

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 6, 1963

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WILLIAM JOSEPH HARRISON, 9223 Donny Brook, Dallas, Texas, was advised he did not have to make any statement, any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law, he had a right to talk to an attorney, and of the identities of SAs EDMOND C. HARDIN and ROBERT J. WILKISON.

HARRISON advised as follows:

He is employed as Patrolman by the Dallas, Texas, Police Department, and is currently assigned as Detective in the Juvenile Division, Criminal Investigation Division, Police Headquarters.

On November 24, 1963, he worked the 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. shift and was on duty in the Juvenile Division, Third Floor of the Police Station, on a standby basis. About 11 a.m. he went to the locker room and on his return observed the other detectives in the Juvenile Division going to the basement. They told him to come too. This was approximately 11 a.m. or shortly thereafter.

Upon arrival in the basement the officers stood around in the corridor outside the jail office awaiting instructions. After a few minutes one of the police officers, whose name he does not recall, instructed them to have all the press and television representatives move to along the east wall area of the basement ramp. They did so.

He doesn't know how many press and television representatives were in the basement, but there was quite a large crowd. He didn't see anyone other than police officers, press or television representatives in the basement area.

He has known JACK RUBY as a Dallas night club operator for several years in connection with his employment as a police officer, but never had any personal associations with RUBY.

Prior to the time that LEE HARVEY OSWALD was brought down to the basement, HARRISON looked at the crowd in attendance but did not see anyone suspicious. He did not see JACK RUBY. He was stationed in the basement ramp area at least six or seven minutes prior to the time OSWALD was escorted into that area.

There was an armored car at the Commerce Street entrance to the basement ramp and there were two plain unmarked police cars inside the ramp which were behind the armored car.

Dallas, Texas

W. J. Harrison

3-25-63 C R 55

on 12/5/63 at Dallas, Texas

File # DL 44-1639

by Special Agents ROBERT J. WILKISON and
EDMOND C. HARDIN:bnm

Date dictated 12/6/63

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Ex.No.5029

HARRISON, Wm. J. Deposition
Dallas 3-25-64

Wm. J. Harrison 3-25-64 Ex 5029

HARRISON EXHIBIT NO. 5029

He was stationed in the center of the ramp in the area where the corridor leading from the jail office meets the ramp. Other officers were along the west side of the ramp. The press and television representatives were on the east wall of the ramp facing the corridor through which OSWALD would pass while being transferred from the City Jail to the vehicle used to transport him. At about that time one or two police cars went out the Main Street exit. He believes Lieutenant PIERCE was in one of the cars. This was about three or four minutes prior to the time OSWALD was escorted out of the jail office.

He said Captain FRITZ came out of the jail office and asked an officer, identity not recalled by HARRISON, if everything was O.K. and received an affirmative answer.

Immediately thereafter OSWALD was escorted out of the jail office door by Detectives GRAVES and LEAVELLE, one of whom was on either side of OSWALD. They walked down the short corridor towards the ramp and the officers who had been stationed along the corridor filled in behind them.

As OSWALD and the officers walked down the corridor towards the ramp, someone in the group of press representatives called for HARRISON and some officers near him to move back. He glanced back over his left shoulder to the crowd behind him, but didn't see anything suspicious and did not see JACK RUBY in the crowd. One or two of the officers near him shifted their positions a little.

While OSWALD was being escorted down the corridor, OSWALD glanced at the crowd behind HARRISON and on HARRISON's left side.

At about that same instant a man whom HARRISON later recognized as JACK RUBY ran past his left side in a crouched-over position. RUBY was about one-half step ahead of him when he first saw RUBY. He observed that RUBY had a gun in his right hand and was extending his right hand in OSWALD's direction. RUBY was moving directly towards OSWALD. OSWALD was only about six feet from HARRISON at the time that RUBY passed by him and RUBY had only about one step to go to reach OSWALD.

At about the same instant that he saw the gun in RUBY's hand he recognized RUBY and immediately started to move towards RUBY. The gun was fired by RUBY almost instantly. At the time the gun went off, HARRISON had his right hand on RUBY's right forearm and was trying to stop RUBY from firing the gun. As HARRISON followed through on his rush toward RUBY, he forced RUBY to the floor. At that same time several other officers also grabbed

CRB

114

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hold of RUBY. He said Detective GRAVES took the gun out of RUBY's right hand.

HARRISON's attention was centered on RUBY and in trying to get the gun away from RUBY, he didn't see what happened to OSWALD. HARRISON and the other officers took RUBY back into the jail office and handcuffed him. At that time RUBY said, "You all know me. I am JACK RUBY." RUBY made that statement ~~and then~~ after they had taken RUBY back into the jail office, some of the other officers brought OSWALD into the jail office. While in the jail office an officer, whose name he does not recall, asked RUBY why he had shot OSWALD and RUBY replied "I hope I killed the S.O.B." HARRISON, Captain KING, and another officer took RUBY upstairs to the fifth floor.

HARRISON and officers L. D. MONTGOMERY, L. D. MILLER, and DON ARCHER were the officers who had handcuffed RUBY.

HARRISON's attention, while in the jail office, was centered on RUBY and he didn't have anything to do with OSWALD. However, he recalled that when he observed OSWALD in the jail office, he noticed that OSWALD had been shot and appeared to be unconscious.

After arrival on the fifth floor he left RUBY and the other officers and had no further contact with RUBY. He did not hear RUBY make any other statements, other than as previously related.

At the time RUBY was subdued and made the above-quoted remark in the jail office about killing OSWALD, RUBY was perfectly calm. At no time while in HARRISON's presence did RUBY appear to be emotionally excited or upset.

HARRISON never worked for RUBY or at any of RUBY's night clubs. He never heard of any police officers who ever worked for RUBY. He said police officers are prohibited from working off-duty at establishments where alcoholic beverages are served.

HARRISON was not familiar with the security measures in the police station November 24, 1963. However, he did observe that officers were standing at the entrance to the basement ramp area.

He did not know of any unauthorized person permitted to enter the basement or of anyone permitted to enter without showing identification. He did not have any occasion to require anyone to identify themselves.

He did not see RUBY or talk to RUBY between November 22 and November 24, 1963, until he observed RUBY a second or so before RUBY shot OSWALD on November 24, 1963.

HARRISON had no information concerning any relationship between OSWALD and RUBY. He did not know OSWALD.

HARRISON had no other pertinent information concerning this case.

116

CR 25

HARRISON EXHIBIT No. 5029—Continued