

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CA 75-276
EXHIBIT 44

Copy to:

Report of: ROBERT P. GEMBERLING
Date: 8/5/64

Office: DALLAS

Field Office File No.: DL 100-10461

Bureau File No.: 105-82555

Title: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

Synopsis:

CLOTILE WILLIAMS heard assassination shots while standing on northwest corner of Houston and Elm Streets, Dallas, Texas, but did not see anything that aroused her suspicion and did not know from where the shots came. Supplemental listing of exhibits by item number and description prepared. Additional investigation conducted concerning mark on curb on south side of Main Street near triple underpass, which it is alleged was possibly caused by bullet fired during assassination. No evidence of mark or nick on curb now visible. Photographs taken of location where mark once appeared, together with other photographs reflecting angle of such location in relation to the sixth floor window of the Texas School Book Depository (TSBD) from which assassination shots fired. Photographs also taken from inside sixth floor of TSBD southeast corner window from which assassination shots fired, showing distance between floor and window sill and height of opening in the window when window half open. Photographs taken of person approximate height of OSWALD showing relative position of window ledge and window to such person. Photographs taken at Methodist Hospital of Dallas of bone specimen allegedly from skull of President KENNEDY obtained. Additional investigation conducted with negative results concerning claim by Mrs. EDITH WHITWORTH that she directed OSWALD family to Irving Sports Shop, Irving, Texas, in early November 1963, which investigation consisted of interviews of certain parents of female babies born 10/20/63, in the Irving and Dallas, Texas, area to determine if they were the individuals

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File VI - 010

CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENT, INC.

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March 17, 1983

Curbstone

Ms. Sissi Maleki
Research Associate
Reader's Digest
Pleasantville, NY 10570

Reference: Examination of a portion of concrete curb kept at the
National Archives, Washington, D. C.

Dear Ms. Maleki:

On March 10, 1983, the undersigned conducted a visual examination of a portion of concrete curb at the National Archives in Washington, D. C. The specimen was kept in a padded wooden box and was made available for examination by Mr. Marion Johnson of the Judicial, Fiscal and Social Branch. The purpose of the examination was to look for external signs which might indicate that the concrete curb had been patched.

The section of concrete curb was approximately 12 in. long and was generally gray in color. There were several marks of higher color along the vertical face of the curb; those marks could have been caused by wheels of vehicles parking too close to the curb or by construction equipment during removal of the section of curb. The scratch marks were not considered significant relative to the purpose of the examination.

At the center of the concrete curb section, on the vertical face just below the curbed transition between the horizontal and vertical surfaces, there was a dark gray spot. The dark spot had fairly well-defined boundaries, so that it stood out visually from the surrounding concrete surface. The spot was roughly ellipsoidal in shape, approximately 1/2 in. by 3/4 in. in principal dimensions.

The surfaces of the curb which would normally have been exposed in service were visually examined with the aid of a 10X illuminated magnifier, with special attention given to the dark spot. It is significant to note that no other areas of any size were found anywhere on these surfaces with characteristics similar to those of the dark spot. These characteristics are described below.

The most obvious characteristic of the dark spot was the difference in color. The boundaries of the darker area were as well defined under the 10X magnifier as they were to the unaided eye. It is considered probable that the difference in color is due to the cement paste; however, the possibility of a surface-induced stain cannot be ruled out.

Another difference was noted in the color of the sand grains. The sand grains in the surrounding concrete surface were predominantly semi-translucent light gray in color, but there was also a significant amount of light brown sand grains. The dark spot contained only semi-translucent light gray sand grains. It is possible that the difference in sand color may be due to a different kind of concrete; i.e., a patch, existing in the dark spot area. However, given the ratio of light gray sand grains to light brown sand grains in the surrounding concrete surface, and the relatively small size of the dark spot area, it is also possible that the difference in color of sand grains may be explained in terms of the statistical variations in the distribution of sand grains throughout the concrete mass.

The upper edge of the dark spot appeared to show marks of some sand grains having been dislodged along the boundary between the dark spot and the surrounding concrete area. This is consistent with the relatively weaker zones that normally occur in the thin, or "feathered", edges of a surface patch. Again, however, the dislodgement of sand grains could be due to other causes.

In summary, the dark spot shows visual characteristics which are significantly different from those of the surrounding concrete surface. While any one of the differences, by itself, could be easily explained in terms other than a patch, the simultaneous occurrence of those differences would amount to a rather curious coincidence of characteristics. But the existence of a surface patch would also be consistent with and explain all of the observed differences.

