

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
PARISH OF ORLEANS
STATE OF LOUISIANA

December 15, 1966

STATEMENT OF: ALVIN R. BEAUBOUF, WM, age 21

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I met Dave Ferrie through Butch Marsh when Butch Marsh asked me to be a character witness in favor of Dave Ferrie for the alleged homosexual act he was charged with. I never got involved as a witness in that case.

I had taken flying instructions from Dave Ferrie and on a Friday, November, 1963, the day that the president, Kennedy, was assassinated, Dave Ferrie, Melvin Coffee, and myself went by automobile to Houston, Galveston, Alexandria, and New Orleans.

The following is a series of questions asked by Det. Louis Ivon of the New Orleans Police Department, and Assistant District Attorney John Volz, designated by QI and QV. Answers are by Alvin Beaubouef.

QI Whose automobile were you in?

A Dave Ferrie's automobile

QI What kind of automobile?

A a '61 Comet Stationwagon

QI What was the purpose of going to Houston?

A To go ice skating.

QI You know approximately what time you left New Orleans?

A. About 4 P. M. in the evening and arrived in Houston about 9, maybe 10 o'clock. It's about a 4 hour drive.

QI Before leaving, where did you meet in New Orleans?

A I don't know where Dave and Morris met. Dave picked me up at school and we left directly from school. I had my luggage in the car.

QI What school?

A John Curtis Christian High School

QI Located where?

A Vets Highway, Kenner.

QI You left New Orleans - Did you stop anywhere along the route to Houston?

A At a tavern on the Texas - Louisiana border - then proceeded directly to Houston. Dave had known somebody who owned this tavern. We had coffee, talked and went on.

QI Were there any guns in the automobile when you left New Orleans?

A No. No kind of gun to my knowledge.

QI Upon your arrival in Houston, what did you do?

A It was late. We ate and went to sleep. - Got up the next morning.

QI You stayed in a motel?

A Yes

QI You remember which one?

A No, it was close to an interstate highway.

QI Go on

A The next morning we went in town to do some shopping, bought some clothes and then proceeded to the ice skating rink. After skating, returned to the motel and decided to go to Galveston.

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Saturday afternoon

QI Did you meet anybody in Houston?

A No, we didn't meet anybody that we knew or that I knew to my knowledge.

QI Did Dave Ferrie meet anybody he knew?

A Not to my knowledge

QI Were the three of you together at all times?

A I would say so.

QI Did you know anybody at the skating rink?

A No, not to my knowledge at all.

QI Did you ice skate?

A Yes

QI How long did you stay at the rink?

A Approximately 2 1/2 hours.

QI What made you decide to leave Houston and go to Galveston?

A It was a disappointing trip. I had done some amateur skating and thought I could ice skate but Dave and I sat on the bench and we decided to go to Galveston to add to the trip.

What appeared to afternoon?

QI You remember approximately what time you left Houston?

A In the evening before or after dark, I don't remember.

QI Did you stop anywhere?

A No, I don't believe. The only times I remember stopping was once to eat and once at the tavern.

QI Upon your arrival in Galveston, what did you do?

A We checked into a motel on the main drag

QI Do you know the name?

A No - we went to the various night spots and had a few drinks and went back to the motel and went to bed.

QI Did you meet anybody you knew?

A No.

QI Dave Ferrie?

A No

A No, the next morning we started back to New Orleans via Alexandria.

QI Did you stop from Galveston to Alexandria?

A No, not at all.

QI Along the way, did you see any beasts?

A Yes, between Galveston and - - - along the coast. We saw some geese.

QI Did you do any hunting?

A No

QI Did Melvin or Dave Ferrie?

A Not on this trip.

QI Did you stay overnight in Alex?

A No

QI After you arrived in New Orleans, have you ever gone hunting together?

A Yes, duck hunting.

QI Who?

A Dave Ferrie, myself, and someone else who I can't recall, I met him once.

QI When you went hunting with Dave, what weapon did he use?

A A shotgun

QI His own?

A No, I don't think he owned one, I think I loaned him one.

QI Does Dave Ferrie own any rifles, shotguns, or pistols?

A At one time a .38 special and an 30.06.

QI Is Dave Ferrie a good shot?

A Not to my knowledge.

QI What is your opinion?

A An average shot being a man without special training with a gun.

QI Have you ever seen him fire this 30.06?

A Yes, we shot it before.

QI Where

A In the woods

QI Where?

A Exact location? Right off the intersection of the Industrial and Intercostal Canals on the woods' side.

QI Do you know a Morris Brownlee?

A Yes, through Dave.

QI Tell me about him.

At this point, Mr. Volz enters the office:

QV Did the FBI ever contact you?

A Yes, but I didn't want to talk without a counsellor's advise first, and I didn't make a written statement. They never asked me anything again.

QV Had you ever taken trips like this before? For no apparent reason?

A No

QV And the purpose of this trip was to ice skate?

A Yes,

QV You know how to ice skate?

A No, I thought I did.

QV What had Ferrie told you about it

A I had been told it wasn't easy as it looked but I was almost pro on roller skates and when I got there I sat on the bench or floor most of the time.

QV About Brownlee?

A My acquaintance with Brownlee is through Dave Ferrie.

