

The footage of film of Lovelady at police station  
I think shows Lovelady held about person being in  
Altgens photo.  
Was Lee Harvey Oswald the Person in the James Altgens Photograph?  
By Roy L. Schaeffer

Hal, (VERB)  
This is a very  
possible scenario  
Article has  
to be rewritten

A question still remains after thirty years, if Lee Harvey Oswald had lived long enough to stand trial in Dallas, Texas in 1963 would a jury find him guilty of being the lone assassin in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and the person seen in the James W. Altgens photograph. The answer to this question can be answered today, emphatically no! This is the reason why.

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The San Francisco Chronicle published the James Altgens photograph Z-255 along with a photograph taken of Lee Harvey Oswald shortly after his arrest. The caption under the Altgens photograph asked if Oswald might be the man in the front doorway of the Book Depository.<sup>1</sup> The Dallas police, Secret Service, and Warren Commission quickly took statements from at least 28 witnesses near the front steps of the Depository who were watching the Presidential parade. After a quick analysis of their statements the issue of Oswald being on the front steps of the TSBD was quickly eliminated. Only four employees who knew Oswald were questioned by the Warren Commission about Oswald being on the front steps of the Depository. The four employees who were standing on the front steps of the TSBD as the assassination was taking place were: Joe R. Molina, Buell Wesley Frazier, Roy Truly, and William Shelley. The four testified before the Warren Commission that Oswald was not standing with them on the Depository steps when the Presidential limousine passed by. Their joint testimony should have settled the issue of Oswald not being in the Altgens photograph; however, after getting past the surface of their testimony stating that Billy Nolan Lovelady was the Oswald look-a-like in the Altgens photograph there seems to be a reasonable doubt about their collective testimony about Lovelady being Oswald.<sup>2</sup>

The National Press pushed the Dallas Police Department very hard for information about the assassination of President Kennedy. Between November 22-24, Chief Jesse Curry appeared on at least a dozen television and radio shows expounding Oswald's guilt. By the Press pushing the Chief for Oswald's conviction, several statements were made to the Press that created a negative effect on the four Depository employees who would be key in proving Oswald's innocence or guilt.<sup>3</sup> Dallas District Attorney Henry Wade became concerned after Oswald was murdered on Sunday by Jack Ruby and held a closed

Please try and  
find a photo  
of Lovelady's  
facial features

I am quite interested in Sprague's  
Comments. This is an early  
draft.

meeting with most of the high-ranking Dallas police officers. District Attorney Wade said that the public was saying that the Dallas police had the wrong man, and that the Dallas police had killed Oswald, or let him be killed while being transferred. Wade held a lengthy press conference to persuade the Press and the public that the Dallas police was innocent in causing the death of Lee Harvey Oswald.<sup>4</sup>

In giving testimony to the Press about Oswald, Wade made a number of errors about the actual facts of the case.<sup>5</sup> By Wade addressing the public he inadvertently placed a great deal of pressure and unfavorable publicity on the four key witnesses on the front of the Depository.

Joe R. Molina was standing in front of the person in question in the Altgens photograph. Molina was employed at the Book Depository for sixteen years as its Credit Manager. Molina was arrested the day of the assassination and at first was thought to be a co-conspirator with Oswald. The Dallas police considered him as a possible subversive because he held membership in the Dallas Chapter of the veterans organization, the American G.I. Form. The G.I. Form was an organization for Hispanic veterans who fought in the Spanish Civil War.<sup>6</sup> Molina lost his job a month later because of the negative publicity created by the Press. Molina was questioned by the Warren Commission in April of 1964 was no doubt angry about the loss of his job and scared enough by public pressure to comply with the Warren Commission's conclusion that Billy Lovelady was the person seen in the James Altgens photo.<sup>7</sup>

Buell W. Frazier, a friend of Oswald's already had a lot of explaining to do because of his affiliation with Oswald. Frazier was arrested the afternoon of the assassination while visiting his stepfather at a nursing home in Dallas. Frazier was held by the Dallas police until 9:00 p.m. that evening. The following day, the Dallas police took Frazier back into custody for further questioning. After further questioning about Oswald, the Dallas police released Frazier, but kept a close tab on him.<sup>8</sup>

