

Tippit, J. D.

Autopsy?

Ballistic test?

How soon after assassination was Oswald's description broadcast?

Addresses:

Texas Theater: 231 West Jefferson St.

Carousel Club: 13121 Commerce St. [William W. Turner, *Saga*, 3/64

Ruby's apartment: 223 S. Ewing [AP, Bernard Gavzer, 1/26/64]

Tippit residence: 238 Glencairn St., Oak Miff [AP, Jules Loh, 12/7/63]

Tippit residence: 7500 So. Beckley. [Hearings XXIII, p. 928.]

Tippit shot in front of 404 E. 10th [near 10th & Patton] [Mark Lane, 2/9/64]

Reynolds Motor Co., 500 East Jefferson Blvd. [Dallas telephone directory].

J. D. Tippit, 39

Marie Tippit, 36 [San Francisco Examiner, 11/26]

Lee Tippit, 36 [San Francisco Examiner, 11/26]

Allen, 14

Brenda Kay, 10

Curtiss Glenn, 5

11/22/63 From notes made in 4/64 from *The Fateful Hours*, a *Capitol Custom* record, [RB2278] by *KLIF*, Dallas, issued earlier in the year [taped copy in files].

Time not given. Broadcast placed first report of police officer shooting [by Roy Nichols from *Parkland Hospital*] in 500 block of West Jefferson. DOA at *Methodist Hospital*.

11/22/63 On tape at 463': Description of Tippit shooting by Mrs. Ann McCreavy, who says it took place outside her house. "I was standing at the window and I saw a man run by, and then there was a police car coming down the street and the policeman jumped out of the car, and just as he did the man turned around and shot him, and the man fell." Killer described by narrator as "fair-haired young man in shirt sleeves."

Mrs. McCreavy not called to testify by Commission. *BBC* tape, *The Day the President Died*

11/23/63 Dallas - An eyewitness told police Oswald shot Tippitt, who had apparently stopped [him] for questioning. No one knows what

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caused the officer to want to question Oswald. *AP*, 4:41 am CST, Frank Cormier

11/23/63 Dallas, [11/22] - Three shots had been fired. Within moments, the police received a tip that a man in a brown shirt had just dashed into a movie theater a short distance from the building where the rifle had been found, the *Texas School Book Depository*.

Patrolmen J. D. Tippit and M. N. MacDonald ran into the rear of the theater in close pursuit. When they spotted the man. Patrolman Tippit fired a shot. It was returned by the suspect, identified as Oswald.

The patrolman was hit by the return fire and died instantly. ... *New York Times*

11/23/63 Dallas - ... As a city wide manhunt began, during the hour following the assassination, an unidentified man notified police headquarters, over a police car radio, that the car's officer had been shot and killed. The car was in the 400 block of East Jefferson Boulevard. in the Oak Cliff section, on the edge of the downtown area.

The car's driver, Patrolman Tippit, had not made a call that he was going to question anyone.

Eight other officers converged on the spot. They found Patrolman Tippit lying on the sidewalk, dead from two .38 caliber wounds. ... *New York Times*, Gladwin Hill

11/23/63 Dallas - City detective Ed Hicks, after intensive investigation ... drew this picture of the hour surrounding the tragedy:

In the Oak Cliff section of Dallas, some four miles away, Oswald was seen 45 minutes later talking to a policeman, J. D. Tippitt. A witness said that suddenly Oswald whipped out a pistol and shot the officer. *San Francisco Examiner, AP*

11/23/63 Dallas - Patrolling in Oak Cliff was officer J. D. Tippitt ... He was about five blocks from the *Texas Theater*.

It was near 1 p.m. ... but the exact time is not known. Tippitt fell to the street, shot twice. How he accosted his slayer is not known. *News CB, UPI and AP*

11/23/63 Dallas - Oswald also was accused of slaying a pursuing policeman, another charge he denied although he admitted he owned the snub-nosed .38 caliber pistol which felled the officer. *News CB*, p. 2, *UPI and AP*

11/23/63 Dallas - The police chief said he thinks Sgt. J. D. Tippit, the officer who was slain, stopped Oswald on the basis of the broadcast description.

Oswald was on foot, Curry said, and as the sergeant got out of the car and was walking around the back of it, Oswald started

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shooting.

"We think he thought Tippit knew he was involved in Kennedy's assassination and just started shooting," Curry said. Curry said a citizen alerted policemen on the dead sergeant's prowl car radio. A search for the assailant soon led to *the Texas Theater*. *AP*, 11:17 a.m. CST, Peggy Simpson

11/23/63 Dallas - ... He is also charged with murder in the shooting of a Dallas policeman.

Wade said Oswald will be tried first - probably in mid-January - in the death of the President. "If we get the death penalty as expected, there will be no need to try him in the other case," said Wade.

11/24/63 Dallas – [11/23] - When Mr. Tippitt got out of the car to question the suspect he was shot and killed with a revolver, Mr. Curry said. A citizen used the squad car radio to report this at 1:18 P.M., about 50 minutes after the President was shot.

The arrest [at the *Texas Theater*] came about 90 minutes after the assassination.

At police headquarters, Oswald was questioned for five hours, then arraigned in the murder of Patrolman Tippit at 7:15. *New York Times*, Donald Janson

11/24/63 Dallas - His widow and their [three children]. ... live in a suburban area on the southern edge of Dallas.

