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8601 Adelphi Road College Park, Maryland 20740-6001

December 22, 1994

David B. Perry  
4601 Ainsworth Circle  
Grapevine, TX 76051

Dear Mr. Perry:

This is in response to your letter of December 9, 1994, which was addressed to our Archival Programs Branch, Center for Legislative Archives and forwarded to our office on December 13, 1994.

Under Section 5(h) of the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, each member of the public is entitled to receive 100 pages of free copies of assassination records. Once you have received 100 free pages, all additional copies will be subject to our standard reproduction fee of 25 cents per page. The \$25 value of the first 100 pages may be used instead as a credit towards photographic reproduction orders.

We have searched the House Select Committee on Assassinations, Numbered Files for document #002372 and found it to be "OPEN" as of November 18, 1993. The enclosed copy of this document totals 11 pages. You are now entitled to 89 free pages in response to future requests.

Please let us know if we may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

STEVEN D. TILLEY  
JFK Liaison  
Textual Reference Division

Enclosure

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

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Transcript of interview with Johnnie Maxie Witherspoon. Box 57.

Routing Slip

NO. 302372

DATE 9-24-77

Document I.D. staff interview

INDEX

Witbeson, Mrs. Johnnie Marie

Tippit, J.D.

COPY TO

Robert Blakey  
Gary Cornwell  
Kenneth Klein  
Charlie Mathews  
Jim Wolf  
Donovan Gay  
Jackie Hess  
Cliff Fenton

Team #1

Team #2

Team #3

Team #4

Team#5

Form #2

Reference copy, JFK Collection: HSCA (RG 453)

INVESTIGATION INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

003372

1. Identifying Information:

Name JOHNNIE MAXIE WITHERSPOON  
Address 3205 W. COLORADO BLVD  
City/State DALLAS, TEX.  
PHONE: 337 4542 (214)  
Date of Birth 10 10 34  
Social Security \_\_\_\_\_

Date 9-24-77  
Place HOME ADDRESS  
 M or S \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
Children \_\_\_\_\_

2. Physical Description:

Height 5'1"  
Weight 130  
Ethnic Group W

Color Eyes BLUE Hair BLONDE  
Special Characteristics \_\_\_\_\_  
GLASSES, R HANDED

3. Personal History:

a. Present Employment: UNEMPLOYED WAITRESS  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

b. Criminal Record  
1. Arrests \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Convictions \_\_\_\_\_

=  
TAPED INTERVIEW -  
TO BE TRANSCRIBED.  
=

4. Additional Personal Information:

a. Relative(s): Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

b. Area frequented: AUSTIN'S BARBQUE, 2321 IL. AVE., DALLAS, TEX

c. Remarks: HAD BEEN TIPPIT'S GIRL FRIEND 1960 - 1963

Investigator Jack Moriarty

Date 10-4-77

Reference copy, JFK Collection: HSCA (RG 233)

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Date 9/24/77 Time 3:50 PM  
Address 3205 W. Colorado Blvd. Place Home of Ms. Johnny M. Witherspoon  
Dallas, Texas Telephone: 214-337-4542

Interview:

Present in the den of this private home are investigators Day and Maxwell, with myself, and my name is Moriarty. We have been talking for about the past half hour with Mrs. Witherspoon about the J. D. Tippit aspect of the JFK assassination in 1963 in Dallas. We have explained the procedure of the recorder in that we simply want to highlight the interview with an accurate record and we have Ms. Witherspoon's permission.

Mrs. Witherspoon do you agree that we have your okay to use this machine?

W. Yes you do.

M. And you can see it in front of us here.

W. Yes.

M. All right.

M. Now with regard to the information we are seeking, we have discussed your working in 1960 at Austin's Barbecue and it was at this particular time that you met J. D. Tippit who was a Dallas policeman and he was augmenting or adding to his salary by working as a parttime security officer for Austin Barbecue and you and he met as co-workers. Is

Interviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Typed)

Date Transcribed \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

Reference copy, JFK Collection: HSCA (NY 433)

that correct?

W. That is correct.

M. And then we talked about the fact that you developed a relationship and you and he were dating for a couple of years. Is that right?

. That is true.

M. And then we discussed the fact that you severed relationship, about June or July, 1963, you had left by that time Austin's a short time before that and this was an occasion why your husband returning home and you simply let J. D. Tippit know that your husband had come home and that was more or less the end of it and that was really the last time you saw or talked to J. D. Tippit? Is that right?

W. That is correct.

M. This is June or July, 1963.

We took a two minute break and are back now.

M. We have discussed the fact that you have never been interviewed by any law enforcement organizations such as the local Dallas PD or the FBI or the CIA or anybody like that. Is that right?

W. That is correct.

M. In other words, we are the first people that have made any inquiries about this? One possible exception would be Austin Cook who is the owner of Austin's, the FBI may have interviewed him, you are not certain that that is a possibility.

W. I think so, and I have just recalled some person, gentleman

- W. coming in up there and I can't tell you when, and I can't tell you who and I believe he said he was writing researching a book. Austin might be able to give you that information.
- M. Alright. Would you know the name if you heard it?
- W. No.
- M. Okay.
- D. Can you describe him?
- W. Not really. He was to the best of my recollection close to 6 feet tall, in his 40's, brown hair, average you know, I don't really remember what he looked like. CAUSE I hadn't thought about it - it just popped into my head.
- M. To get back to it, we - neither you nor Mr. Tippit ever discussed anything about a man by the name of Jack Ruby?
- W. No. Never did.
- M. Never went to the Carousel Club.
- W. No sir, I have never been there.
- M. Or any other clubs for that matter because as you explained to us earlier you just did not go out in public.
- W. That is right.
- M. Now as far as you know, the Oak Cliff area was his regular area but you don't know exactly where it was, is that right?
- W. That is right.
- M. During that time J.D.Tippit bought what may have been a new station wagon, may have been a Pontiac and it might have been the color blue, is that about right?

