated that it was correct as far as he could remember. He verified that another man was passing out literature with Oswald, as is stated in the FBI report. Oswald and this other man were walking down the street together when well dressed Cubans began approaching them in small groups. A total of eight to 14 Cubans were soon berating them noisily. Oswald's companion disappeared immediately, and Doyle thinks he is not shown on the film. I asked Mr. Doyle to look at the film again and to try to identify Oswald's companion if possible. The film does show the sign lying on the sidewalk that Oswald's companion had been carrying. According to the FBI report on Doyle the pieces of this broken sign were carried away by the police.

Mr. Doyle remembered the sign carried by Bringuier and that it referred to Cuba being in chains only 90 miles from the United States. He stated that the police appeared immediately after the ruckus commenced and that he observed no physical contact between the antagonists. Two or three

other people took pictures of the incident, including one tall man who took still photographs.

As far as Mr. Doyle knows his film has never been shown on TV.

A competitor of Mr. Doyle's, Matt O. Wilson, was also present at the incident. Mr. Doyle thought that Wilson had not been interviewed by the FBI or anyone else. Doyle gave Wilson's address as: 14714 N.E. Hancock, Portland, Oregon; phone: (503) 253-4377.

Mr. Doyle's phone number is (503) 254-4546.

On 28 December 1967 I sent the Blazewick material to you at the office by registered air mail. This material included an 11 page report of four interviews, a 27 page transcript of one interview, a list of names examined by Blazewick, and an index. I was wondering if you received everything in good order.

Engineering-Science, Inc., my employer, is sending me to Rio de Janeiro for four or five months beginning February 7. If there is anything I can do for you while there, let me know.

I hope the Doyle film proves to be useful. I'm enclosing a self-addressed envelope for your convenience.

Sincerely,

Stanley R. Primmer

Encl. (2)

cc: Paul Hoch

Hal Verb

TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW WITH MATT O. WILSON

30 JANUARY 1968

Interview with Matt O. Wilson of Portland, Oregon, by telephone concerning Oswald literature scuffle in New Orleans on 9 August 1963. Interviewer: Stanley R. Primmer. Wilson agreed to the interview being tape recorded.

PRIMMER: Has anyone interviewed you about this matter?

WILSON: Well, if I remember correctly, there was some FBI people here one time and inquired about this same matter.

P.: So the FBI did talk to you about this?

W.: I don't recall -- Gosh, I -- I -- I just can't remember how this went now that -- Gee, it seems hard for me to remember -- I'm pretty sure that there was some FBI people here, though. Now, I -- Gosh, my memory's poor on that. Either they were here or somebody else talked to me about it. Seems like they questioned us about it.

P.: Well, I had not heard --

W.: I can't ^{just} recall now how that went.

P.: Yes. Well, besides -- aside from that, if you could recall for me as best you can -- Oh, first I should tell you who I am. I am a volunteer investigator doing this on a part-time basis, and whatever you tell me will be passed on to Mr. Garrison's office in New Orleans. If you could recall as best you can the incident when you were in New Orleans and saw Oswald passing out literature, and especially before the main ruckus started -- what you observed then -- if you could tell me about that.

W.: Yeah, we were there on a convention deal. This Mr. Doyle, Pat Doyle, was along and his wife, and he had a boy who was using a movie camera for the first time and making every oppor -- taking every opportunity he could to get some pictures. I recall this alright when he had the -- we were walking down the street. The Doyle family was with us and my family,

and we noticed this -- this man coming down the street with a placard on his neck, and it seems to me like there was two men; there must have been another man there, too, but I don't remember if he had any placards with him. But this man had something --

P.: Were they coming towards you?

W.: They were coming toward us, yes. They were coming toward us.

P.: And there were the two men together.

W.: There was two men involved in this thing, but I don't remember if the other one had any -- any placards with him, but this one that I can think of would -- who we thought was -- was the -- Os -- (What's his name --) [pause]

P.: You mean Oswald?

W.: Oswald, yes; I'm trying to place him: Oswald. He had this placard on his neck. On it was inscribed something about Castro, long live Castro, or something on there. I just don't remember the wording or anything. But I remember it was -- we assumed that it was Cuban. And I know that he referred to Castro.

P.: Umhuh.

W.: And golly, we had no more than met them when a group of other people jumped in there and started tearing up the literature. He had this literature in his hands, and he was handing it out to people as he went. I didn't take one of these. I don't recall that I took one, but --

P.: Did any of your family take it, or did Mr. Doyle's family or he take it?