Buell Frazier began his employment at the Texas School Book Depository on September 13, 1963. Prior to his employment in Dallas, Frazier lived in Hunstville, Texas, two hundred miles away. Oswald was hired by Roy Truly on October 15, 1963.<sup>9</sup>

Several persons believed that Frazier was involved with Oswald to a certain degree

in the assassination. Others believed that they had observed Oswald and Frazier at the Sports Drome rifle range in Dallas in early October. Frazier stated that he had not met Oswald before October 16, the day Oswald started working at the Depository. Garland G. Slack stated that he had an altercation with a person shooting at his target in early October, prior to October 16. When Oswald's picture appeared on television, Slack believed he was the person who shot at his target. Six persons at the rifle range swore that the man resembled Oswald. Slack alleged that the man with Oswald was a man named "Frazier, from Irving."<sup>10</sup> Frazier's involvement with Oswald was extremely detrimental. Frazier openly admitted that he drove Oswald to see his wife on the weekends in Irving. Frazier denied any involvement with Oswald except being his friend. Frazier by his involvement with Oswald no doubt was influenced to some degree by the Dallas police to identify Lovelady as being the individual in the Altgens photograph.

Roy S. Truly, the Texas School Book superintendent was shown the Altgens photograph on November 25, 1963. Truly stated the photograph resembled Lovelady. (Notice Truly did not say the individual on the front steps was Lovelady). Truly was under heavy pressure by the local authorities for hiring Oswald and being unwittingly responsible for allowing Oswald to escape from the Depository after he identified Oswald as being an employee in the lunchroom shortly after the assassination. Truly was placed under further pressure after it was learned that during the week of the assassination he brought two rifles into the Depository, one a 6.35mm German Mauser, the other a .22 rifle.

William Shelley also stated that Lovelady was the person in the Altgens photograph. William Shelley stated to the FBI that he was standing just outside the glass door of the entrance directly in front of Lovelady, who was sitting on the front steps. Notice Shelley said Lovelady was sitting. This clearly was his way saying the person in the Altgens may have not been Lovelady. Clearly Shelley wanted no part in this mess because of his boss Roy Truly who wanted the issue closed. Another reason why Shelley hesitantly identifying Lovelady as being on the front steps was because when the Dallas police asked Oswald where he was when the assassination took place. Oswald stated, "I was having lunch with Jr." (William Shelley's nickname). Because of mounting pressure Shelley also took the easy way out by saying that Lovelady was the Oswald look-a-like in the Altgens photograph.<sup>11</sup>

Before going into the Billy Lovelady caper, two questions need answering: was there any concrete evidence that Lovelady was not where he said he was in the James Altgens photograph, and was duress used by the Warren Commission on the four witnesses to alter their testimony about Lovelady being the Oswald look-a-like in the Altgens photograph.

The answer to both of these questions can be answered after and after by closely examining various photographic evidence taken of the front steps during the assassination, and film footage taken at the Dallas police station of Oswald passing by Lovelady at 2:00 p.m. ("Four Days in Dallas") Frames from the Robert Hughes, Tina Towner films show the image of the person in question standing on the far left side of the Depository steps. The problem with the two films without enhancement it is impossible to tell for sure if the individual was Lovelady or Oswald. The James Altgens photograph Z-255 gives a better image of the person in question, but because of its quality and loss of the original negative, a blown up version of this photo can't prove if the individual in question is Lovelady or Oswald. So more photographic evidence is needed to clarify this issue.

