

MEMO: Walker Shhoting, or, the Further Adventures of LHO's Friends

by: Howard Roffman, 4/26/76

This is just a brief memo to record a discrepancy I'd not noticed before.

Remember Marina's story about LHO burying his rifle after the Walker attempt? Remember also the DeMohrenschildts' story about visiting the Oswald's shortly thereafter and seeing the rifle there?

Without reviewing all her testimony, I'm pretty sure Marina was never asked by the WC when LHO supposedly recovered the rifle after having buried it the night of the Walker shooting attempt. The reason I say this is that the Report does not cite Marina's testimony on this point, but rather an FBI report, CE 1403, pp. 733-34 (22H777). According to the Report, "She testified that several days later Oswald recovered his rifle and brought it back to their apartment." (R186) The shooting took place on a Wednesday, 4/10/63. The FBI report cited is specific: Oswald returned with the rifle wrapped in a raincoat "on the Sunday following the night of the assassination attempt."

There's just one small problem. The DeMohrenschildts visited the Oswalds on Saturday, 4/13/63. The Report says this (R282), and this was Mrs. DeM's recollection (the day before Easter, in the evening) (9H314). Of course, the DeM story is that the rifle was fully visible in the closet, and that after Mrs. DeM saw it, all sorts of conversation ensued about LHO's "practice" with the rifle, which, according to Mrs. DeM, included shooting at leaves in the park while walking the baby.