

impossible use WFA

264 • CASE CLOSED

After firing the final shot, he slipped through the narrow gap he had created between the cartons of books. He hurried diagonally across the sixth floor, toward the rear staircase. Next to the stairs, Oswald dropped the rifle into an opening between several large boxes. It hid the gun from view unless someone stood almost directly over the boxes and peered down. Oswald rapidly descended the stairs until he heard the sound of footsteps running up. He ducked off at the second floor, and dashed into the adjoining lunch room. But suddenly a voice called out, and when he turned, he was face to face with a Dallas policeman with a drawn revolver.*

Marrison Baker was a motorcycle policeman riding in the motorcade about one-half block behind the President's car. Baker had just returned from deer hunting, and he recognized the first shot as coming from "a high-powered rifle . . . and it sounded high . . ." He looked up to where he thought the shots came from, the Book Depository, and saw a flock of pigeons fly off the building. Baker immediately raced his cycle 200 feet and jumped off in front of the Depository's steps and in another 45 feet he was inside the building. He yelled for directions to the stairs or elevator, and the building manager, Roy Truly, rushed him through a pair of swinging doors to the closest elevator. Truly kept pressing the down button and screaming, "Bring that elevator down here!" but nothing happened.** Truly said, "Let's take the stairs." They

*There is a question whether Oswald could have gone downstairs immediately after the assassination, since other Depository workers, including the three men on the fifth floor—Jarman, Williams, and Norman—as well as two fourth-floor office workers, Sandra Styles and Victoria Adams, also ran down the stairs and did not see him. But Oswald immediately took the staircase, whereas the three men admitted they stayed upstairs for ten to fifteen minutes after the shooting (WC Vol. III, p. 182). As for Styles and Adams, although they thought they came down quickly, they actually did not arrive on the first floor until at least four to five minutes after the third shot. The critical testimony is from Victoria Adams, who said that when she got to the first floor, she saw Billy Lovelady and William Shelley. Those two men, by their own testimony, did not return to the Depository for some five minutes after the shooting (see WC Vol. VI, pp. 331, 339, 389).

**Truly later decided that Oswald might have left the elevator's wooden grate open on the sixth floor so the car could not be operated.

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and started up, v
the second floor,
"I happened to se
know how come
down there. . . .]
. . . [and] I holler
Baker recalled th
"hurrying" thro
enter the office a
seen him.²

Oswald walked
third floor, retur
Baker asked Tr
Baker, "He did
said yes, Baker
was not until he
that he realized
of the last shot.

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leave the Depos
just run up and
continue from t
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*Baker claimed
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