W.: I don't remember that either, if any of them took them. I know that I could see the man passing bills, as you see these street vendors do, you know.

P.: Yes.

W.: Some nut come along passing literature. I don't always take it. I don't remember if Doyle did. But anyway he was passing these out, and pretty soon several other people that looked

to me like they were not natives. They looked to be more like the Cuban type -- jumped him, right there. And they grabbed these posters, and they began throwing them about, and they shoved him around, and they shoved him on the ground once.

P.: Oh, they did shove him down on the ground?

W.: Yes, they shoved him down, and he was up, and he had this funny look on his face. I looked at him while this boy was taking pictures all the time. And I can remember that face. Then when it came out in the newspapers afterward I could recall it. That was the same face -- I mean it appeared like he looked like he was Oswald.

P.: Yes.

W.: I can recall this, yes. And then pretty soon, it wasn't only a few minutes, and the police car pulled up in there, too, and they put him in the police car. They took him away.

P.: Did they only take Oswald away, or did they --

W.: I can't recall what happened to that other guy. I -- I'm sorry, I just don't remember, but I think they took two of them. I -- I'm just guessing at it because it's so hazy now, but I can remember they put one of them -- this Oswald, the guy that had the the literature, I know they put him in the car.

P.: Yes. Well now --

W.: If I can remember now what happened to that other guy that was walking with him.

P.: Was it your impression that the man walking with Oswald before the others came along -- was it your impression that they were friends, or that they were --

W.: I thought they were together, yes.

P.: They seemed to be together?

W.: I thought they were together, yeah. I thought they were in a similar cause, whatever it was.

- P.: Was the other man passing out literature, also?
- W.: I don't think he was. I think he was just walking. I don't remember that he had -- He could of, and -- They had a large placard, too, and I don't know what happened to it. Somebody was carrying it. Either one of them was carrying ~~it~~ a -- a larger placard with them, and I -- I think it was Oswald. The other man could have been carrying literature, too.
- P.: Well now, this large placard, is that ^{the} one that Oswald was wearing, or is that a different one?
- W.: No, they had another there, too. Yeah, they had another placard. I seen it laying on the side, there, in the street, and when this -- this ruckus was getting over, why, I seen this other placard by the police car. And it was inscribed with some writing, too, that I didn't decipher. I don't recall what it was.
- P.: You didn't see what this other placard said?
- W.: No, I -- I did at the time, but I don't remember what it said. I -- I know it was something to do with Cuba and the revolution.
- P.: Was -- Do you recall if it was pro-Castro or anti-Castro?
- W.: I think it was for Castro's cause -- I thought it was.
- P.: Now, did you see anyone else carrying a placard or --
- W.: No, I didn't that's
- P.: -- sign there?
- W.: the only ones that -- Oh, these things happen so, and it was kind of a -- kind of a hurry up deal, too, and we didn't realize what it was all about, or I had no idea that this was a -- a major item and like the killing of the president or anything.
- P.: Yes.
- W.: I was more interested in this boy getting all these pictures.
- P.: Yes.
- W.: He was getting action.
- P.: Right. Well, you didn't notice, then, if any of the Cubans were carrying a sign.

W.: No, I didn't. I didn't notice that the Cubans that jumped him were carrying anything.

P.: About how many would you say there were?

W.: Oh, I would judge that there was five or six or maybe even more, but at least I seen five or six men in this group that challenged him.

P.: That actually had physical contact?

W.: Yes. They shoved him around there but lively for awhile, and he had this -- oh, he had a real sneery look on his face. He didn't seem to care what happened. He had an odd expression. You know when you look at a guy like that you don't forget that look.

P.: Yes.

W.: This is what struck me. After I seen it in newspapers I could identify that face at least.

P.: Well now, did you see anyone hit Oswald?

W.: Strike? No, I didn't

P.: In the face?

W.: see anyone strike, but I know he got pushed around. And there was -- there was quite a lot of jostling going on in there, and there was quite a few people involved in there, so you couldn't tell what was going on all the time. And I -- I was trying to make room for this boy to get his pictures, too, you know.

P.: Yes.

W.: I was more interested in that than I was in the darn fight.

P.: Well now, how close did you get to Oswald and his companion before the other people came along?

W.: Oh, I think we were almost abreast of them. We were almost abr -- in fact they walked by us before these people actually -- before the melee started.