"Daddy had just come home for lunch at 11:30. He had a sandwich and some milk before he went back to duty," Mrs. Tippit said. *San Francisco Chronicle*, *UPI*

11/24/63 Dallas - ... "we have witnesses who saw Oswald shoot the patrolman [Tippit]" Curry said. *AP*, 1:03 p.m. CST 2nd add second lead, Oswald shooting

11/24/63 Dallas - Oswald was stopped on an Oak Cliff street not long after the assassination by police patrolman J. D. Tippit. At least four persons told police they saw Oswald shoot Tippit and then flee. *AP*, 7:58 p.m. CST

11/24/63 8:44 pms - Message to Dallas from Albuquerque: El Paso [AMS] asks story detailing how and where patrolman Tippit was slain.

10 pcs - Dallas to Albuquerque for El Paso: Re: yr 8:44 PMS Tippit was shot to death about 1;15 p.m. (CST) Friday in Oak Cliff section of Dallas when he stopped a man answering description of Kennedy assassin. Witnesses said man for no apparent reason pulled out pistol and shot Tippet and then fled. Shooting occurred short distance from theater where Oswald captured about an hour later. Please see earlier stories that covered. *AP*

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11/24/63 Dallas - ... [Quoting Henry Wade at press conference:]

"Then a block from the rooming house witnesses saw a police officer [Tippit] motion to him. Officer Tippit got out of his car and came around and Oswald shot him three times.

"Then he walked across a vacant lot, ejected three shells, and reloaded the gun. He walked away and went into *the Texas Theater*."

11/25/63 J. D. Tippit, 39, slain by Oswald, was no ordinary officer. In 1955 he was cited for bravery in disarming a person. About six years ago, he was attacked by a man with an ice-pick. He was stabbed twice but made the arrest. ...*AP*, Dallas – [feature on Dallas police officers, by Clayton Hickerson].

11/25/63 Dallas - Tippit's martyrdom led officers to Lee Harvey Oswald ...

Oswald might have escaped the country had not Tippit alertly identified the suspect, said Police Chief Jesse Curry.

... Curry said the killing of Tippit was the most important thing relating to the arrest of Oswald.

"Yes, without a doubt that is true," he said. "No doubt we would have come up with Oswald as a suspect because when we checked the building he would have been missing. [Tippit spotted Oswald from broadcast sent before checking of employees completed?]

"But there is no telling where he would have been. He might already have been out of the country by the time we finished checking all the employees."

... Tippit presumably spotted Oswald from a description broadcast by police radio. *AP*, 2:14 am CST, Robert E. Ford

12/25/63 Dallas - Mrs. Tippit said her husband stopped home briefly for lunch the day he died, but left hurriedly even though his superiors had not called him.

"He said he couldn't stay because he might be needed, since most officers were downtown for the President's motorcade," said his widow. *AP*, 2:14 a.m. CST [*New York Tribune*, 11/25], Robert E. Ford

11/25/63 5:10 p.m. MST Phoenix messaged Dallas:

Tippit, J. D.

Tucson Star asks separate story on Oswald's shooting of officer Tippit, why he stopped Oswald and what led up to shooting of officer. Tux.

6:51 p.m. CST Dallas to Phoenix:

Re: *Star* request, been carried repeatedly police do not know exact reasons Tippit stopped Oswald, but police have said perhaps it was because Oswald acting suspiciously and also that they assumed he had heard broadcast of description of man missing from book depository building. Pls note A108 on Tippit funeral.

6:15 p.m. MST Phoenix to Dallas:

Tucson Star notes A108 but still wants separate with info on distance Tippit shooting was from President's assassination. How far from there to theater where Oswald caught and time intervals. Tnx.

8:30 p.m. CST Dallas to Phoenix:

The place where Tippit was shot was 2½ miles from point where Kennedy shot. Tippit shot about 8 blocks from place Oswald arrested. Time intervals given in A196 snite at 10:15 PES. [Same as A108]

11/25/63 Dallas - District Attorney Henry Wade called a news conference last night; to make public what he said was the complete mass of evidence accumulated to prove Oswald ... was the presidential assassin.

"Then a block from the rooming house witnesses saw a police officer motion to him. The officer, J. D. Tippit, got out of his car and came around and Oswald shot him three times ..." *San Francisco Examiner, AP*, p. 3

11/25/63 New York - From statement at news conference by Henry Wade: "A police officer, immediately after the assassination, ran in the building and saw this man in a corner and tried to arrest him; but the manager of the building said he was an employee and it was all right. Every other employee was located but this defendant of the company. A description and name of him went out by police to look for him."

[Took bus at Lamar Street, then taxi to Oak Cliff.: changed his clothes hurriedly, and left. Three officers saw him shoot Tippit "not in front of the boarding house. I don't have it exact. It's more than a block. It's a block or two." *AP*

11/28/63 Paris - Paris-Press reported yesterday that an amateur photographer's 8-mm color film taken just ten minutes before the assassination of President Kennedy showed two silhouettes at the sixth-floor window where the assassin's bullets are believed to have been fired.

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The dispatch, from the newspaper's correspondent in Dallas, J. P. Renard, said ... it was believed that an accomplice helped steady the assassin's rifle, and that Oswald covered the accomplice's escape by killing Police Officer J. D. Tippit.

