

3/27/68

Dear Dick,

Got your memos on the extra rifle and saw and "Oswald" on Elm. They are very good. basic data.

Did I write you about the rifle in Alyea after Palmer send prints? He is supposed to have sent you a set, too, and the 16mm film. My hunch is that a very careful comparison between the rifle shot showing the sight very clearly and the actual rifle would be worthwhile. If you do not have one that is suitable, I can have the Archives make one. In fact, I can take my Polaroid (the really good, professional model they made several years ago) and have them make them with mine and have the pix for immediate mailing (and I suspect at somewhat lower cost), if you'd like.

In your list of photogs, you have Cndr. Powell. Is that a new name?

With the blank after UFI, would you like me to try the Washington vp through whom I got the Nix and Muchmore films cleared at the Archives?

I've been in N.O. and spent the first week I was home working with Sciambra, so I'm deeper than ever, but I will be going to Washington Mondays for the next couple of weeks, possibly Wednesdays for the next couple, to do TV broadcasts at 7 p.m., if there is anything you'd like me to do.

Sincerely,

From the desk of

RICHARD E. SPRAGUE

Kind regards.

THE LARRY FLORER ARREST AND THE EXTRA RIFLE

Larry Florer was arrested at about 1 PM. The time is established by the photos from AP (AP Photographer #17 - Photos 4, 5 & 7) by an unidentified photographer, which show Florer drawing the attention of a large crowd at the corner of Houston & Elm. The Hertz clock says 1:04 PM and 1:05 PM. Although Florer does not appear in the pictures, the movements of policemen and the crowd as he is being led from a position in front of the TSBD, down Houston toward the sheriffs' office, correspond to the movements shown in Mentasana 1 and A.J. L'Hoste in which Florer does appear. Don Cook's sequences also no doubt will confirm these movements. Also Jack Beers photos.

The frisking of Florer photo from AP could reveal his exact location when he was arrested. The direction of movement of the police, Florer and the reporters and photographers is away from the front door of the TSBD, south along the west side of Houston Street. This would indicate the frisking and perhaps the arrest took place in front of the TSBD. Several things point to the possibility that Willis 10 shows the Florer arrest and/or frisking.

First, the probability that the arrest took place in that position. Second, Don Cook's statement that he photographed Florer's arrest and subsequent trip to the sheriffs' office coupled with his failure to remember any other arrest scene like Willis 10. Third, the cop in the yellow raincoat is in Willis 10 and the Florer frisking photo. That cop did not leave his traffic directing post except for the one event. Fourth, Murray's only big gap in Dealey Plaza photos took place at 1 - 1:10 PM when he went to downtown for film. Florer's arrest took place while he was gone. If it had been before, Murray would certainly have snapped it and remembered it.

If Willis 10 shows the Florer arrest, the photo was taken 15 minutes later than Willis remembers. This would establish the times of Willis 11-18 as later on. His claim about photographing Wm Sharp may be wrong. He might have taken a closeup of Florer. It seems likely that he would have taken a closeup right after #10.

If Willis 10 shows a rifle it could be the same rifle as Mentasana 3. If Willis 10 was taken at about 1 PM and Mentasana 1, 2 & 3 at about 1:04 - 1:10 PM, then it is possible the rifle was brought around the corner onto Houston in the 5 to 10 minutes interval. Another indication that it might be the same rifle, or at least a rifle of importance, is the NBC-TV report (on tape at the Library of Congress) saying that a ^{30:30?}_{30:06?} rifle was recovered at about the same time as Larry Florer was arrested.

2/20/1968
RES/mw

SEARCH FOR STATION WAGON & "OSWALD" ON ELM

Roger Craig says he was standing near where Walthers was searching for bullet on south side of Elm. This would seem to establish the time as around 12:35 - 12:41 PM, since Walthers actually found the "bullet" at 12:38 PM and Craig shows in Murray 1-6 taken in the parking lot at 12:34 PM. Therefore, the time could not be much earlier than 12:35 PM.

The Murray sequence establishes events on Elm between photo 1-8 at 12:35 PM to 1-21 at 12:41 PM along with 2-3 and 2-4 taken at 12:37 PM and 12:38 PM. Craig shows up in the doorway in 1-22, 1-23, 2-7 which establishes his arrival in the TSBD doorway as no later than 12:42. Estimating at least one minute for Craig to travel from Walther's position to the TSBD doorway this puts an upper limit on the event of 12:41 PM. The photo of interest are then:

Murray:

1-8	12:35	1-14	12:39
1-9	12:35	1-15	12:39
1-10	12:36	1-16	12:39
1-11	12:37	1-17	12:39
2-3	12:37	1-18	12:39
1-12	12:38	1-19	12:40
2-4	12:38	1-20	12:41
1-13	12:39	1-21	12:41

Couch:

8	12:34	9	Could be 12:41	10	Could be 12:41
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Vehicles observable in this series are as follows 1-8 12:35 PM Pickup truck center lane below steps. Two tone 4 door sedan above steps center lane. Pickup truck & two tone 4 door sedan abreast two car lengths behind sedan in southern and center lane. White sedan in southern lane one car length behind pickup truck.

1-9	12:35 PM	White sedan in southern lane and two tone sedan in center lane nearing steps and each other.
1-10	12:36	No vehicles - Elm Street does not show.
1-11	12:37	No vehicles - Most of Elm shows from steps west.
2-3	12:37	Large van, dark sedan and white car under overpass in northern lane. Old white sedan and newer light colored sedan past overpass in southern lane.
1-12	12:38	Large van opposite steps center lane. White 2 door sedan opposite steps southern lane. Light 4 door sedan center lane behind van. Tail end of sedan in front of van.