After the publication of Robert Groden's book, "The Killing of a President" the answer to the question about who the individual was in the Altgens photograph can finally be settled. One photograph taken by a spectator on page 48 in Groden's book after the assassination shows Lovelady on the far right side side of the Depository steps. This photograph clearly doesn't prove that Lovelady was on the front steps during the assassination but along with another photograph found on page 186 of Groden's book it does clearly show the shirt Lovelady was wearing the day of the assassination was quite difference in appearance to that of Oswald's. For some unexplained reason the unidentified photograph on page 186 of Groden's book clearly shows Lovelady standing on the front steps of the TSBD. I believe that this cropped photograph is a frame of the <sup>Johnny Martin</sup> ~~Tina Towner~~ film taken during the time the Presidential limousine passed by the front steps of the depository. This frame was taken just prior to the President being shot the first time. Although I can't positively prove the reason the photo was cropped, I believe it was cropped to hide the fact that both Lee Harvey Oswald and Billy Nolan Lovelady was on the front steps during the assassination. The problem was Lovelady was not where he said he was at the time of the assassination, and was not in the Altgens photograph.

Because of my allegation which can't be positively proven at this point because of the poor quality of the frame that appeared in Life, for argument sake let's assume that both Lovelady and Oswald can be seen in the first of three frames of the Tina Towner film that appeared in Life, November 24, 1967. If this is true, and a cropped blow up of a frame that appeared in both of Groden's book, "JFK: The Case For Conspiracy" and "The Killing of a President" was taken from the Tina Towner film showing Lovelady, it is clear as being the sniper. that both Lovelady and Oswald appeared in the same frame, proving Oswald's innocence. But since this allegation can't be proven at this time let's play the devil's advocate. Because this blow up clearly shows Lovelady on the front steps of the TSBSD sometime during or after the assassination let's assume that it doesn't matter exactly when the photo was taken (during or after the assassination) let's examine the frame closely.

Before Lovelady died in 1984, Robert Groden had taken a photograph of Lovelady standing on the front steps of the TSBSD exactly where the individual in question in the James Altgens photo stood. What's is key about this cropped photo on page 186 of Groden's latest book is that the photo shows the shirt Lovelady was wearing the day of the assassination, and for the first time the Amercian public can see the actual shirt Lovelady was wearing the day of the assassination on him. On the following page of the book is a very clear photograph of Lovelady wearing the same shirt. By comparing the actual shirt to the photograph taken of Lovelady on the front steps during or after the assassination one think becomes clear, the shirt Lovelady had on the day of the assassination had more than five buttons on it. (Oswald's shirt Commission Exhibit 350 had five, three of which were missing to Oswald's midriff) Clearly all the buttons on Lovelady's shirt were still intact. By closely examining the shirt in the blow up of Lovelady it is clear that the third button can be seen intact in the blow up and shirt Lovelady posed in years later. What is key about this finding, the individual standing on the far left side of the Depository steps in the Altgens photo is clear missing the first three buttons of his shirt, so how could Lovelady say he was the person in the Altgens. The missing third button is paramount in proving that Lovelady was lying, the next question is why? 12

Because it can now be proven that Lovelady was not in the Altgens photograph, why did he lie about being the person in the Altgens photograph if he wasn't under duress.

Billy Lovelady stated in a sworn affidavit #DL100-10641 on March 2, 1964 that he was the person in the Altgens photograph after being confronted by the FBI armed with statements of Joe Molina, Roy Truly, Buell Frazier, and William Shelley saying he was the person in the Altgens photograph. No doubt, to get out of the situation Lovelady with the consent of his lawyer, identified himself as the man in the Altgens photo in spite of his hairline not matching the person in the Altgens photograph. This fiasco was done in light of Lovelady having a red and blue grey checkered shirt with horizontal and vertical white strips. In the film, "Four Days in Dallas" Lovelady is seen sitting in a chair as Oswald is escorted by him for questioning at 2:00 p.m. The film clearly shows Lovelady having a slight growth of beard and being at least a size larger than Oswald.<sup>13</sup>

Lovelady did not appear in person before the Warren Commission and there is no evidence that a picture of his was ever shown to the Commission. Lovelady definitely lied to the the FBI. From the very beginning Lovelady was in a difficult position. Shortly after the assassination Lovelady was arrested by the Dallas police and questioned. After his arrest Lovelady was closely guarded by the FBI. The Dallas police immediately established Oswald's guilt and didn't want any evidence to the contrary. District Attorney Henry Wade had placed considerable pressure on the four key witness on the front steps and Lovelady.

