Mr. Charles Joseph Le Blanc, 2824 South Romain Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that he is employed as maintenance man for William B. Reily and Company, Inc., 640 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. He stated that he knew Lee H. Oswald only while Oswald was employed as an oiler-machinist assistant for William B. Reily Company, Inc. He recalled that he "broke Oswald in on the job". He stated that Oswald was a man of very few words and usually seemed to avoid conversation. He recalled that on one occasion the exact date of which he could not recall Oswald asked him, "Do you like it here?" Mr. Le Blanc stated he replied, "I ought to like it. I have been with them ten years". He continued that Oswald explained that he did not mean whether Le Blanc liked working for the company whereupon Le Blanc stated he asked, "Tell, what do you mean?" He stated Oswald said, "Here", and he asked, "New Orleans?" whereupon Oswald said, "No, the country". He stated he replied, "Why, certainly" whereupon Oswald discontinued the conversation and walked away. He advised that he never discussed this matter further with Oswald and in fact he and Oswald had very little to say to each other except conversation concerning the oiling of some of the machines.

Mr. Le Blanc advised that Oswald was not attentive to his job and wandered about the building considerably and was usually gone when he was needed. He continued that he would have to "run Oswald down" in the building and would ask him where he had been and why he was not on the job whereupon Oswald would merely shrug his shoulders and state that he had "just been around".

He advised that he recalled that Oswald had a habit of pointing his finger at someone when he would approach them and make a sound as if he were shooting the person like children did in playing "cop and robbers".

Mr. Le Blanc advised that he has never heard Oswald make any statements that he would shoot someone nor has he discussed in any manner the shooting of another. He merely attributed the above to an idiosyncrasy.
Mr. LE BLANC stated he knew of no associate, friend or relative of LEE H. OSWALD and could furnish no information as to whether OSWALD owned a firearm. He did recall, however, that he had observed OSWALD looking at gun magazines maintained in the waiting room of the Crescent City Garage located next door to William B. Reily Company, Inc. He explained that employees of the Reily Company would go to the waiting room of the Crescent City Garage for soft drinks on their breaks and that someone in the garage apparently collected guns and maintained gun magazines on a coffee table which were available to employees. He stated he, however, had never discussed guns with OSWALD.

Mr. LE BLANC advised that the only other employee with whom OSWALD would have been in contact was ARTURO RODRIGUEZ, maintenance man.

Mr. ARTURO MENDEZ RODRIGUEZ, 323 Marais Street, Apartment U, New Orleans, Louisiana, voluntarily furnished the following information:

He stated that he recalled LEE OSWALD as a fellow employee at the William B. Reily Company, 640 Magazine Street. He stated that as best as he can recall, OSWALD worked there about three months and he recalled that OSWALD was working there when he, RODRIGUEZ, took his vacation in June, 1963.

He emphasized that he was never closely associated with OSWALD and that his only contact with him was when OSWALD started working for the Reily Company, in that he instructed him how to oil and clean the machines. He also stated that as far as he could tell, OSWALD was not friendly with any of the employees and he described OSWALD as a person who did not talk much, was very quiet and did not associate with any employees.

He stated that when the workers took a break, OSWALD always stayed by himself, sometimes he went to the driveway and smoked a cigarette, and sometimes he just sat in a chair and appeared to stare into space.

OSWALD never discussed his past and RODRIGUEZ knew nothing about his background. Shortly after he began working he did state that he had just gotten out of the military service and came to work for Reily Company. RODRIGUEZ stated that he did not know that OSWALD was married and did not know where he lived. RODRIGUEZ said that to the best of his knowledge, he did not believe that OSWALD had an automobile as he sometimes saw him come to work on a bus.

RODRIGUEZ advised that he has never received any mail from OSWALD and did not know where he went when he quit working for the Reily Company. He stated that he believed OSWALD did not quit his job voluntarily, but was asked to leave by the company. He informed he did not know anyone by the name of HIDELL.

The following description of ARTURO MENDEZ RODRIGUEZ was obtained by personal observation and questioning:

Commission Exhibit No. 1898

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Commission Exhibit No. 1897—Continued