- 2-4 12:38 Dark sedan in southern lane opposite steps.
- 1-13 12:39 Big trucks in center lane & southern lane opposite Stemmons sign.
- 1-14 12:39 Big trucks moved slightly. Third truck behind 1st in center lane & sedan behind it.
- 1-15 12:39 Big trucks moved a little more.
- 1-16 12:39 Trucks opposite Walthers position. White sedan behind truck in southern lane.
- 1-17 12:39 White sedan in southern lane opposite Walthers. Two tone sedan center lane opposite Stemmons sign.
- 1-18 12:40 Cattle truck in southern lane opposite Walthers. Dark sedan in center lane behind truck. Bus, dark sedan & two tone sedan follow.
- 1-19 12:40 Bus in center lane opposite steps. White sedan in southern lane followed by two tone sedan near Houston & Elm. Also dark sedan in center lane near corner.
- 1-20 12:41 Tail of two tone sedan in southern lane below Ft. Worth sign. Large truck with trailer in center lane opposite sign followed by two tone sedan & Volkswagen in center lane. In northern lane eight cars stacked up waiting for first one to move into center. It's blocked by truck in center & big crowd near steps. The cars are: Long white sedan, two tone sedan, dark sedan, possibly a station wagon, light sedan, dark sedan, darker sedan, dark sedan.
- 1-21 12:41 Same line up as 1-20 except truck has moved on, two tone sedan & Volkswagen are opposite steps. Long white sedan in no. lane has begun to pull out & so has the station wagon to pass the dark sedan in front of it.

Couch may be in long white sedan in sequences 9 & 10. Bekins van shows on Main Street.

Couch 8 shows two tone sedan in center lane. Seems to be earlier than Murray 1-8.

Other Photos which show something are:

- Martin 6
- Wm Allen 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-7, 1-8
- Cancellare 4,5
- J. Darnell

- Allen 1-4 at 12:40 Was taken between Murray 1-17 & 1-18. The white sedan in southern lane has moved on and is replaced by an old jalopy truck. The two tone sedan in the center lane has moved on and is replaced by a white sedan. It is followed by a yellow transit truck and the Wichita Falls bus and the dark sedan plus a white vehicle. The cattle truck is up the street in the so. lane.
- Allen 1-3 Was taken very nearly at the same instant as Murray 1-17 12:39PM
- Allen 1-5 thru 1-8 Are not available.

Cancellare 4 Was obviously taken before Murray 1-8 by a few minutes. This would place the time at about 12:32 or 12:33.

Cancellare 5 Seems to have been taken before 1-8 also but closer to the same time. Estimate it was 12:34. Two white sedans in northern & center lane plus a dark sedan in southern lane appear opposite steps.

Martin 6 Appears to have been taken at the same time as Murray 2-4 & 1-12 at 12:38. No vehicles appear and no one on slope. Brehm is being interviewed by a newsman who appears in 2-4.

J. Darnell Is not available.

Tentative Conclusion:

Murray 1-20 & 1-21 may be the only photos showing the station wagon.

3/20/1968
RES/mw

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHERS OUTSIDE OR INSIDE TSBD

A.J. L'Hoste	WFAA	TV Film	Outside	D	12:35- 3:00
Malcolm Couch	WFAA	TV Film	Outside	D	12:30-12:35
Tom Alyea	WFAA	TV Film	Inside & Outside	?	12:35- 1:30
Tom Craven	CBS	TV Film	Outside		12:30-12:35
David Weigman	NBC	TV Film	Outside		12:30-12:35
Jim Underwood	KRLD	TV Film	Outside	D	12:30- 1:30
Sandy Sanderson	KRLD	TV Film	Outside	D	12:35- 1:30
Jim Darnell	WBAP-Chan. 5	TV Film	Outside	?	12:30-12:35
Don Cook	KTVT	TV Film	Inside & Outside		12:32- 2:00
Dan Owens	WBAP	TV Film	Outside		12:40- 2:00
Johnny Martin	DCA	Color 8mm	Outside	D	12:30-12:45
Mentesana	DCA	Color 8mm	Outside		1:00- 1:15
Robert Hughes	Private	Color 8mm	Outside	D	12:30-12:45
Bell	Private	Color 8mm	Outside	D	12:30-12:45
Hughes	Private	Color 8mm	Outside	D	12:40-12:45
Jim McCammon	Independent	B&W Stills	Outside	D	1:10- 1:20
Jim Murray	Black Star	B&W Stills	Outside	D	12:33- 5:00
Phil Willis	Private	Color Stills	Outside	D	12:30-12:50
Wm Allen	Dallas Times Herald	B&W Stills	Inside & Outside	D	12:40- 5:00
Jack Beers	Dallas Morning News	B&W Stills	Inside & Outside	D	12:35- 5:00
Harry Cabluck	Ft. Worth Star Telegram	B&W Stills	Outside		12:45- 5:00
Jarrold Cabluck	Ft. Worth Star Telegram	B&W Stills	Outside		?
George Smith	Ft. Worth Star Telegram	B&W Stills	Inside & Outside	D	?
Joe Laird	Dallas Morning News	B&W Stills	Outside		?
Tina Towner		Color Movie	Outside		
Norman Similas					
Comdr. Powell					
Kimbrough					
U P I					

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