The Dallas Times Herald and San Francisco Chronicle published the James Altgens photograph on their front pages the day after the assassination. On December 3, 1963, the Cincinnati Enquirer wanted to know who the man was that was standing on the left side of the front steps of the Depository. On January 30, 1964, Mrs. Helen Shirah of Jacksonville, Florida, contacted the FBI by letter.<sup>14</sup> Shirah pointed out to the agency that in an article that ran in the Saturday Evening Post on December 14, 1963, "Four Dark Days in History," on page 24 that the individual in the Altgens photo closely resembled Oswald. She based her identification solely on seeing Oswald in the media. On February 19, 1964, Special Agents of the FBI contacted her. By this time, Lovelady was hounded by the media. Mrs. Shirley Martin, a critic hired an investigator to try and take a photograph of Lovelady. The photographer returned emptyhanded to Oklahoma explaining to her the difficulties he had encountered by the Dallas authorities when trying to obtain a photograph of Lovelady. A Fort Worth photographer,

Bill Beckman, also tried to obtain a photograph of Lovelady. Beckman was placed in custody, and after his release from jail was immediately asked to leave Dallas.<sup>15</sup>

On February 24, 1964, Jones Harris, a critic, had made an enlargement of the Altgens photograph. Harris and his lawyer Arnold Krakower presented the Altgens blow up and three photographs taken of Lovealady. Rankin was a lawyer on the Warren Commission staff in charge of gathering evidence for the Commission. As soon as Harris and his lawyer left Rankin's office, Rankin contacted J. Edgar Hoover. Instead of Hoover dealing with this issue in a proper manner, he stalled by saying he couldn't locate James Altgens for questioning, even though Altgens could have easily been contacted at his office in the Dallas News. Hoover waited three years before contacting him about the photograph he had taken of the Depository steps long after the Oswald issue had passed. The Warren Commission waited until almost the end of its investigation before asking the FBI to make a comparison of Lovelady's and Oswald's shirts. Instead of comparing the two shirts as requested against the shirt seen in shirt seen in the Altgens photograph. Rankin of the Warren Commission asked Hoover to compare a photograph of Lovealady's shirt to Oswald's shirt. After several photographs were made of the reported shirt Lovelady was wearing the day of the assassination, the photographs along with a photograph of Oswald's shirt was received and marked by Gerald L. Hill, a Dallas police sergeant. Prints of these photographs were sent to the FBI for analysis, along with Senator Ralph W. Yarborough's Exhibit A and B. (Ex. A was from the Saturday Evening Post article pgs. 24, 25, the Altgens photo) (Ex. B was a photograph of Oswald after his arrest, pg. 26. Soon thereafter, the original slides of the Hill exhibit disappeared.<sup>16</sup>

On August 20, 1964, J. Edgar Hoover sent a letter to J. Lee Rankin dealing with the issue of Lovelady's shirt. The letter stated, in part, "It has been determined that the shirt being worn by Lee Harvey Oswald in the photograph appeared on page 26, of the December 14, 1963 issue of the Saturday Evening Post (Yarborough Ex. B ) is the same shirt as Com. Ex. 150. Com. Ex. 350 was a photograph of Oswald's shirt, not the Altgens photograph. Hoover instead of referring to the Altgens photo, was referring to a photograph of Oswald taken at his arrest. The issue was never settled as to whether Yarborough Ex. A (Altgens photo) was the same shirt seen in Com. Ex. 350 because of the poor quality of the

the regenerated Altgens photograph shown to the Commission. The original negative of the Altgens photo had long disappeared. The procedures the FBI used to determine this issue was at best shady of Oswald being on the Depository steps. Exactly who the individual standing on the front steps of the Depository in the Altgens photo could have been easily proven, but for whatever reason wasn't. Instead of using the actual shirts of Lovelady and Oswald to settle this issue the FBI reverted to poor quality photographs. This incident clearly shows that the FBI did not care about Oswald being on the Depository steps during the assassination.<sup>17</sup>

Because I believe that it has been determined that Lovelady was not in the Altgens photograph, two other issues need to be discussed. The first, the witness testimony of other witnesses than the four placing Lovelady in the Altgens photograph, and secondly, a discussion of witness testimony who testified that Oswald was in the sniper's lair on the southeast corner of the sixth floor of the Depository.