Correspondent Renard said a witness to the Tippit shooting told him that he saw two men - not one - running away as Tippit collapsed in the street. *San Francisco Chronicle, Times-Post Service*

11/29/63

Dallas -- ... Witness -- there were plenty of them -- said Tippit stopped a bush-haired man about 30, wearing a white cotton jacket rather than a tan coat. This didn't sound like Oswald, but several witnesses later confirmed he was the man.

"All of a sudden they stopped, looked at each other, and he [the other man] pulled out his gun and shot the officer," said Helen Markham, who was waiting for a bus.

The man in the white shirt raced away [Oswald, when produced after his capture by police, was wearing a plaid shirt over a white T-shirt and dungarees. *San Francisco Chronicle*, M. W. Newman and Henry Hanson, *Chicago Daily News*.

12/1/63

... But at Tenth St. and Patton, 10 blocks from his room, he [Oswald] caught the eye of Dallas patrolman J. D. Tippit, 39, a father of three with 11 years on the force.

Officer Tippit stopped his patrol car; and summoned Oswald, who was walking along the sidewalk. No one heard the conversation, but a woman said Oswald walked to the car and the officer got out.

Suddenly Oswald produced a 38-caliber snub-nose revolver. Three shots rang out and Tippit fell dead. It was 1:18 p.m.

The killer looked at the officer's body, turned, ran a few steps then stopped and reloaded his revolver.

A clerk in a nearby shoe store, outraged by the assassination and alerted by the pistol shots, followed Oswald into *the Texas Theater*, four blocks away, and notified police. Scores of policemen arrived quickly and four of them searched the theater. It was 2:03 p.m.

They spotted Oswald, who pointed his pistol at the head of an onrushing officer and pulled the trigger. The weapon misfired. Oswald was grabbed, then dragged, screaming and cursing, from the theater. ... *Long Beach Independent-Press Telegram, Three Days in Dallas*, by Bill Hunter

12/3/63

Dallas - ... Money continued to come into Dallas for both the Tippit and Oswald families.

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Counts put the money for the Tippits at slightly more than \$100,000, with 14 mailbags still unopened. *AP* 246 pcs

12/4/63 Dallas, [12/3] - As authorities reconstructed the scene, Mr. Tippit had stepped from his car to question Oswald when Oswald pulled out a .38 caliber revolver and shot the policeman three times. *New York Times*

12/4/63 Dallas - ... Five policemen and three auditors work daily counting the Tippit contributions.

One firm in Houston, TX, suggested that if the Tippit fund reaches \$150,000, which seems probable, a trust fund should be set up for the Tippit family. Such a fund, drawing 4 per cent interest, would yield about \$6,000 each year to the Tippit family. Mrs. Tippit and the family will receive \$232 additionally in monthly payments from the police fund.

... A Dallas businessman, who received money for films of the Kennedy assassination, said he is giving \$25,000 to the Tippits, but is spreading it out over a three-year period "for tax purposes."

In addition, Walter Annenberg, publisher and editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, told officers he would pay off the mortgage on the Tippit home, amounting to \$12,200. *AP*, 2:51 p.m. CST, Jerry Pillard

1/64 Norden gives several contradictory accounts of the Tippit shooting. *The Minority of One*, Eric Norden, pp. 16-23.

1/3/64 Although Oswald originally charged and arrested for murder of Tippit, nothing more was done on the Tippit angle. Beyond news stories on money contributed for his family, no more was heard of factual data about Tippit. Lane interview

1/20/64 More than half a million dollars has been contributed to the family of the Dallas, TX, policeman who was slain trying to arrest the alleged assassin of President John F. Kennedy.

As a police patrolman, J. D. Tippit earned \$490 a month -- \$5,880 a year. ... *U.S. News & World Report*, p, 46, *A Story of Generosity*.

2/9/64 A witness said he had seen Tippit, Bernard Weissman and Ruby conferring for about two hours in Ruby's night club on 11/14.

[See Oswald, 12/24/63, *AP* 924 pcs]

2/9/64 In affidavit written by police [a standard procedure] and signed by witness to Tippit shooting, the killer was described as "white, young, male." The witness, a woman, told Lane (?) killer was also "bushy-haired, short, stocky." Man came up to police car, leaned against it over the window and he and policeman had a short conversation. He walked away, policeman got out of car and was shot by the man. Shooting took place at East 10th Street and Patton, in front of 404 E. 10th. Killer then ran west. Lane Talk.

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2/21/64A block away [From scene of Tippit shooting on East 10th St.] a used car salesman heard shots and saw a man trotting along the sidewalk. "He had a pistol in his hand," said the salesman, Ted Callaway. "I got a real good look at him. It was Oswald. I picked him out of a police lineup that night." *Life*

2/21/64 ... Between Madison and Bishop Avenues on Jefferson Boulevard, Oswald ran into the entranceway of a shoe store and stood gasping for breath. The store manager, John Brewer, noticed that he was breathing hard, and that his shirt-tail was out. "He looked scared," Brewer said. Brewer had just heard of Officer Tippit's murder and so he decided to follow Oswald. ...

[Brewer followed Oswald to *Texas Theater*, asked cashier there to call police and when they arrived pointed out Oswald to them from the stage] [see capture] *Life*

2/23/64 Oswald's identifier also shot. [apparently appeared in no other paper] [first known public mention of Reynolds]

... Last month a Dallas used car dealer named Warren Reynolds was shot in the head. ...

