This memorandum results from a discussion between Mr. Molin and myself on March 24, following Roy Truly's testimony.

Roy Truly has testified that when he and Petroleum Baker ran to the rear of the first floor, neither elevator was there. Truly pressed the button for the west elevator and shouted up the shaft asking that the elevator be released. It was necessary to do this since the elevator would not work if the gate was open. Once the gate was closed the elevator would come if the button was pressed. Truly did not try to get the east elevator, because this operates only by hand and can be run only by a person who is in it.

Truly claims that he looked up the shaft and saw that both elevators were together on the same floor.

As part of this picture we should also remember that approximately 15 minutes before the assassination Jerman and Murman took the west elevator up to the fifth floor.

Truly and Baker started climbing the stairs no more than two or three minutes after the assassination. (Mr. Molin timed it at less than two minutes.) At each landing Truly and Baker looked to see whether an elevator was present and they did not see one. They certainly would have noticed the west elevator because this was most directly in line with their vision at each landing.

It was only when they reached the fifth floor that they saw an elevator, but, surprisingly enough, it was the east elevator which they saw. The west elevator was not present on the fifth floor where Truly thought he had seen it from below, and where it could have been expected to be found since Jerman and Murman had taken it there to have their lunch.
Truly testified further that he and Baker took
the east elevator to the seventh floor. The west elevator
was not on the seventh floor when they reached that floor.
He cannot say that the west elevator was not on the sixth
floor at this time.

Truly and Baker then looked around on the roof
and took the east elevator back down from the seventh
floor. On the way down he noticed that the west elevator
was on the fifth floor again.

There are several alternative explanations for
the movements of the west elevator.

First, let us assume that Truly was correct in
his first observation that the east and west elevators
were both on the fifth floor at approximately two minutes
after the assassination. This means that by the time Truly
and Baker reached the fifth floor, it was gone. We knew
that someone would have had to close the gate on this
elevator during this period, because Truly was unable to
got the elevator by pressing the button when he was on the
first floor. This person then might have taken the elevator
up the sixth floor while Truly and Baker were running up
the stairs. At this present, however, we have Jumaa,
Williams and Hurnon who say that they didn't hear any
elevator. Moreover, they have never admitted that anyone
else was on the floor.

It is also possible that someone got on the
elevator on the fifth floor at this time and headed down
while Truly and Baker were running up the stairs. Here
again, Jumaa, Hurnon, and Williams didn't hear anyone and
it is quite unlikely that Truly and Baker would not have
noticed the elevator moving as they reached each landing.

While it is possible, therefore, that a worker
moved the west elevator either up or down from the fifth
floor during this period, we don't know the name of such
a worker and we have the problem of Jumaa, Williams and
Hurnon who have to be questioned again as to whether they
heard anyone on the floor and whether they heard the
elevator move.

The second possible assumption is that the elevator
was not on the fifth floor at all, but was on the sixth
floor with the gate open at the time that Truly rang for it
on the first floor. This would mean that someone on the
sixth floor would have had to close the gate and take the
elevator down—either directly to the fifth floor where Truly saw it after he was on the roof, or to some lower floor and then back up to the fifth floor. In either case, it would mean that someone got on the west elevator on the sixth floor just a very short time after Oswald left the floor via the stairway. Significantly, none of the investigations appears to have turned up anyone who admits to being on the west elevator at this time.

Truly thinks that Dougherty was working there at this time. I know that Mosers, Ball and Belin plan to question Dougherty, who would have to explain why he was up there working so soon after the shots were fired. A previous memorandum on Dougherty, written by Mr. Hinesburg, raises questions about Dougherty which should be looked into on the next trip to Dallas.

If Oswald was not acting alone, it is very likely that an employee of the TESO building was his accomplice. It is also possible that an employee of the TESO might have information and for some reason be afraid to come forward. Through persistent questioning on such matters as the elevator locations we might be able to locate the person or persons who may know more than they are telling.

I have discussed this matter with Mr. Belin and he shares my feeling that this matter will be the subject of questioning when Mosers, Ball and Belin travel to Dallas again.