As the assassination was taking place, motorcycle patrolman Marrion Baker was riding in the motorcade behind the Vice-President alongside a press car as the shots began to ring out. Baker looking up on Houston Street saw pigeons scatter from the roof of the Book Depository, which made him believe the assassin was on the Depository roof. Baker dismounted his motorcycle immediately after turning onto Elm Street near a tall, white monument. Baker then ran to the front steps of the Depository.<sup>18</sup> Roy Truly, the building superintendent was standing in front of the Depository as Baker approached. After a brief jester and exchange of words Patrolman Baker and Truly began to ascend to the roof of the Depository to look for the would be sniper.<sup>19</sup>

When the two entered the building and reached the two elevators on the first floor, both were being used by Jack Dougherty on the fifth floor, so in haste Baker took the steps and Truly the elevator. But Truly taking the elevator and Baker the steps to the second floor and Dougherty using one elevator and Truly the other, a sniper could have gotten out the front entrance by using the steps while they were encountering Oswald having a coke in the lunchroom.<sup>20</sup>

Victoria Adams, another School Book employee, was on the fourth floor with Sandra Styles, Elsie Dorman, and Dorothy May Garner when the assassination was taking place. Adams



immediately ran down the steps on the first floor, where she encountered Lovelady on the front steps of the Depository. So how would it be possible for Oswald to get past her on the front steps without being seen by her? Adams stood on the front steps sometime after the assassination.

The Warren Commission explained this dilemma by saying that the sniper had already descended down the depository steps and exited the building before Adams had reached the front steps.<sup>21</sup> This conclusion could be correct except for the fact Oswald didn't leave the Depository until 12:33 p.m.

It was determined by Roy Truly's secretary that Oswald left the Depository through the front entrance of the Depository at approximately 12:33 p.m. In addition to Truly's secretary seeing Oswald leaving by the front door of the Depository, additional confirmation of this event can be verified by a serendipitous event. Robert MacNeil (MacNeil/Lehrer Report), who then worked for the National Broadcasting Company, was riding toward the rear of the motorcade in the reporter's pool car as the assassination was taking place. Immediately, MacNeil ran to the TSBED in search of a telephone. In doing so he probably asked Oswald where a public telephone was located in the Depository building as Oswald fleeing from the Depository. This event can be confirmed by William Manchester, who traced MacNeil's telephone call to his employer at 12:34 p.m. When Oswald was interrogated by the Dallas police he mentioned that as he was leaving the Depository he was asked by a young Secret Service agent where a public telephone could be found. MacNeil was wearing a White House Press card that Oswald had probably mistaken for a Secret Service I.D.<sup>22</sup>

The Warren Commission set out to determine if Oswald could have descended down<sup>4</sup> the steps to the lunchroom from the sixth floor by the time Baker and Truly arrived on the second floor. In order for the Commission to determine the time it took the sniper to descend from the sixth floor the pair reenacted their movements. In a trial run Baker placed himself on a motorcycle about 100 feet from the corner of Elm and Houston Streets. From there, Baker ran to the outside of the Depository steps and met Truly, who stood in front of the building. Both men then proceeded up the stairs to the lunchroom on the second floor. The time it took them to reach the lunchroom was one minute and 15 seconds.<sup>23</sup>

A second test was also conducted to determine the time it required for one to ascend from the sniper's lair on the southeast corner of the sixth floor to a second floor lunchroom where Oswald was encountered. Special Agent John Howlett reenacting the sniper's movements carried a rifle from the southeast corner of the sixth floor along the east aisle to the northeast corner where he placed the rifle on the floor. Howett then traveled down the stairway to the second floor to the lunchroom. The re-enactment of Howlett took about the same time as Baker's and Truly's ascent to the second floor.<sup>24</sup>

