

No Confession

Texan Charged With Murder

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U.P. & A.P. *clip*
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Little more than 11 hours after a gunman assassinated President Kennedy from ambush, police charged a 24-year-old Texan with his murder.

Lee Harvey Oswald, a former Marine who once tried to renounce his American citizenship and live in the Soviet Union, made no confession.



A. P. Wirephoto
PATROLMAN TIPPETT
He was killed

"I did not kill the President. I did not kill anyone," Oswald told newsmen. "This is not justice. I might as well be in Russia."

POLICEMAN

He had first been arrested on a charge of slaying a policeman who stopped him for questioning.

His case will probably go to a grand jury next week. Dallas District Attorney Henry Wade said there is still additional information to be gathered. He would not discuss the question of fingerprints on the murder weapon.

Police said it was established that at the time of the assassination Oswald was in a building a block from the presidential car where a .765 Mauser rifle was found on a fifth floor landing. Oswald was employed as a clerk in the building.

FIGHT

Manacled, his face battered in a fight with the police who subdued him in a movie theater less than four miles from the assassination scene, Oswald was taken before Justice of the Peace David Johnson for arraignment.

After the formal charges were filed, Oswald was brought before newsmen.

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Speaking in a low voice into a cluster of microphones thrust into his face, he denied killing the President.

He appeared less defiant than earlier in the evening, but still was composed. He smiled several times as he was being questioned.

"I don't think he is a nut," District Attorney Henry Wade told newsmen. "I think he is sane. I don't mean that he is any Ph.D., but he answers questions very easily and he is sharp."

Wade said he had 15 witnesses to the assassination. He said investigators had learned from Oswald's Russian-born wife that he had a rifle of the type used to kill the President and had it with him the night before the assassination.

"I believe we have the evidence to convict him," Wade said.

Police made paraffin tests on Oswald several hours before he was charged formally to determine whether he had recently fired a rifle.

Results of the test were not announced.

Oswald was identified as the chairman of a "Fair Play for Cuba" committee in New Orleans and as a defector to the Soviet Union who had sought Russian citizenship in 1959, but had been refused. He once served in the U. S. Marine Corps.

In Buffalo, N. Y., V. T. Lee, national director of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, said last night: "We have never issued a charter in that area (New Orleans). I don't know if Oswald is a member. He could be. There is no one, however, named Oswald who is an official of the committee anywhere in the United States."

The chronology of Oswald's movement between the time of the assassination and his arrest was slowly being pieced together by police last night.

Police learned that Oswald, whose wife lives in suburban Irving, had rented an \$8 a week room in Dallas on October 4. Oswald gave his name as O. H. Lee when he rented the room.

Mrs. R. C. Roberts, who works at the house where Oswald lived, said that at about 12:45 p.m. she had just learned that the President had been shot.

Then, in rushed Oswald "on the dead run," she said.

"He ran to his room, came running back with a gray zipper jacket and out the door.

"I said, 'You sure are in a hurry,' but he didn't even answer."

There was no explanation of Oswald's whereabouts before the encounter with the patrolman.

This much was known about the assassin.

He crouched near a window, on the fifth or sixth floor of a building, overlooking the motorcade route. He gnawed on some chicken and drank a bottle of soda pop during the long wait.

Steamfitter H. L. Brennan told the Dallas Morning News he saw the assassin. "He was a slender guy, a nice looking guy. He didn't seem to be in no hurry," Brennan related.

"After the first shot I looked up and saw him. The guy was sticking out the window. I saw him fire a second time."

Police said Patrolman J. D. Tippitt had stopped a man on the street about four miles from the assassination scene. The man, later identified by eyewitnesses as Oswald, drew a gun, shot and killed Tippitt. Then he fled as neighbors notified police.

A few minutes later—about 1:20 p.m.—the cashier of the Texas Theater, five blocks away, phoned police to report a man had run in. A dozen people were in the theater when police arrived and the lights were thrown on. The man jumped up and said "This is it."

He tried to fire a snub-nosed revolver, but the gun misfired.

Four officers jumped on him, handcuffed him and

hurried him to a patrol car as a crowd of several hundred, relating the arrest to the assassination, angrily pressed in.

If police had any other evidence to connect Oswald to the shots that felled the President they would not reveal it.

The foreign-made rifle believed used in the assassination of President Kennedy had no fingerprints on it, police reported last night.

The weapon—a German army 765 Mauser—was turned over to the FBI and was being sent to Washington for exhaustive investigation and analysis.

It was found on a fifth floor stairwell of the Texas Schoolbook Depository Building about 100 yards from

where Mr. Kennedy was shot to death. Three empty shells were found nearby.

Oswald's Russian wife, who speaks little English, was brought to police headquarters and questioned through interpreters.

Police said they had found a leather pistol holster and some books on communism and political magazines in his room.

Oswald's background is unusual.

According to Carlos Bringuier of the Cuban Student Directory in New Orleans, Oswald was in New Orleans two months ago as the chairman of a pro-Castro "Fair Play for Cuba Committee."

Bringuier said in an interview that the man offered himself as a former Marine to train Cubans for an invasion but Bringuier said he was suspicious of the offer.

Oswald and several Cubans were arrested two months ago in New Orleans after a melee when they passed out allegedly pro-Communist literature.

Oswald, who was born in New Orleans in 1939, had joined the U. S. Marines when he was 17 years old. He served three years, and on his discharge he sought citizenship in Russia.

"I have made up my mind, I'm through," he said as he slapped his American passport on the desk of an Embassy official in Moscow in 1959. He was 20 years old.

He told United Press cor-

respondent Aline Mosby in Moscow "it was like getting out of prison" when he left America to seek Soviet citizenship.

He had vowed he never would return to the United States. At the time of his trip to Moscow, he mentioned he would like to go to Cuba to join Fidel Castro. The Soviets, he said, refused him citizenship.

Oswald, who speaks Russian, married in Russia and his wife bore him a child there.

Oswald returned to his Fort Worth, Tex. home from Russia last year after having a change of heart.

Death Car Was Not Bullet Proof

Cincinnati

The car in which President Kennedy was fatally shot yesterday was custom built here in 1961 to rigid Secret Service specifications, but was not bullet proof.

The "Presidential Continental" had more specially designed features than any car ever before used for government duties. It was delivered to the White House in June, 1961.

But Ford Motor Company, which owned the car and leased it to the White House, said that it was not equipped with a bullet proof top or bullet proof glass.

Hess & Eisenhardt, the firm which outfitted the automobile, installed a protective "bubble-top." This was down when the assassin struck.

The car was more than 21 feet in over-all length, a spokesman said. It was equipped with exterior retractable steps for six secret service agents to ride on. Inside the car were two-way radio-telephones to keep the President and his guards in constant communication with staff members along any parade route.

United Press

Mexico Seals Border

Mexico City

The United States-Mexico border was closed by the Mexican government at about 4 p. m. EST yesterday to prevent the possible escape of President Kennedy's assassin.

Four hours later it was reopened unexpectedly.

Almost 10,000 persons had been stranded at crossing points in Texas and California and adjacent Mexican communities.

United Press