

LEFTIST ARRESTED

11/23/63

Leader of Pro-Castro Group Is Suspect - Policeman Slain

Special to the New York Times.

DALLAS, Nov. 22 — The chairman of a pro-Castro "Fair Play for Cuba Committee," Lee H. Oswald, was arrested here today in connection with the assassination of President Kennedy.

Oswald was chased into a movie theater by a patrolman who was shot to death, the police said, by the suspect. Another policeman subdued Oswald, who is 24 years old.

The first sound of the shots, as the President's car moved through Dallas, sounded to witnesses like a giant firecracker. The noise came from tall buildings that the Presidential party had just passed. There were three bursts of shots.

As Mr. Kennedy slumped in his seat, the accompanying policemen and Secret Service agents suddenly had automatic rifles and pistols in their hands. They were apparently caught off guard by the swiftness of the attack.

Policemen Run Into Park

Several policemen ran to a grassy knoll and into a nearby park behind the Kennedy entourage.

In a search of the buildings in the area, a German-made Mauser rifle was found on a fifth-floor landing of one tall structure. One shell remained in the rifle's chamber. 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 was 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. Patrolman MacDonald rushed Oswald and grappled with him

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LEFTIST ARRESTED AFTER GUN BATTLE

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in the seats. The patrolman's face was gashed in the fracas and Oswald was slightly cut about the face.

Witnesses said Oswald had shouted "It's all over now" as he grappled with Patrolman MacDonald.

The rifle was found in the Texas School Book Depository. A supervisor told the police that Oswald was employed there and had been in the building at noon.

First reports here said a Secret Service man had been killed in the gun fight at the theater. Later, however, the Treasury Department in Washington said none of its agents had been injured.

Revolver Found on Subject

Dazed and sullen, Oswald was taken to a police station. He was wearing a white shirt and dark trousers. A patrolman carried a .38-caliber revolver that had been found on the suspect.

Oswald was immediately taken into a room for interrogation by the police and government officials.

Captain Fritz, asked whether the fingerprints on the rifle found in the building matched those of Oswald, replied "I don't know."

He hasn't admitted anything yet," Captain Fritz said, "but he looks like a good suspect."

According to the police, Oswald admitted owning the revolver used to shoot the policeman. But they said he denied that he participated in the assassination.

"I don't know what this is all about," the police quoted him as having said. "I didn't do anything." Oswald charged the police with brutality.

The police said also that the suspect had tried to shoot Patrolman MacDonald, but that his revolver had misfired.

Oswald is about 5 feet, 9 inches tall and weighs about 160 pounds. He has light brown hair. Police Capt. Pat Gannaway said the suspect had visited the Soviet Union and was married to a Russian.

News-agency files showed that a Lee Harvey Oswald renounced his citizenship in 1959, while visiting the Soviet Union as a tourist.

The American embassy in Moscow said yesterday that a man named Lee Harvey Oswald of Fort Worth, Tex., born Oct. 18, 1933, defected to the Soviet

Union in 1959. It said he returned to the United States in 1962 with a Russian wife and a baby daughter.

While in the Soviet Union, it was said, Oswald apparently worked in a factory in Minsk. On his return to the United States, he went to Fort Worth.

An Associated Press reporter, now at the United Nations, said Oswald had declined to say why he wanted to stay in the Soviet Union.

Oswald was quoted as having told an Embassy official that "I have made up my mind, I'm through," when he turned in his American passport in Moscow.

The police in New Orleans said Oswald was arrested in that city early last August while distributing "hands-off-Cuba" propaganda on Canal Street. He was charged with disturbing the peace, they said, after he became involved in a melee with a group of Cubans associated with the Cuban Student Directory.

Oswald was later fined \$25. During the trial, he declared that he was a president of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

State Department records showed that the American Embassy in Moscow lent Oswald \$435.71 for his family's transportation back to the United States.

At the time he went to the Soviet Union, Oswald's permanent address was given as Fort Worth.

A passport issued to a Lee Harvey Oswald of New Orleans last June 25 gave a New Orleans address. Oswald had applied for the passport for an intended visit to the Soviet Union and seven other European nations during the fall.

At the time he applied, he listed his occupation as photographer. An earlier passport application listed his occupation as a shipping export agent.

Mexico Closes Her Border

Mexico city, Nov. 22 (UPI) — Mexico closed her border with the United States today. The move was designed to prevent by persons responsible for President Kennedy's assassination to flee to the south, an Interior Ministry spokesman said.

The spokesman said Mexican Federal troops were participating in "vigilance" of all border crossing points from the Pacific Coast to the Gulf of Mexico. The order affected travel from points in California, Arizona and Texas.

The spokesman said "it was not clear" whether the crossing ban covered only ground

travel, but that seemed to be the case. The airport control tower here said "all flights are running normally" out of the field.

A report from Laredo, Tex., said the ban would last for 72 hours, but the interior ministry spokesman said he was not able to confirm this. He added that some form of crossing control probably would continue until "something more definite is known about the assassin."

He said the closing has been taken on Mexico's initiative and had not been requested by the United States.