The most damaging evidence to the Warren Commission's assumption that Oswald was not in the sniper's lair was found in the testimony of Mrs. Carolyn E. Arnold. The School Book secretary stated in a handwritten statement that she had gone down the stairs to the depository to watch the Presidential motorcade in front of the Depository at about 12:25 p.m. As Arnold was standing in front of the Depository she caught a glimpse of Oswald standing in the hallway leading to the front steps on the Depository and the double doors leading back into the warehouse. In reading through the various witness testimony one subject that the FBI avoided was asking any of the witnesses if they had seen Oswald on the front steps of the Depository before and while the assassination was taking place. Instead of confronting Arnold on the issue, two FBI agents, E.J. Robertson and Thomas T. Trettis, Jr., dodged the issue by changing Arnold's handwritten statement while typing out her report to read that she had seen Oswald between 12:00 p.m. to 12:15 p.m. In changing the time Arnold seeing Oswald on the front steps of the Depository, valuable evidence was altered to mislead the public about Oswald being on the front steps. Harold Weisberg pointed this out in his self-published book, Photographic Whitewash. Arnold's testimony was deleted from the official Warren Commission's Report. The major importance of Arnold's testimony is that it would have been impossible for Oswald to return to the sixth floor at the time if he was the sniper without being seen by other School Book employees.<sup>25</sup>

In all likelihood, Oswald went back into the Depository from the front steps to the second floor to have a coke after the real sniper exited the depository while on the second floor Baker, then Truly confronted Oswald in the lunchroom. Truly identified Oswald as an employee, so they proceeded onward to the roof. After the brief confrontation with Baker,

left the TSBD and returned to his rooming house. A question that needs answering, if Oswald was the sniper on the sixth floor, how was it possible for his description to be given out so quickly by the Dallas police.

According to Commission No. 290, a transcript of the radio transmissions that occurred that day, a description of the sniper was given at 12:45 p.m. The description was that of an unknown white male, approximately thirty, slender, height five feet six, weight one hundred sixty-five pounds. The person credited as giving out this description was Howard Brennan, Brennan was the man who was sitting on the concrete portion of the reflecting pool directly in front of the TSBD. The problem with Oswald being the sniper how was it possible for Oswald to be on the front steps and still be the sniper on the sixth floor. Remember, Brennan only saw the sniper from the chest up, so if Oswald wasn't the sniper on the sixth floor who was? Clearly the Tina Turner film shows a faint figure standing in the same location on the front steps as the individual in the Altgens photo who I believe was Oswald. It is clear that Brennan believed that Oswald or a look-a-like of Oswald was the sniper. Why was it never considered that Lovelady could have been the sniper on the sixth floor? If I am wrong about Lovelady being on the front steps during the assassination the question of Lovelady being elsewhere is not as far out as it first seems. Because this is still a possibility because the Tina Turner film has never been thoroughly analyzed, so let's examine the testimony of the witnesses who said they believed the sniper on the sixth floor was Oswald.

Although there were many people at the assassination scene watching the passing motorcade there were less than a handful of spectators who caught a fleeting glimpse of the assassin on the southeast corner of the sixth floor. One such person was an eighteen year old, Arnold Rowland. Rowland said that he and his wife were standing on the east side of Houston Street in front of the Dallas County Criminal Courts Bldg. near Main and Houston Streets. Rowland was about a hundred and ten feet from the depository. Rowland noticed a man standing back from the southwest corner (not the sniper's lair) window around 12:15 p.m. on the sixth floor. He described the man as having a light complexion, slender, and dark hair. Rowland also observed a man who he believed to be a negro "hanging out" the window on the southeast corner of the sixth floor shortly before the shots rang out. If Rowland's

testimony is accurate, it may indicate that Oswald had an accomplice, however, Rowland's testimony may only indicate that the man Rowland saw was Bonnie Ray Williams, another employee, who was eating lunch on the sixth floor at about that time.