P.: I see.

W.: They were abreast of us, and I was trying to decipher the sign, and I told Mr. Doyle, I can remember, I says "I wonder

how far that guy's going to go in a -- in a Cuban refugee place like this with that sign." It kind of appeared to me that he was asking for trouble.

P.: Well, that could be.

W.: And that's what it turned out to be: trouble.

P.: Did you happen to overhear any conversation between Oswald and his companion as they walked by you?

W.: No. No, I didn't hear anything.

P.: Do you know if they were talking?

W.: I don't even recall if they were talking. I can't -- I just can't recall that at all. I -- I -- I don't know.

P.: Did you get a very good look at the man who was with Oswald, particularly at his face?

W.: Not that I would recognize him even if I -- I -- I probably looked at him, but I didn't -- but Oswald had a different appearing face. He had an odd expression, and that stayed in my mind. I -- I just don't recall what the other man even looked like.

P.: Well see, one thing Mr. Garrison is interested in is the identity of this other individual.

W.: Oh.

P.: And --

W.: Well, I'm sorry I can't help you.

P.: Well --

W.: I can't recall at all what he looked like.

P.: Well let me ask you this: Do you think that Jim Doyle got pictures of this other man?

W.: Well, I thought he did. I was -- I really thought he did. I'd have to -- I think to ^{my} memory, I don't remember if I've seen these pictures. You see the FBI came and -- and -- and taken them away before I had the chance to see them.

P.: Yes.

W.: That's right. Now I remember what happened. They came over

and got those pictures from Doyle.

P.: That's right, they did.

W.: And I don't think I ever seen them. And after they came back -- oh, it's been a long time after they came back before I even inquired once if he had them back, and he said he did. But he felt they had been cut up. He thought something had been taken out of them. But I haven't seen the pictures. I never did see them, even.

P.: He mentioned to me that he thought there were some scenes missing from the film.

W.: Oh. Well, then you know about that. No, that's the only thing I know about them, that I remember him saying that there -- he thought something had been deleted or cut out.

P.: Well now --

W.: I think that he should have gotten a picture of both of those, because he was busy taking those pictures. He was getting a good -- he kind of stood at the side and was getting a good shot at it. One time he said he got the back of my head in there, but outside of that he seemed to be getting some pretty good pictures.

P.: Well now, if you saw the pictures that Jim Doyle took, could you recognize the man who was with Oswald, if he appears in those pictures?

W.: I -- I wonder if maybe I could. Perhaps I could.

P.: If you saw a separate part --

W.: I have a pretty good memory ^{of} ~~the~~ faces; I can't remember names, but I ~~can~~ ^{can} certainly ~~remember~~ -- have a good memory of faces, and I would hope that I could.

P.: Well, could you do this: could you contact Mr. Doyle -- see he's planning to send these pictures to New Orleans -- and could you contact him, and, well either this evening maybe or in the next day or so, and perhaps both of you or the other members of your family could look at these pictures again, because it is of some importance to try to identify this other individual to find out who was involved with

Oswald in this incident.

- W.: Yes. Well, (--), yes. I'll try to get a hold of Pat.
- P.: If you could do that, that would be very helpful. I mean possibly, see, in the melee it might -- someone who wasn't there
- W.: Yeah.
- P.: couldn't pick out who was actually with Oswald.
- W.: Yes. I could -- I could -- I could (--) do that then, and might be able to identify him.
- P.: Mr. Doyle said that he didn't think this other individual appeared in the pictures, but he wasn't -- didn't seem certain, and I asked him if he would look at them again.
- W.: Yes, but Doyle remembers that there was another man there.
- P.: Yes. He -- his -- what he says agrees with what you say.
- W.: I see. Well, I could find out if he's got those pictures and he would let me see them.
- P.: Now you say the police arrived rather shortly after the incident?
- W.: Yes. It was only a few minutes and the police were there.
- P.: Do you think -- why -- do you think they arrived unusually fast, or did it seem out of the ordinary, or just normal?
- W.: No, I think that at least with modern radio cars, ^I they could have been somewhere in the area and put them in dispatch there in that time. If I remember right, somebody in -- somebody there started to holler for police, and there was a store there, I think it was a clothing store. Right in that -- right opposite where this thing was taking place, they made a call from there for the police. Somebody was calling for the police. And I don't know who they were, whether they were bystanders or some of these people. I know they called the police, and it was only a very short time when the police car -- squad car pulled up. And they hustled -- I know they hustled him into the squad car -- I think it was Oswald, and I can't remember the other man, though;

what -- what happened to him. I just don't remember what -- where he disappeared, but I assume that he was in that car.

