

AT THE TEXAS THEATRE

Statements of Witnesses - Mrs. Julia POSTAL, April 2, 1964, 7 H 8-14

She began by describing her long experience working for motion picture theatres in various places, and said this was the slack season and after working in the office she opened the box office at 12:45 and remained there until about 5. She sold tickets and asked, "Is there a ticket-taker inside the theatre?" she replied affirmatively and described him as "just an usher who works the concession and tears the tickets ..."

On the day of the assassination, she opened the box office as usual and the usher, whose name is Warren Burroughs, nicknamed "Butch", was stationed inside the door at the entrance to the theatre.

She had a transistor radio in her box office and turned it on upon hearing the bad news from her daughter. She had not heard that the President was dead. She was listening to KLIF. (p.9)

She heard what she described as the official announcement of the President's death "just about the time all chaos broke loose."

For reasons that are not clear, Ball asked her <sup>about</sup> how many people had gotten into the theatre ~~about~~ by "about 1:15 or so?" This certainly was later than 1:15. She estimated "14 or 24. I believe it was 24." She said she heard the sirens "just about the time we opened ..." She said, "police were racing back and forth ... on Jefferson." Then this exchange:

"Mrs. Postal. This man, yes; he ducked into the box office and - I don't know if you are familiar with the theatre.

Mr. Ball. Yes; I have seen the theatre.

Mrs. Postal. You have? Well, he was coming from east going west. In other words, he ducked right in.

Mr. Ball. Ducked in, what do you mean? He had come around the corner -

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Mrs. Postal. Yes; and when the sirens went by he had a panicked look on his face, and he ducked in.

Mr. Ball. Now, as the car went by, you say the man ducked in, had you seen him before the car went by, the police went by?

Mrs. Postal. No, sir; I was looking up, as I say, when the cars passed, as you know, they make a tremendous noise, and he ducked in as my boss went that way to get in his car." (p.10)

Note this is in clear contradiction to Brewer's testimony in several respects. Brewer had clearly stated the police car with the siren blowing were receding into the distance at the time the man moved toward the movie. Mrs. Postal describes the look on the man's face when the cars went by. Also, clearly, she saw the man, unless she is making all of this up. (p.10)

In saying "ducked in", she meant not into the theatre but "into the outer part of it", which she calls "Just around the corner" presumably off the straight sidewalk and into the theatre area.

She said that after Brewer went in to look around "he came and ~~said~~ <sup>says,</sup> "Well, he didn't see him, and I says, 'Well, he has to be there.'" Although the outside doors of the theatre were closed, she neither saw nor heard him enter. This is because she had left the box office to look west in the direction the police cars had gone.

She then recounts her call to the police and quotes them as saying, "Well, it fits the description," but she had given no description, and Brewer's description, while close to that of Oswald, is completely different from the broadcast description. Why, then, if the police said it, should they have said that it fit the description? Unless at that point anybody would have fit the description. Then she said she told the police what he looked like. She said he was medium height, ruddy looking (p.11).



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After the apprehension of Oswald, she said "some officers came in the box office and used the phone, said, 'I think we have got our man on both/<sup>as</sup>counts.' 'What two accounts?' and said, 'Well, Officer Tippit's,' shocked me, because Officer Tippit used to work part time for us years ago. I didn't know him personally."

Why should any policeman, with all those police cars and all those police radios there, have used the theatre phone? Unless he wanted no record of the call perhaps? And how could any policeman then have decided that the one man committed both crimes on the basis of the descriptions available to the police, assuming he had and remembered both?

Tippit had moonlighted at the theatre on Friday and Saturday nights. She had stayed in the box office after the police arrived. She describes Oswald as being held by 4 or 5 officers, with his arms behind his back, and one officer holding him underneath the chin because he had used "profuse" language.

She said Oswald did not have any bruises or cuts on his face.

In several different ways, she said Oswald couldn't have said anything because the police were holding him in a manner to preclude his making any sound. (p.12)

She said that on or about Dec. 4 she went down to the "homicidal bureau". Ball had her affidavit in his hand.

Asked about the call to the police department by the policeman, she said it was before Oswald was taken from inside the theatre. Asked how Oswald got into the theatre without Burroughs seeing him, she recounts the discussion she and Burroughs had in which they concluded he could have done so as children had, by running right up into the balcony. (p.13)

She says Exhibit 150, the shirt, is something like the shirt the

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man was wearing, but she couldn't say it was the same. She said his shirt was not tucked into his pants and:

"Mr. Ball. When he went in was it tucked in his pants when he went in?

Mrs. Postal. No, sir; because I remember he came flying around the corner, because his hair was and shirt was kind of waving." (p.114)

This is nothing like what she, or Brewer, or anybody else said. It's pure imagination which Ball ignores without correcting.