Another witness who caught several quick glimpses of the 6th floor sniper was Howard L. Brennan, a forty-five year old steamfitter, who was sitting on a concrete wall in front of a reflecting pool on the southwest corner of Elm and Houston Streets thirty feet from the front of the Texas School Book Depository. Brennan was in a good position to see the sniper but his eyesight was worse than 20/40. Brennan was the Commission's key witness. Brennan stated that at about 12:22 p.m., he noticed a man leave and return to a window on the sixth floor several times.<sup>26</sup> Brennan's mental attentiveness and eyesight was not as acute as other witnesses. No doubt, Brennan saw the sniper but formed a questionable description of him. Brennan stated that when he heard the shots he looked up at the Book Depository in time to see the barrel of a rifle sticking out of one of the upper windows. Brennan also thought that one of the shots was a motorcycle backfire. Brennan observed the sniper firing his last shot as he disappeared from the sniper's lair on the southeast corner of the sixth floor.<sup>27</sup> The window ledges of the Book Depository were lower than most in the surrounding buildings, causing Brennan to assume that the man was standing at the window. Because the window opening was only sixteen inches in the sniper's lair and the window glass being dirty, the identity of the sniper was difficult to determine for any of the witnesses who caught a clear glimpse of the sniper.

Several minutes prior to the assassination, Ronald Fischer and Robert Edwards were standing directly in front of the reflecting pool near Brennan. As the motorcade was turning at Main onto Houston, Edwards mentioned to Fischer, "look at the guy there at that window." Fischer looked up and saw the man briefly but resumed watching the motorcade as it passed in front of him. Fischer said he remembered glancing at the man because the man "appeared uncomfortable for one, and secondly, he was watching . . . he didn't look like he was watching for the parade. He looked like he was looking down toward the Trinity River and Triple Underpass down at the end-- toward the end of Elm Street." Fischer saw the man only from the middle of his chest to the top of his head, indicating that the man was probably in the Marine Corps squatting position with the rifle. Fischer said the man was

dressed in a light-colored, open neck sports shirt. Fischer's description of the sniper's attire indicates that the sniper was wearing a T-shirt and sports shirt open at the collar.

About a week after the assassination a policeman showed Fischer a picture of Oswald. Fischer thought Oswald could have been the man, but wasn't sure. Robert Edwards described the man as being light complexioned and average size with light brown hair and a slender face and neck. Edwards said the man appeared to be in his early twenties.<sup>27</sup> Both Fischer and Edwards did not see the sniper long enough to later identify Oswald as the sniper. Fischer and Edwards were however persuaded of Oswald's guilt because of the intense media coverage that week in Dallas.

Another witness, Amos L. Euins, fifteen, was standing near the southwest corner of Elm and Houston Streets by the reflecting pool when Euins heard a loud noise, he turned around and looked up at the Book Depository in time to see the sniper fire the rifle. Euins noticed that when the assassin lowered his head when firing the rifle, the sniper appeared to have a white bald spot on top of his head. Euins was confused about the sniper's nationality.<sup>28</sup> Could Euins possibly be describing Billy Nolan Lovelady was the sniper?

From testimony by some of the eyewitnesses at the assassination scene the sniper on the southeast corner of the sixth floor may have had a growth of beard that confused some of the witnesses to believe the 6th floor sniper may have been dark complexioned. The Commission held to its opinion that eyewitnesses saw the black employee Williams. Williams was the person who ate his lunch on the sixth floor 15 minutes prior to the assassination. The Commission's conclusion about Williams being innocent is true, but let's not forget <sup>about</sup> Lovelady's beard.

John Powell was one of the many cellmates that housed the sixth floor of the Dallas County jail that day. The jail <sup>on Houston Street</sup> was a hundred and twenty feet from the sixth floor of the Depository. Powell stated that he and other cellmates watched two men at the later determined sniper's lair "fooling with the scope." of a rifle shortly before the assassination. Powell also noticed that one of the men had a darker complexion than the other. Was it possible that Powell was describing Lovelady because of his slight growth of beard.