... The *Reynolds Motor Co.* is close to the spot where Officer J. D. Tippit stopped Oswald as he hurried away from the scene of the assassination. Oswald reportedly shot the officer three times and killed him.

The sound of the shooting brought Reynolds out of his office. He told police that he saw Oswald running away, putting new shells into a pistol as he did. He later joined others in identifying him as the man.

Last month Reynolds was locking up his office for the night and had pushed two of the 30 buttons which doused the lights of the establishment when a man rose and shot him in the temple with a .22 caliber rifle.

Mr. Reynolds has made a remarkable recovery after doctors had feared permanent loss of speech.

A local desperado named Garner was picked up by the police after the Reynolds shooting but was cleared. His girl, Betty [Mooney] McDonald, took a lie detector test that helped spring Garner. Two weeks ago she was arrested for engaging in a public brawl with her roommate. Last week she hanged herself in her cell. ...

... he had worked as a stripper at a place called the *Carousel* ...

Jack Ruby's Carousel.... *New York Journal-American*, Bob Considine *AP* 5:27 pcs

[See 7/24 *San Francisco Chronicle*, 11/15/64, *Oakland Tribune*]

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2/23/64 Dallas, in a cryptic note to New York, apparently in response to a telephoned inquiry about a story by *Hearst* reporter Bob Considine [which unable to find in either *San Francisco Hearst* outlet] replied:

Capt. O. A. Jones of Dallas police confirms Reynolds shooting and says been no connection established with Ruby or Oswald. Reynolds is recovering. His motor company is a used car lot in the general vicinity of Tippit's slaying. Case still under investigation and no charges been filed. Jones said woman gave name as Nancy Jane Mooney, 23. She was arrested about 3 a.m. 2/13 on disturbing peace charge after she and another woman got into scuffle on downtown street. She found hanged in city jail cell two hours later. Jones said she just one of many persons who lived in vicinity of Tippit's slaying who had been questioned but no connection established with Ruby or Oswald and has no record of her being stripper at *Carousel*. Jones said Mooney woman told officers during questioning that she had tried on at least one previous occasion to commit suicide. *AP* did not carry either Reynolds or Mooney stories. *AP* 5:27 pcs

[See this file 2/23/64, *New York Journal-American*, Bob Considine, 7/24/64, *San Francisco Chronicle*, 11/15/64, *Oakland Tribune*

3/64 Oswald is ... supposed to have shot Officer Tippit when stopped by the latter - who was cruising alone in his car [and for unexplained reasons, outside his normal beat ... Could Tippit have recognized Oswald on the basis of a very vague description which, moreover, would not have mentioned the tan zipper jacket he had put on since leaving Elm Street? *Commentary*, Leo Sauvage

3/64 The police also named a Mrs. Davis, who said that she saw a man ejecting some shells from a gun while crossing her yard a short distance away from the murder, but she wasn't able to describe him. In his Sunday night press conference, District Attorney Wade had said: "Witnesses saw him [Oswald] eject the shells from a revolver and place - reload - the gun." Whoever told the police that he or she saw Oswald reload did them something of a disservice, for this testimony contradicts Captain Fritz, who, having thought at first that Officer Tippit had been killed by two bullets, took care to emphasize to newsmen on Friday afternoon that there had been precisely two empty chambers in the .38 taken from Oswald at the *Texas Theater*. *Commentary*: Leo Sauvage

Were the shells searched for or found?

3/5/64 Washington - Mark Lane ... told the Warren Commission yesterday that he had heard of a mysterious meeting in Jack Ruby's Dallas night club eight days before President Kennedy was assassinated last 11/22.

[He] said that he was informed that J. D. Tippit ... was one of three persons at the meeting Lane said he was told by a source he cannot name about the meeting that allegedly took place last 11/14 in Ruby's *Carousel Club*.

He told the commission that Bernard Weissman, a New York resident who placed an anti-Kennedy advertisement in a Dallas

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newspaper on the day of the assassination, also was present.

He also said he was told that a third person was present but said he would rather furnish that name to the Warren Commission in closed session.

... Earl Warren ... said Lane could do that and he cleared the public hearing of reporters and spectators to receive the evidence.

Asked what the purpose of the Dallas meeting was, Lane replied: "They were there for more than two hours, conferring."

Warren asked him if his information indicated what the men were talking about. Lane said it did not. *San Francisco Chronicle*, *UPI*

3/8/64

"At 1:15 ... suddenly I heard over the police radio an unfamiliar voice, a voice not acquainted with police procedure, obviously a civilian. 'A policeman has just been shot:' the voice announced. 'A police-man has just been shot. He was driving police car No. 10 from where I am now talking.'

"When I heard that announcement," McDonald continued, "I knew at once that officer J. D. Tippit had been shot. I knew Tippit had been assigned Patrol Car No. 10 in District 78. ... 'Let's get over to Oak Cliffs' I said. ... 'Let's see- if we can find the buy who shot Tippit.' ..." *Parade [Oakland Tribune] The Man Who Captured Lee Oswald*, by Lloyd Shearer. [feature on Officer M. N. McDonald].

4/3/64

Washington - Outside technical experts are being called into double check FBI findings in the investigation of President Kennedy's slaying.

The special presidential commission investigating the assassination decided on the move to avoid possible future claims that FBI findings might have been rigged or colored by self-interest, it was learned.