- W. To the best that I can remember, yes.
- M. Would this have been about a 1963, if you recall, or '62, I know it was within that three year period but was this toward the end of your relationship or at the beginning of it?
- W. Closer toward the end of it I believe.
- M. All right. And at that time you were driving about a 1954 Plymouth sedan it was dark blue over black.
- W. I better change that too the body was light blue and the top was white.
- M. Okay. Lets see. '54 Plymouth sedan, with a light blue body and a white top. Okay. Now in the absence in being able to give as much detailed intimate information, you suggested that JDT had a pretty close friend a man by the name of Bill Anglin who lived next door to him or down the street - this is in terms of the newer house - he was about the same age or a bit younger he not only was an active Dallas police officer but he also augmented his income by being a security guard at Austin's. Is this about right on Mr. Anglin?
- W. Yes, sir.
- M. And as far as you know he is still a Dallas police officer?
- W. As far as I know.
- M. Okay. Describing Mr. J. D. Tippit's characteristics, he did little or no drinking - spent most of his spare time with his children - the 14-year old boy <sup>which</sup> ~~was~~ was the oldest



son at the time was having some kind of trouble with the mother. Otherwise JD would be described as easy going, had big eyes, had a lot of Indian in him and normally was the kind of a man that could more or less just maintain order by his presence. In other words, he was impressive; tall, impressive looking policeman and when he was on the scene things more or less quieted down. And you never saw him having to demonstrate any of his ability at really fighting with people because other than just once in a while escorting somebody out of the place, that's all he ever had to do.

W. That's true.

J.M. We do talk about when you had occasion to sever your relationship he acquiesced. He just went right along with the program. Even though it wasn't his idea, he didn't protest or cause any trouble or..that was just the end of the affair and that was it.

W. Right

J.M. Your husband at the time probably did know about Tippit, although you weren't certain and now that you think about it, chances are he at least suspected something.

W. Yes

J.M. Although there was no contact made to your knowledge.

W. No

J.M. His name, your husband's name at the time, was Stephen Thompson, Jr., and he and his wife probably have a nightclub and love it now. They had been in the antique business.

W. And dress shop.

J.M. And dress shop. You didn't pick up much information in terms of the current events from newspapers. Working six days, or mostly nights, a week didn't leave you much time to keep up with current events, but you, of course, did know about President Kennedy and then you know about J.D. Tippit being killed. You didn't know the man that killed the President, Mr. Ruby, nor did you know the man that killed Mr. Tippit, Mr. Oswald.

W. No. I didn't know either one of them.

J.M. Okay. Let's take a break here.

BREAK AT 4 o'clock

J.M. Well, we've taken another three minutes, it's three minutes past four now. To more or less recap and to wind up the description of Mr. Tippit, it seems as though he certainly could have been described as the nice guy, not writing too many traffic tickets. As a matter of fact, you recall the time that he explained to you while he was in the process of starting to give somebody a traffic ticket he noticed a..what looked like a lot of children.. hungry kids in the car, so he just didn't give the ticket. Might even have been called in on the carpet from time to time for not writing enough tickets.

W. That's true.

J.M. He was just that kind of a man.

W. That's the kind of a man he was.

J.M. Alright. Now with regard to Mrs. Tippit at the time, you never did meet her or know her but you did have a couple of occasions to see her because she was pointed out to you by coming into Austin's restaurant to get something to eat.

W. That's true.

J.M. And short of that you had no communications with her, neither by phone or letter or any other way?

W. No.

J.M. The only other possibility that you might suggest to us in terms of sources of information would be a girl that he showed some interest in at Austin's at the time by the name of Clara Jo Monk. She was to be about your same age, she was an Austin's car hop and waitress, described at that time as being about 5 ft. 6, 165 lbs., having red hair, and generally being rather attractive. Her husband, although you don't know his name, you recall him as being a truck driver. Is there anything else that you can think to add that we haven't really thought to ask you about, or something that would just help us?

W. I can't think of anything else.

J.M. Alright. And is there anything?

How long were you two

W. I don't even remember that. That weekend in '62. Actually, we only went together for...well, it wasn't two years...it

was from the early part of...or the summer of '62 until the summer of '63, and that was all.

J.M. Alright. And insofar as you know, this was strictly a clandestine relationship. Nobody knew, as far as you know, that you two were going out - as far as you could tell.

W. As far as I know, nobody knew, unless he told somebody, and not to my knowledge.

J.M. Alright. And you didn't give him anything, nor did he give you anything in terms of keepsakes, or whatever? In other words, if I asked you, could you prove that you had this affair with Tippit? I wonder how you'd go about doing that?

W. Well, as I said, I did give him a cigarette lighter. And it had a company name on it, but I don't remember what it was. It was a Zippo lighter.

J.M. Okay.

W. And that's the only thing.  
But he never gave you anything?

W. No.

J.M. Okay. Alright. I thank you very much. It's eight minutes past four in the afternoon here. And in the absence of any more, I think we'll just stop the tape. I thank you very much.

W. Alright.