

Date 12/1/63

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JOHN G. MC CULLOUGH, Philadelphia Bulletin newspaper reporter, home address 6345 Woodbine Street, Philadelphia, Pa., advised he was in Dallas, Texas, covering the story of the assassination of the President, JOHN F. KENNEDY, from 7:15 p.m., Friday, November 22, 1963, until approximately 7 p.m., Wednesday, November 27, 1963. He said that at all times he was at the Dallas Municipal Building where Dallas, Texas, Police Department is located and in the vicinity of the rooms used by the police department, that he had to use his press card for identification.

He said that on November 24, 1963, he went to Dallas, Texas, Police Department headquarters located on the third floor of the Municipal Building and arrived there around ten o'clock. He had to show his credentials to gain entrance.

Chief of Police CURRY, Dallas, Texas, Police Department, was talking to a number of reporters regarding the transfer of LEE HARVEY OSWALD from the police department to county authorities. Among the things CURRY mentioned, was that the police department, during Friday night and early Saturday morning, had received several anonymous telephone calls threatening action against OSWALD for having allegedly shot the President. One caller said that they did not want to hurt any police officers, but they would get the SGO.B. OSWALD.

MC CULLOUGH went to the basement where OSWALD would be leaving the building about 10:30 a.m. He again had to show his credentials when he got off of the elevator. From the elevator he went to the basement garage area, where a vehicle would take OSWALD to the county authorities. He again had to

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show his credentials when he came into this immediate area. He also said he noticed the police checking police cars in this underbround parking area to see that no one was in the automobiles, and that they were also taking shotguns out of the patrol cars, which are normally kept in them.

An unknown Dallas, Texas, Police Department sergeant was heard by MC CULLOUGH to say these guns had been placed in the police department property room. MC CULLOUGH estimated that there were probably fifty police officers in uniform in the basement area, some armed with 12-gauge shotguns.

He said that a crowd of approximately 100 people were gathered outside the entrance to the basement, where the armored truck would leave the building, when it transported OSWALD away. Shortly after MC CULLOUGH got to the basement, these onlookers were made to go to the other side of the street by the police. The crowd was a well-ordered group, according to MC CULLOUGH.

An unknown police officer told MC CULLOUGH that the armored truck that was being used to transport OSWALD was to keep OSWALD from being shot with a high-powered rifle which could have been used to better advantage if he were being transported in a police sedan or van. MC CULLOUGH said the clearance for the truck was insufficient to allow it to get completely into the building, because of heating ducts protruding from the ceiling. MC CULLOUGH said he and several other reporters attempted to walk over to the truck to examine the inside but were prevented from doing so by a police officer.

A captain of the Dallas, Texas, police department, whose name MC CULLOUGH did not know, briefed the press on the procedure that would be followed at the time OSWALD was being taken through the basement to the armored truck. They were told they could stand along the line of the passageway which OSWALD would take going from the "booking room" and across the

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basement to the truck. When notice was given that OSWALD was in the basement, the press was not to follow after him, trying to question him or step out in the way of the group. OSWALD was to be brought down from the fourth floor cellblock of the building on a special elevator that carries the prisoners between the fourth floor and the "booking room" in the basement. MC CULLOUGH estimated that it was approximately fifty feet from this elevator to the spot where the truck was located. He said that this briefing took place at approximately 11 a.m.

He said there was a police car unmarked, parked right behind the truck, and shortly after a green police car was parked behind that car. They had both come from the parking area in the garage.

The area of the corridor that OSWALD was to walk through was well lighted as a result of the need for light for television cameras. At 11:20 a.m., Captain J. W. FRITZ, Dallas, Texas, Police Department, came from the booking room a few feet ahead of OSWALD and the two officers guarding him, and surveyed the area as he walked. MC CULLOUGH said at that time he was standing on a railing approximately fifteen feet away from the passageway where OSWALD would pass. At the time OSWALD came out of the booking room on his way to the armored truck, the area from which RUBY came was congested with television cameras, reporters and police. However, MC CULLOUGH noted the movement of an individual, who later was identified as JACK RUBY, moving toward OSWALD as he walked down the passageway between reporters and police officers. MC CULLOUGH estimated that by the time RUBY got to OSWALD, he only had to go five to ten feet to put the gun in OSWALD's stomach. MC CULLOUGH did not see RUBY's right hand until he shoved it into OSWALD's stomach. At no time did MC CULLOUGH see RUBY's face.

MC CULLOUGH said that immediately after the shooting,

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he heard someone say JACK, you s--- o-- a b-----. Shortly after the shooting, Detective COMBAST told MC CULLOUGH that it was he who said this when he recognized RUBY.

Later that evening, MC CULLOUGH went back to his hotel and saw pictures of RUBY on television. He then recalled that on Friday night, November 22, 1963, when he had first got to Dallas, Texas, he was at the third floor of the Municipal Building outside of the police headquarters. At some time around midnight, he stood on a cigarette ash stand to get a better view of the area. As he was getting down from the stand, he bumped a man rather abruptly with his elbow. He turned to apologize to the man and noted that this man was carrying a blue and white box with "Alpacuna" stamped on it. This box was about eight inches by five inches and approximately three inches deep. After MC CULLOUGH had seen RUBY's picture on television, he was certain that this was the individual he had bumped on Friday. He said this individual was wearing at that time a blue top coat and gray pork pie hat which was wool, rather than felt. This was a different hat than RUBY had at the time he shot OSWALD.

Approximately one hour later that night, which was probably early Saturday morning, November 23, 1963, the Dallas, Texas, police department had a press conference at which OSWALD was allowed to be photographed and some questions asked by the press. The conference was held in the "line-up room" of the Dallas, Texas, police department and lasted approximately ten to fifteen minutes. MC CULLOUGH estimated that there were at least 100 people present. He did not see RUBY then, but after RUBY shot OSWALD, Justice of the Peace DAVID L. JOHNSTON, who handled OSWALD's arraignment, told MC CULLOUGH ~~after~~ OSWALD's death, that immediately after this conference, RUBY came up to JOHNSTON, introduced himself and gave JOHNSTON a business card advertising the "Carousel Club" night spot which RUBY owned. MC CULLOUGH said JOHNSTON told him that the dress of RUBY was

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the same as MC CULLOUGH had noted approximately an hour earlier.

MC CULLOUGH said that on Sunday, November 24, 1963, following the shooting of OSWALD, several reporters, whose identities he did not know, mentioned that on Friday night and early Saturday morning, RUBY had passed out these same business cards with advertising on them concerning the "Carousei" night club. They were gray cards with red printing. The reporters had gotten the cards from RUBY in the Municipal Building around the police department.

MC CULLOUGH, who said he had traveled on campaign trips with former President KENNEDY and also on presidential trips with former president EISENHOWER, said that in his opinion the security maintained by the Dallas, Texas, police department during the weekend of the President's assassination was good, considering the tremendous number of press and television people which were there, and also the great amount of coverage given the story through radio and television. He said he recalls of no instance of any unauthorized individual being around the police department, with the exception of Friday night when he accidentally bumped into JACK RUBY.

MC CULLOUGH said he had no information that anyone had conspired with RUBY to kill OSWALD, or that there had been any indication that any police officer had wilfully allowed the shooting of OSWALD.

MC CULLOUGH also advised that he had no information regarding any relationship between RUBY and OSWALD prior to the time of the killing of OSWALD.

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