One expert, Joseph Nicol, superintendent of the Illinois Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, traveled to Philadelphia to use new police laboratory facilities there to make ballistics tests of bullet fragments and casings gathered at the scenes of the murders. [Story suggests ballistics tests include Tippit shooting, but *AP* story [4/4, 10:20 pcs] says "The two bullets that killed President ... Kennedy were tested in the *Philadelphia Crime Laboratory*" 3/24-25.]

4/6/64

[An account of various doubts and theories to date about the official version of the assassination].

... Did Oswald shoot down Dallas patrolman J: D. Tippit?

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... The doubters question whether he was the man who gunned down Tippit in the street 3 miles from the assassination scene, principally because one eyewitness description didn't fit Oswald. But investigators claim three witnesses linking Oswald to the killing -- plus ballistics and fingerprint evidence on the revolver taken from him. ... *Newsweek*, , *JFK's Murder: Sowers of Doubt*, p. 22-24

5/2/64 Dorothy Kilgallen posed a "mysterious and significant" question ... in her column 4/14: "Why," she wrote, "did Oswald, presumably fleeing from the police after the assassination, approach ... J. D. Tippit's car ...? ... A man who knows he is wanted by the authorities after a spectacular crime does not seek out a policeman, usually, unless he has decided to give himself up By shooting Tippit, instead of trying to make himself inconspicuous, Oswald put himself in double jeopardy. His act almost guaranteed his arrest. Why? A whodunit fan would infer that the policeman knew something about Oswald that was so dangerous he had to be silenced at any cost, even Oswald's chance at escape and freedom." *National Guardian*

4/24/64 Dallas – Patrolman J. D. Tippit ... was presented three posthumous awards Thursday night “for courage beyond the call of duty.” *AP*, 807 acs

5/9/64 Guardian account of story in the 5/17/64, issue of the *National Enquirer* [which the *Guardian* carefully labels "a weekly with sensationalist leanings"], to the effect that Ruby and Oswald were said to be suspects when General Walker was shot at; Justice Department wrote to Chief Jesse Curry asking that they not be arrested, for 'reasons of state', making the request on behalf of the CIA. 'Because the CIA was deeply involved with Ruby - and probably Oswald, too. CIA agents had been using Ruby to recruit men in the Dallas area to serve as commandos against Castro's government in Cuba. And they didn't dare let Ruby be arrested and chance such information getting out. There were also indications that Oswald himself might have been working ... as a double agent for both the Communists and the CIA.' [Quotations from *National Enquirer*.] *National Guardian*

6/8/64 Interview with special security agent Atsuyuki Sassa.

Role of Tippit. Sassa turned again to Buchanan's writings:

"Buchanan holds that Policeman Tippit [J. D. Tippit killed by Oswald about an hour after the President's assassination] was in a right-wing plot to kill Kennedy. But let's look at the facts:

"There are over a thousand men on the Dallas police force. More than half were assigned to guard the President. Buchanan says Tippit was driving alone, something unusual.

"Of course it was unusual not to have two men in a police cruiser. But the reason is that half of the farm force was on guard duty." *U.S. News & World Report*, p. 38-9.

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7/2464 Dallas - from Warren Commission has taken a deposition from [Warren Reynolds, July 22] ...

[See source for details. Story similar to that by Bob Considine [filed 2/23/64] but does not quote Reynolds as saying Oswald was the man he saw running from scene of Tippit shooting.]

... Who was the man who pulled the rifle's trigger?

"The police haven't found him yet." [Reynolds] I "But they have determined that there was no connection between shooting and the shooting and either my business or personal life."

Does he believe there was no connection between his witnessing the temporary Oswald escape and the shooting?

"Let's just say I think it is mighty strange," he said.

[See this file, *New York Journal-American*, Bob Considine, 2/23/64.]

8/12/64 Quotes Marguerite as saying she thinks Tippit gave Lee safe conduct out of the school depository and then "they" ordered Tippit killed," I asked who 'they' were and again she said "Why it's right there before you." *San Francisco Chronicle*, Bob Considine

8/19/64 Story on interview of Ruby by Warren on 6/7/64 in Dallas: Ruby denied knowing J. D. Tippit.

[*San Francisco Examiner's* version of Kilgallen's transcript of interview filed Ruby.]

In same story, Miss Kilgallen pointed out that while Ruby did not admit that he, Weissman and Tippit had a meeting at the *Carousel Club*, he never directly denied it. Dorothy Kilgallen, *San Francisco Examiner*

[See 2/23/64.]

8/29/64 Story on series of articles by Dorothy Kilgallen, on Warren's questioning of Ruby on 6/7/64 in Dallas.

[Mark Lane had informed the commission months before of the Ruby-Tippit-Weissman meeting at the Carousel.]

