

TIPPIT WITNESSES

Statements of Witnesses - Sam GUINYARD

Deposition -

April 2, 1964, 7 H 395-401

Guinyard is a Negro and Ball calls him by his first name. He worked for the Harris Motor Co. used-car lot, 501 East Jefferson. He is a 28-year-old porter (p.395) who in school "got to the sixth grade". His only troubles with the law have been poker fines and traffic tickets.

He was polishing a stationwagon when he heard 3 shots. He was in back of the car lot, which faces 10th and Jefferson. He said he saw Oswald "right through the yard in front of the big white house ..." (p.396)

This was a block away. He says he also saw the man who was running "knocking empty shells out of his pistol". I may be wrong, but I believe this is not possible. Two were found by the Davis women, two were found by Benavides. The Davis women found them, as I recall their testimony, on their property. Hence, this would have happened before the running man came into Guinyard's view if, in fact, he ever did. Guinyard's version is that this was a one-hand - right hand - operation. His description of what the man was doing was "He was rolling them with his hand - with his thumb." Now that's awfully good vision for over a city block. But apparently to Ball, who conducted the examination, it was the kind of vision he could expect from his witnesses. Nonetheless, it just isn't credible. His description (which I believe is at variance with that of the others) is "he come down Patton until he got to about 5 feet from the corner of Jefferson and then he turned across and went across to the west corner of Jefferson." He says he and Callaway were together. (p.398⁷)

He also said that Oswald was on the same side of the street he was on.

He estimates the closest distance he ever was to the running man as 10 feet and is then confronted with Callaway's statement that the

2 - Guinyard

man was on the west side and that when they measured the distance Callaway said it was it came to 55 feet. He also said Callaway followed the man "trying to see which way he was going". He last saw the running man going west on Jefferson. Apparently Callaway didn't go very far in pursuit because he and Guinyard went up to where Tippit was lying together.

Again Ball entirely misrepresents what happened:

"Mr. Ball. Were you there when the truck came up that was driven by Benavides?

Mr. Guinyard. Yes, sir.

Mr. Ball. He came up right after this?

Mr. Guinyard. Yes; he came up from the east side - going west."

(p.398)

The truth of the matter is that Benavides was at the scene and by far the closest person at the time the shots were fired. It is also clear Guinyard knew it because of the incident involving the shells, the exact location of which Benavides knew from observation. This makes it clear that Guinyard is willing to testify to almost anything. The question is, Why? (p.398)

At the lineup Guinyard noticed all the men were about the same height. (p.399)

He also identified the second man. He claims the police officers told him absolutely nothing before he went into the lineup and that, although he was with Callaway, Callaway also told him nothing.

Guinyard said he noticed the man was wearing black pants, brown shirt, "sort of light gray looking jacket", and a white T-shirt. This man was wearing a lot of clothes only to leave them open so the T-shirt was visible and identifiable. There is no question asked about this,

3 - Guinyard

but it must be obvious that if the man was wearing all this clothing
the most Guinyard knew was that he was wearing a white undershirt.

The use of the phrase "T-shirt" I believe is a dead giveaway that he
was carefully primed. (p.400)