Mrs. Carolyn Walther who was standing in front of the Dallas County Records Bldg.

also saw two men and a rifle at an upper window of the Depository about six minutes before the assassination. She believed that one of the two men had a darker complexion than the other. This adds to the scenario that Oswald may have had a sniper set-up before he had gone down to the front entrance of the TSBD.<sup>29</sup>

Because of the height of the sniper's lair (60 feet), none of the witnesses below had a clear view of the sniper. A positive identification of Oswald being the person at the southeast corner of the sixth floor is questionable because all of the witnesses caught only a glimpse of the sniper and saw only the top portion of the assassin's head and top torso for a fleeting second.

Brennan, the Commission's key witness, admitted that his vision was poor without glasses.<sup>30</sup> Brennan was the only witness who later identified Oswald. Brennan was taken to the Dallas police department on the afternoon of the assassination to see if he could pick Oswald from the line-up. From his testimony it appears that Brennan was coached by the Dallas police prior to the line-up. Between the time of the shooting and the time of the line-up, Brennan was a picture of Oswald on television. It was almost impossible for someone not to identify Oswald as the sniper because he had received some cuts and bruises on his face from the skirmish with police at the Texas Theater during the time of his arrest. Even with the help of the Dallas police Brennan said he "could not make a positive identification of Oswald."

Both Brennan and Euins rode to the police station in the same cruiser. Their versions and description of the sniper may have been enhanced by sharing information on the way to the station.<sup>31</sup> On December 17, 1963, Brennan told the FBI that the man was Oswald, but on January 17, 1964, he reverted to his earlier inability to identify the man. When Brennan appeared before the Commission he claimed that was able to positively identify Oswald. But the question remains, was an Oswald look-a-like in the sniper's lair? Brennan flew aboard the same airplane to Washington, D.C., as Bonnie Ray Williams, James Jarman, Jr., and Harold Norman. These three men were just below the sniper's window on the fifth floor when the assassination was taking place. When Brennan was asked to identify the two men at the window on the fifth floor, he could not. He was unable to pick from the three men the two who were at the second window from the southeast corner of the fifth floor.<sup>32</sup> The Commission stated that

none of the employees at the Book Depository noticed any stranger leave or enter the building the day of the assassination, but this doesn't eliminate the possibility of a Oswald look-a-like (Larry Crafard) being in the sniper's lair of the Depository.<sup>33</sup>

The Commission determined that there were eight known employees on the sixth floor that day. The last person to see Oswald on the sixth floor was Charles Givens. Givens also saw Oswald standing near the elevator gate on the fifth floor a half hour before the assassination. Givens stated to the Warren Commission that at 11:50 a.m. he forgot his cigarettes and had gone back to retrieve them. At that time he noticed Oswald holding a clip board at the corner of the sixth floor. Givens statement indicates that Oswald was not seen on the sixth floor for 40 minutes prior to the assassination.<sup>34</sup>

Shortly before the assassination, Bonnie Ray Williams ate lunch on the sixth floor and noticed no one,<sup>35</sup> so whoever was on the sixth floor was well hidden. A handmade package resembling a rifle case was found at the sniper's lair. The package had Oswald's left index finger print and his right palm print on it. The print on the bag doesn't prove that Oswald was the sniper, but it certainly does prove Oswald handled the package. In addition to Oswald's prints there was one identifiable palm print found at the sniper's lair that couldn't be identified. This print mysteriously disappeared.<sup>36</sup> It is quite possible that the print belonged to Lovelady or Larry Crafard. A paraffin test performed by the Dallas police on Oswald's cheeks eliminated Oswald as firing a rifle the day of the assassination. It should be clear by now that not one of the eyewitnesses seeing the sniper on the sixth floor could positively identify Oswald as the assassin and the paraffin tests eliminated Oswald, so it should be seriously considered that Oswald was the person in the Altgens photograph.<sup>37</sup>

when

The only question left is the blow up photo appearing on page 186 of Groden's book, "The Killing of a President" was taken. If the blow up was taken during the assassination Lovelady and Oswald were on the front steps together during the assassination, if the blow up frame was taken after the assassination then it should seriously be considered that Billy Nolan Lovelady was the possible sniper, and given the opportunity framed Oswald by saying he was the person in the Altgens photograph.

R.L.S.