Yet throughout the three hours of testimony, Justice Warren permitted Ruby to ramble, twist and dodge and never answer directly the questions whether he knew Tippit or had been with him at the *Carousel* that night. Even more bizarre, Justice Warren added a fourth man to the table, "a rich Texas oil man," whom Lane says he never mentioned. Significant was Ruby's reply to Warren's question. "Who was the rich oil man?" Ruby replied. He never admitted the meeting took place; he never denied it. *National*

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Guardian

9/26/64 New York - ...New disclosures of events surrounding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy have been obtained exclusively by this writer. ... The important new points:

A woman [not Helen Markham] who witnessed the killing of Officer J. D. Tippit was warned by police that her life would be in danger if she talked about the case to anyone. She gave what seemed to be a vivid description of the slayer - a description which did not fit Lee Harvey Oswald - but she made her statement after being promised that her name would not be revealed. She said:

"I'm not allowed to talk to anybody ... Might get killed on the way to work ... See, they'll kill people that know something about that." *San Francisco News Call Bulletin*, [copyright *New York Journal-American*; *Hearst Headline Service*]

9/64 ... The police description of Lee Harvey Oswald on 11/22 for the shooting of officer J. D. Tippit [Kennedy] went out at 12:43 p.m.; Tippit was shot at 1:18 p.m. ... *The Realist*, Paul Krassner attributing to Lane speaking at the *Cafe Au GoGo*

9/64 ... Louise Markham, a witness to the shooting of officer Tippit, described his assailant as short, heavy, 'with somewhat bushy hair. the police never asked her for a description -- although she did tell them that the man was wearing a light gray jacket -- but they arrested Oswald who was wearing a dark brown shirt, and had been describe a in the police bulletin as tall, slender, with thin, receding hair. The Dallas police description was claimed to be based on Oswald's absence from a roll call of book depository employees -- but there never was a roll call, and if there had been, at least three other employees would also have been missing. ... *The Realist*, Paul Krassner attributing to Mark Lane speaking at the *Cafe Au GoGo* in New York "this month."

9/64 [An account of a visit with Mrs. Oswald to the apartment of Mrs. Helen Markham, reputedly the only witness to the Tippit murder, in 6/64]

... As we approached 328½ E. 9th where the Markhams live, we noticed two Dallas police station wagons parked outside, and just as we turned the corner of 9th and Patton we saw them pull away.

Mrs. Oswald guessed what the police were there for. Up the stairs she charged, and there we met the most pitiful spectacle in our experience. Mr. Markham stood in the doorway, and behind him the alleged witness to the Tippit murder cowered to one side. The man was a quivering wreck. Every muscle in his lean frame was a-tremble, his mouth twitched uncontrollably, and his teeth were actually chattering from fright.

"Please go away," he groaned like a whipped puppy. "Please go away and don't come back."

"You've been threatened, haven't you?" Mrs. Oswald asked.

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"Yes, please go away."

... Bill Markham, the 20-year-old son of Helen Markham followed us outside. His mother and step-father, he said, were too scared of the police and Secret Service to talk to us but he wasn't. ... unutterable contempt for his parents showed in every word. Also clear was his desperate need of money. Would we pay for information about the Tippit killing? [the decided not to pay him since they might be charged with bribing a witness.]

... The sullen boy ... admitted he had a police record, that the police had gotten him fired from several jobs by so-called parole checkups. ... Yes, the Secret Service had told his parents that "there would be trouble" if they talked to outsiders. "But I'm not afraid, Ma'am, I need money and if I don't get some one way, I'll get it another."

... Two days later Marguerite called us to come over fast. She fretted us, holding up a newspaper in her hand. The Markham boy had been picked up for burglary and parole violation. ... for seven hours Marguerite Oswald was on the phone trying to get young Markham a lawyer. She called Mark Lane in New York, called Greg Olds of the *Dallas Civil Liberties Union* [who made vague, unfulfilled pledges] called the *Lawyers Referral Service*, called six attorneys in Fort Worth who all begged off.

Over and over she asked for a lawyer to visit the boy in jail to make sure he was represented by counsel. ... She got promises, recommendations, apologies, but no lawyer.

Mark Lane finally managed to persuade a reluctant colleague in Dallas to see young Markham. ... *The Realist, The Unsinkable Marguerite Oswald*, Harold Feldman, p. 12

9/27/64

[story on Mrs. Tippit saying she wasn't surprised that the Warren Commission report said her late husband had known neither Oswald or Ruby]

"We knew that all along," she said with a smile.

Then she grew wistful.

"I don't know how those rumors got started ... J. D. was just an honest, hard-working policeman who stayed at his home most of the time."

... More than \$600,000 in donations for the Tippit family poured in from all over the nations after the officer's death but his widow said that the family is living on \$225 a month.

Tippit, J. D.

She explained that lawyers are completing details on forming trust funds but that in the meantime, she and her three children have been living on Tippit's police benefit payments.

... the couch and chair are frayed, and Mrs. Tippit noted that she was going to have to paint the house soon.

... Mrs. Tippit wants a new car. Tippit's 1961 blue station wagon has a faulty generator ...

[part of same story in *Washington Post*, 9/28/64. *Washington Post*, same date, carries *UPI* story on Mrs. Tippit, saying all she wants is privacy. Discusses the \$650,00 fortune she and her children now have but makes no mention of their living on \$225 a month.] *AP* A250dn 751pcs Peggy Simpson, Dallas

9/26/64

New York - New disclosures of events surrounding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy have been obtained exclusively by this writer. ... The important new points: A woman [Not Helen Markham] who witnessed the killing of Officer J. D. Tippit was warned by police that her life would be in danger if she talked about the case to anyone. She gave what seemed to be a vivid description of the slayer – a description that did not fit Lee Harvey Oswald – but she made her statement after being promised that her name would not be revealed. She said:

"I'm not allowed to talk to anybody ... Might get killed on the way to work. ... See, they'll kill people that know something about that." *San Francisco News Call Bulletin*, *New York Journal-American*, *Hearst Headline Service*, Dorothy Kilgallen

9/28/64

Story on publication of *Warren Report*, dealing with its report on Ruby:

The commission specifically discounted an allegation by Mark Lane ... that Ruby, Bernard Weissman and .. J. D. Tippit had met at Ruby's *Carousel Club* on 11/14.