P.: You think the other man was in the car?

W.: I just kind of think he went into that same car, but I couldn't swear on it because I can't remember -- I didn't pay any attention, or didn't give a darn.

P.: Now, if you saw a -- if you saw a group of photographs of different individuals, do you think you would recognize this other individual, if his picture was in this group of photographs?

W.: I just wonder. I wouldn't know if I could. I'd like to take a try at it. Like I said I have a pretty fair memory for faces,

P.: Umhuh. Well --

W.: but I don't know for sure.

P.: Mr. Garrison's investigator who has been working on this particular angle is named Tom Bethell. And now, if he would send you copies of pictures, would you look at them.

W.: Yeah. I'll take a look at them and see if I can. Yeah.

P.: Fine. I'll pass that information on to him.

W.: Yes. I'll take a try at it.

P.: Good. Now is there anything else you can tell me about what happened?

W.: I think you've got about the whole story (--) right there. I can't recall anything else that would be of any profit to you. I'm not sure anything else happened there. It boils down to that.

P.: I see. Did you see Oswald passing out literature before the Cubans came along?

W.: Yes, he was passing some literature out, that's right, at least as I can remember.

P.: Before you met him, then, he was pas --

W.: I could see him coming down the street. Now we were walking

not too far from the intersection, but far enough so we could see this man coming toward us passing literature, and somebody was walking with him. And several people, I'm sure, took some of these, but I don't think we took any of these. I just don't remember, and I --

P.: Umhuh.

W.: I don't usually. I don't, and I don't remember if Pat took them. I'm sure I didn't take any of his literature.

P.: Umhuh.

W.: But I did read that sign on his chest, what -- what I could understand it. It was a crudely made sign, hard to read. But I did read that he was favoring the Castro regime.

P.: Umhuh.

W.: And I made the remark to Mr. Doyle, "I wonder how far that guy's going to get in this town." I know that Miami [sic] has harbored quite a lot of refugees from Cuba. (--) Cuban (--).

P.: Yes.

W.: And I felt that this wasn't the place to be flaunting it. And it wasn't no more than hardly got by us when these people jumped them. And I said to Pat, "Well, here's trouble," -- what the heck was going on. The boy started taking pictures, so we got busy trying to get him the pictures.

P.: Well, did you notice if anyone else was taking pictures of the incident?

W.: I didn't -- I didn't notice anybody with a camera in there. I don't know of anybody else with a camera in there.

P.: Umhuh.

W.: No, I didn't see anybody else (--).

P.: When the Cubans came up, were they in small groups, or did all of them come together, or --

W.: It seemed like they all converged pretty much together. And where they came from even surprised me. I didn't even notice where they came from, but they must have been standing right

there by the edge of the -- toward the buildings from the sidewalk -- just those building fronts, because I -- I was just mystified where they came from. But there apparently was at least five or six or more ^{of} them in that group. And they were highly agitated immediately. There was a little noise and talking, and some of the talking was in a foreign tongue, because I didn't

- P.: Could you speak up just a little bit, please.
- W.: I say, I think most of them talking was in a foreign tongue, because I didn't understand or get any of it -- what they were trying to tell him.
- P.: Oh, I was just going to ask you if you remembered anything they said.
- W.: No, I didn't get any of the conversation. I don't think any of us did. Because we were just dumbfounded, what was going on, and I couldn't understand anything.
- P.: Well alright. Thank you very much for your help Mr. Wilson.
- W.: I'm sorry I can't be of more help, but I --
- P.: Well, that's O.K. If you think of anything else of importance, then, if you would contact Mr. Doyle, because he's planning to contact Mr. Bethell.
- W.: O.K.
- P.: And if you could both, and your family, too, perhaps -- I understand you have a son that was there, too?
- W.: Yes.
- P.: You might talk to them and see what they remember about it.
- W.: I will.
- P.: Particularly if they think they would recognize the individual with Oswald.
- W.: Yes.
- P.: And likewise with Jim Doyle, Mr. Doyle's son.
- W.: Fine.
- P.: O.K. Very good.

W.: Thank you.

P.: And thank you very much.

W.; Good night.

P.: Good night.