

INSIDE JOB

The complicity of Texas School Book Depository employees in the murder of President John F. Kennedy is examined. Several were actively involved in the assassination conspiracy, and several more are charged with being accessories after the fact.

INTRODUCTION

The casual observer of November 22, 1963, would get the impression that the Texas School Book Depository had occupied that building on Elm Street in Dallas for many long years. That impression would be wrong. The company had just moved in over the previous winter. Its clerical offices had been right across the street, on the 1st floor of the Dal-Tex. The old warehouse, still in use, was a quarter-mile back across the railyard on Houston Street.

The original building was struck by lightning and burnt down in 1901. It was rebuilt and used for manufacturing farm equipment by the Rock Island Plow Company, who were acquired by International Harvester in 1910. It was purchased by oil tycoon David H. Byrd in 1937, with the intention of making air conditioners. But patent disputes stalled this idea and Byrd leased the building in 1941 to the John Sexton grocery wholesaler. And so it became known as the Sexton Building.

They moved out in November of 1961 and the building was vacant for about a year, leased at some point to Depository president Jack Cason. Several months of renovations created office space up to the 4th floor, including the installation of a passenger elevator near the front entrance. The TSBD Company moved in over the winter of 1962-63. Seven publishing companies also used the building at the time of the assassination.

Jack Cason told the Secret Service in early December that he left the building around 11:00 AM, meeting up with some friends who were arriving in town for his daughter's wedding the next day. He told the FBI in March that he had left at approximately 12:10 PM and he heard about the assassination on his car radio. D.H. Byrd was on a safari in Mozambique at the time in question.

There was never any proper investigation of the Depository personnel, who left us a trail of omissions and ambiguities- punctuated by shards of truth- that glitter and obfuscate to this day. The present work amends and enlarges upon points discussed in my previous essays, and introduces new material.

DOWN THE STEPS AT 12:34

The Warren Commission promoted the impression that Oswald left the Depository by 12:33, before police had the chance to seal off the building.¹ Their aim was to speed up his escape and avoid any interaction with possible witnesses. But a careful analysis shows he was still on the landing, atop the entranceway steps, at 12:34. And Oswald had several such interactions.

DPD Patrolman Welcome Barnett was stationed on Houston Street between the Depository and Dal-Tex. After the shots he raced to the rear of the building, scanning the upper floors for perpetrators. He returned to the main intersection and was instructed by Sergeant E.B. Howard to find out “the name of that building.” Construction worker Howard Brennan ran up to them and said he’d seen a man firing from what came to be known as the sniper’s nest. They ran for the front entrance, which Barnett was assigned to guard while Howard ran for the rear, allegedly to do the same.

It is notable that at 12:36 Sergeant David Harkness also ran for the rear. There he encountered several “well-armed” men who identified themselves as Secret Service agents.² These men were never accounted for on any official protocol. Howard also received a list of all license plate numbers on cars parked in the vicinity of the Depository, compiled by a group of officers an hour later.³ This list never materialized. What’s more, it was his 3-wheel motorcycle that was parked just in front of Arnold Rowland, that was blaring out the motorcade positions “every 15 or 20 seconds.”⁴ Only 180 feet from the TSBD, Howard’s radio could certainly be heard up in the sniper’s nest.

Barnett estimated that he arrived at the front landing “between 2 ½ or 3 minutes” after the shots. “Three at the most.” He guarded the TSBD front entrance until 3:00 PM but made no mention of any time spent on the landing in his after-action report. He did not submit this until a week before his July 23rd testimony.⁵

LIEBELER: Did you let anybody out of the building after you got there?

BARNETT: No, sir; **until they were authorized**... When I went to the door to get the name of the building, there were people going in and out then...

LIEBELER: Did you notice Oswald around that area at any time?

BARNETT: No, sir.

LIEBELER: Later on you saw his picture in the paper and, of course, on television?

¹ Warren Report p. 155

² Reasonable Doubt by Henry Hurt, pp. 110-111

³ HSCA XII p. 18

⁴ WCH II p. 178; WCD 81.1 p. 38

⁵ WCD 1259 p. 5

BARNETT: Yes, sir.

LIEBELER: You had no recollection of seeing him in the area at all?