[See Kilgallen story 8/19/64]

9/28/64

... a Dallas police officer told an eyewitness to the murder of ... Officer Tippit that she herself 'might be killed' if she ever told 'anyone' that she saw Tippit slain. This witness, who described Officer Tippit slaying. This witness, who described Officer Tippit's killer as a person very different from Oswald, never testified before the Warren Commission. ...

The Commission [p. 652] states that "the only woman among the witnesses to the slaying of Tippit known to the Commission is Helen Markham. The FBI never interviewed any other woman who claimed to have scene the shooting and never received any information concerning the existence of such a witness.

Of course, the Commission, in knowingly posing an incorrect argument – that is, that the FBI interviewed the witness than

Tippit, J. D.

accurately stating that the Dallas police interviewed the witness – is now able to deny with accuracy that the FBI interviewed the witness ... Despite the assurances of the Commission, such a witness does exist, and we have secured from her, on more than one occasion, statements regarding the killing of Officer Tippit. *San Francisco Chronicle* [from *New York Times*]

9/29/64 ... Simple interest on the fund would give J. D. Tippit's family at least three times the \$5880 a year he was earning when he died 11/22. *Washington Post*

10/5/64 ... As for the radical right, the commission came up with a few new nuggets, but nothing to tie in with Oswald or Ruby. Samples:

Officer Tippit worked "weekends in a Dallas restaurant owned by a member of the *John Birch Society*" [but no one ever heard them talk politics.]

... The ["Welcome, Mr. Kennedy"] ad was placed [in the *Dallas Morning News*] by a 26-year-old rug salesman named Bernard Weissman, another extremist.

It was Weissman who, by Lane's account, had met with Tippit ... and Jack Ruby ... *Newsweek, Oswald Was the Assassin*, p. 51

10/12/64 *Columbia University* research team, George and Patricia Wash, said Warren Commission failed to interview all Tippit slaying witnesses available, including Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wright.

Suggest it's possible Mrs. Markham came on scene only after hearing the shots. *New York Times*

10/12/64 From the Nashes' article in *The New Leader*: "... without Mrs. Markham, there is no one to say precisely what happened between Tippit and Oswald." *The New Leader*

10/17/64 Joesten, who formerly assumed the Tippit killing had nothing to do with the assassination, is now convinced the slain officer was not only implicated, but "Tippit was the man in the window. Another man was firing from the overpass."

"Oswald, who killed nobody, was the preordained scapegoat of a tremendous conspiracy of which it is absolutely impossible to exempt the Dallas police." *National Guardian*, Jack A. Smith, Story on separate interviews with Lane, Joesten and Buchanan *Warren Report*.

10/22/64 Dallas, [10/21] - A nation's gift of nearly \$650,000 was presented yesterday to the widow and three children of J. D. Tippit ...

This was the first cash Mrs. Tippit had received from an outpouring of donations that followed her husband's death last 11/22. ...

Tippit, J. D.

Mrs. Tippit received a check for \$312,916. Another check for \$330,946 went to Mrs. Tippit and the *Republic National Bank* as trustees of a fund for the children. A third share of \$3,716 was presented to the *Policemen's and Firemen's Fund*. *New York Times*

10/14/64 The Dallas *Policemen's and Firemen's Welfare Fund* was organized 11/26/63, to oversee the donations. *Dallas Times Herald*

11/64 The Warren Commission state that patrolman Tippit asked Oswald to come over to his patrol car. If he suspected Oswald to be the President's assassin what police officer in his right mind would remain in his car while attempting to interrogate the suspected murderer? James Silver, Berwyn, PA *The Minority of One*, Letter to the Editor, *Tippit's "Invitation"*, p. 22

11/15/64 Mrs. Tippit - see story on anniversary of assassination. *AP* 1105 pes, Sid Moody

12/5/64 In a debate with Mark Lane in Los Angeles on 12/5/64, Joseph A. Ball, counsel for the Warren Commission, described Helen Markham [witness to Tippit shooting] as "an utter screwball." Lane pointed out that, based upon Ball's interrogation of Mrs. Markham, the Commission concluded that her testimony was "reliable." *Citizens' Committee of Inquiry Newsletter*

11/20/65 From story on anniversary of assassination:

The widow and children of J. D. Tippit remain in the familiar surroundings where they lived modestly but comfortably prior to 11/22/63.

... Donations poured in for the Tippit family. Even now, two years later, a sprinkling of letters and an occasional dollar still arrive at the house.

Instant and substantial wealth - nearly \$650,000 - apparently has had little effect on [Marie Tippit and her children]. The only tangible evidence of wealth is a new car and a color television set. *AP* 801 aes, Mike Cochran

1/31/66 Dallas - Board members of the Dallas *Policemen's and Firemen's Welfare Fund* Monday decided to keep \$337.73 sent to the widow of patrolman J. D. Tippit "until she asked for it." ...

Assistant City Auditor C. F. Craig ... said Mrs. Tippit had received a total of \$656,391.58 from donors from all over the country. *AP* 1256 acs

8/19/66 Richard Stark and Paul-Michel Mielche said they were harassed and threatened in Dallas while working on documentary film *Rush to Judgment*. Police warned them "it might be dangerous" if they didn't get out of town. They said their impression was that the police "were more concerned about our footage on the death of Tippit .. than in the Kennedy shooting." *San Francisco*

Tippit, J. D.