While the results of this visual examination must necessarily be considered inconclusive, it would certainly appear that further investigation is warranted. Since the methods of investigation must be strictly non-destructive in nature, it is recommended that a more detailed visual examination, using techniques of microscopic petrography, be conducted to gain more conclusive information regarding the cement paste, the sand grains and the surface coloration.

If there are any questions with regard to this report or if we can be of further service to you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

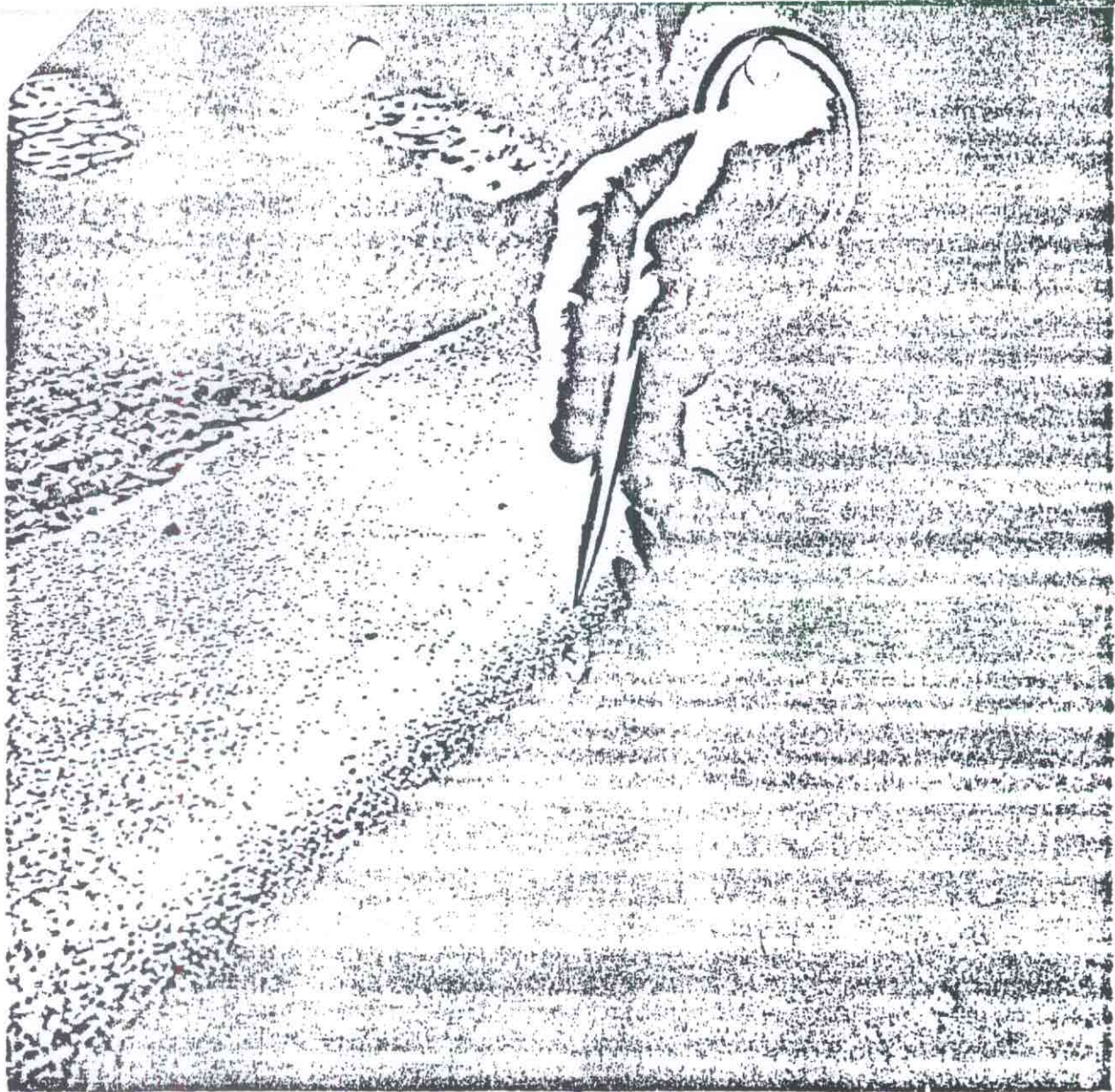
Very truly yours,

CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENT, INC.



Jose I. Fernandez, P.E.
Chief Engineer

JIF/vdd



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