QV Brownlee was close friends with Ferrie?

A Then, but not so much now.

QV How good of friends were you with Morris Brownlee?

A Not a good friend - a casual friend.

QV How did he impress you?

A He impressed me as a fellow with something against the world. He cautiously picked out his words and spoke with precision in whatever he said. Then he didn't strike me as being the greatest or the worst.

QV Did he talk politics?

A Some, he seemed very intelligent.

QV Did he have any particular strong interest in politics?
Was he venomous on any particular society?

A Not to my knowledge, I don't recall any strong messages.

QU Did you stay with Dave Ferrie and Coffee the entire time that you were in Galveston?

A Yes

QU Did you ever get to get a pack of cigarettes or leave?

A No, there was some separation as I might have been out of the room where I went to get some coffee.

QU Do you remember any of this specifically?

A Yes, I went to pick up some matches and some post cards.

QU Do you recall what kind of post cards?

A Regular tourist cards.

QU How about pictures of the motel?

A. No, I couldn't recall.

QU Who did you send these cards to?

A I sent one to my mother and one to my girlfriend at the time.

QU Do you think they might still have these cards?

A No, not after the flood.

QU You can't recall what kind of motel this was?

A. Yes, it was shaped in the form of a square "u", it was two stories all the way around. It must have had 25 to 35 apartments.

QU Was there anything around the street from it.

Water.

QU What was on the other side?

A I don't know, I think it was a bay.

QU Do you recall if it was the Holiday Inn?

A No, I don't recall.

QU How did you come to stay at this place?

A We picked the first clean spot we came to.

QU Who suggested the trip to Galveston?

A I can't remember, I don't know who suggested it.

Qu Now, when you left you say that you had planned this trip about a week before?

A In precision.

Qu What do you mean by in precision?

A We had planned to go that particular afternoon. It was the only weekend that Melvin could get off.

Qu Who suggested the trip?

A I think it was me. I had suggested to go to Baton Rouge. I had made the suggestion to go ice skating.

Qu Who found out that the skating ring in Baton Rouge was closed?

A I found out that there was one in Houston and called to see when the skating ring was open.

Qu Why did you ask Dave to go?

A Melvin, Dave, and I were together at one time. I think what had happened was that Melvin had made a settlement that on some weekend he was thinking about going out of town. I think that either he or I made the suggestion to go to Baton Rouge. Like I said, we wound up in Houston.

Qu Who decided to go to Houston?

A Like I said, something happened and we decided to go to Houston.

Qu What was Dave's business at that time? What did he do for a living?

A I don't know, I think he was working for G. Wray Gill at the time.

A Right

QV Did you stay at a motel in Houston?

A Yes.

QV You can't remember which one?

A No.

QV Did you go looking for girls in Houston? Did you have any luck?

A No

QV While on your trip to Houston, Galveston, and through Alexandria at any time were you all separated.

A No lengthy period were we separated. Not more than 15 minutes. We always went together and left together.

QV Did any of you make any calls or receive any calls?

A Not to my knowledge.

QV Were you interested in the assassination?

A You remember I was only about 17 or 18 at the time. Only to the fact that the president of United States had and it was a pretty terrible thing, but as far as anything else. We had listened to the news and one of the films released and stayed in close contact with the news.

QV Did you watch Ruby shoot Oswald?

A Yes

QV Did you watch it live?

A Well, I don't recall at the time, you don't recall the time that it happened?

QV I think it was around noon.

A We had stopped in a gas station and were watching the film. I don't know whether it was live or re-runs.

QV Were all three of you watching it?

A Yes, all three.

A Several people were there watching it also, it was just drawn to our attention.

QV Have you read anything about

A I had heard something about what they have tried to link things together. I haven't read anything. All my information came off of newsreels and movies.

QV You say, positively there were no firearms in the car?

A Not to my knowledge.

QV Have you met a lot of people through Dave Ferrie?

A Yes, many influential people.

QV What do you mean by influential people?

A We have flown a lot of people on charter. The State Senator has flown in on charter. This was recently, about six months back. I have met many big people in oil through a recent party, the president of Shell and Vice-President of Humble.

QV Who gave this party?

A Steve Littleton

QV What other kind of people have you met through Ferrie?

A Average American people

QV All American?

A Well, all American citizens, difference nationalities - I have flown steadily from South America.

QV How did you communicate with these people?

A Dave speaks Spanish. He had given a few lessons before. You don't learn anything the first few times. The only thing I could do was show them.

QV Can you speak Spanish?

A No Sir.

QV How did you explain it to them?

A I had known the particular maneuvers. It is more or less obtained by practicing.

QV This happened in the plane while you were flying?

A They knew enough English to contact the tower but not enough to hold a conversation.

QV How old were these people?

A 25, 27, and 21. They only had a couple of Spanish students.

QV Do you know where they were from?

A One from South America.

QV Where in South America?

A Ecuador. I don't know where the others were from.

QV Can you remember their names?

A ^No Sir. I'd know them if they were repeated. Off hand, I don't know.

QV What kind of plane did you use?

A Small Cessina

QV Was one of the boys named Carlos?

A No

QV Caroga?

A No. One of the boys name started with a "K" effect but not Caroga.

Volz - O.K.