Chronicle

- 11/66** The most consistent of the seeming patterns of intimidation involves those who knew something about the murder of Jefferson Davis Tippit ... *Ramparts*, p. 29 David Welsh, *In the Shadow of Dallas*. p. 39 David Welsh, *The legacy of Penn Jones, Jr.*
- 12/1/66** Marguerite tells *WOAI-TV* in interview "I believe that Tippit is the clue. I believe that if we break the Tippit killing, we'll have the key. *AP* cw San Antonio
- 1/3/67** ... One day in December Gertz asked Ruby, "Jack, tell me, did you know Tippit? People keep saying you knew him."
"First of all," Ruby said, "there were three Tippits on the police Department. The one who was shot I never knew, never heard of One of the other Tippits I knew." *AP* a11, Gavzer Dallas, *Ruby's Last Days*
- 1/29/67** Mrs. Tippit remarried a week ago to Dallas Plaice Lt. Harry Dean Thomas. She has three children, he has four. Spent honeymoon on the Gulf coast and south Texas.
Add says married 1/21. Thomas, 44, divorced, has been with the force more than 16 years and is patrol lieutenant in a northeast Dallas substation, "a sort of area supervisor," according to unnamed police captain.
Add gives \$647,579 total for tax-free donations to Mrs. Tippit. A judge authorized about half of it for a trust fund for her children and she received "most of the remainder." She finally bought a new car and a color TV set, but years after the assassination, her furniture, home and neighborhood remained modest.
msg to New York from Denver says nobody at police station who knows Thomas personally or whether he knew Tippit. *AP* A29dn 1155 pcs Dallas
- 4/10/67** Blow-by-blow account of the Tippit shooting sequence which depicts both FBI chief Gordon Shanklin and police Captain Will Fritz as baffled about why Tippit didn't draw his gun.
Says these top investigators fed up with many mysteries claimed by outsiders that they know are not mysteries at all. But this is their own inside mystery. They find no answer to what happened at 1:15 that Friday, 11/22. *San Francisco Examiner*, Henry J. Taylor, Dallas
- 12/22/67** Garrison, in speech at Albuquerque 12/15/67, says Tippit was shot by two dark-haired men, that shells found came from two different guns. Believes Tippit was shot as a diversion following arrest of 10 men at assassination scene so they could be released without difficulty. *LA Free Press*, text of speech

Tippit, J. D.

- 1/68** How the hunt for the fleeing killer was sidetracked from the *Abundant Life Temple* to the library, how the shells didn't match, descriptions of eyewitnesses did not fit with Oswald, etc. *Ramparts*, pp. 58-59, William W. Turner
- 1/68** "Eyewitness [Timid but still alive]" writes letter to *Playboy* saying he was among 5 or 6 witnesses to Tippit slaying and that he saw two men, neither of whom looked like Oswald, that his wife persuaded him to remain silent. *Playboy*, p. 11-12
- 3/1/68** *LA Free Press* prints long interview with Roger Craig and Penn Jones, Jr. Craig says he knew Tippit, thinks he was a patsy who was slain to direct attention to Oswald. Says Tippit was in south Dallas, not in Oak Cliff, when JFK killed and radio instructed all officers to report to the downtown area. Tippit went instead to Oak Cliff, Craig thinks to meet somebody. Says Tippit had girl trouble. Jones says Tippit knew Ruby and Oswald, but that the people who know they do no longer live in Texas. *LA Free Press*
- 8/68** On homosexual aspects in the assassination; names Oswald, Ruby, Ferrie, Shaw, Russo, Tippit
- "There are several allusions to a less-than-natural association between Ruby and ... Tippitt ...
- "Tippitt and his wife were in the process of getting a divorce when he was killed ... This marital split was known by fellow officers, the Tippitt neighbors and especially by Jack Ruby who offered sympathy to Tippitt.
- "The Tippitts' lawyer in the divorce action was Eugene Locke, known to be an expensive attorney. How could they afford him and his services on a patrolman's salary? What was the divorce complaint brought by Mrs. Tippitt? Was Jack Ruby involved? Isn't it mysterious that the divorce petition has 'disappeared?' This occurred shortly after the Kennedy assassination when it became evident that Tippitt's activities would bear a closer scrutiny. Who 'lost' the petition? ... " *Confidential Magazine, The Kennedy Assassination: A Study in Perversion*, Joel Palmer
- 11/14/68** "An unreported bit of news out of Dallas this week [11/10-16] is that Harry Dean Thomas, husband of the widow of J. D. Tippit, is in a Dallas Hospital in critical condition from a severe beating. He had a ruptured artery in the brain. No news as to who administered the beating." *Midlothian Mirror*, Penn Jones
- 11/22/68** Thomas, 46, "almost died earlier this month of a ballooning blood vessel in the brain, but is now recovering. " *San Francisco Examiner*
- 1/9/69** Charles Allen Tippit, 20-year-old son of J. D. Tippit, charged in Dallas with assault to rape. Alleged assault occurred New Year's morning. Story does not say if woman involved named him or later identified him; only link seems to be that his wallet was said to have been found in her apartment. *San Francisco Chronicle*