BARNETT: None whatsoever.⁶

DPD Detective Ed Hicks told a contrary story to a British reporter that evening. Hicks had heard that “Oswald apparently came out the front door of the red-bricked warehouse. A policeman asked him where he was going. [Oswald] said he wanted to see what the excitement was about.”⁷

An Australian newspaper added some further information: “Oswald walked through the door of the warehouse and was stopped by a policeman. Oswald told the policeman that ‘I work here’, and when another employee confirmed that he did, the policeman let Oswald walk away.”⁸

Postal Inspector Harry Holmes corroborated this account. He had sat in on the Sunday morning interrogation and taken notes. Holmes testified that Oswald had stated that “A police officer stopped me just before I got to the front door, and started to ask me some questions, and my superintendent of the place stepped up and told the officers that I am one of the employees.”⁹

Order-checker James Jarman told the HSCA that he, Harold Norman and Bonnie Ray Williams had been prevented from leaving the Depository once they’d run down the rear stairs, approximately 5 minutes after the shooting. “And, after we was inside the building after that, I heard that Oswald had come down through the office and come down the front stairs and he was stopped by the officer that had stopped us and sent us back in the building and Mr. [Shelley] told them that was alright, that he worked here, so then, he proceeded on out of the building...”

... There was a Billy Lovelady standing out there, he was on the steps, see. And, Oswald was coming out the door and he said the police had stopped Oswald, Billy Lovelady said that Mr. [Shelley] told the policeman that Oswald was alright, that he worked there, so Oswald walked on down the stairs.”¹⁰

Jarman had actually said “Mr. Truly”, but since we know that Roy Truly was up on the roof with Officer Marrion Baker at the time in question, substituting [Shelley] makes perfect sense. It is safe to conclude that Oswald was stopped by Barnett on the front landing. He objected that “I work here.” Billy Lovelady looked on as William Shelley stepped forward

⁶ WCH VII pp. 542-3

⁷ London Free Press, 11/23/63

⁸ Sydney Morning Herald, 11/23/63

⁹ WCH VII p. 302

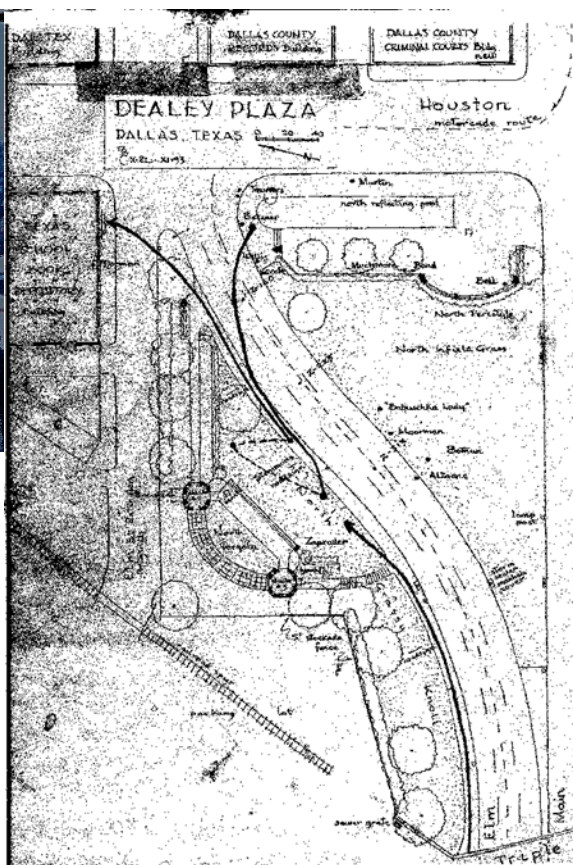
¹⁰ HSCA interview of James Earl Jarman, Jr., 9/25/77, p. 2

and affirmed that Oswald was an employee. Oswald proceeded to walk down the steps. A bit later, inside the warehouse, Lovelady explained to Jarman what had happened.

Barnett today is 83 and still lives in Texas. Not until the 50th anniversary would he admit that “I let the man who shot the President of the United States walk out the front door.”¹¹ He realized he was on the front landing at the same time as Oswald. But his failure to concede this in 1964 was a sin of omission tantamount to perjury. Had he elaborated on what transpired on the landing the assassination investigation would have been fundamentally altered.



Another incident at the entrance helps establish a definitive time for Oswald's departure. Secret Service Inspector Thomas Kelley had also attended the November 24th interrogation and reported Oswald “said when he was standing in front of the Textbook Building and about to leave it, a young crew-cut man rushed up to him and said he was from the Secret Service, showed a book of identification and asked him where the phone was. Oswald said he pointed toward the pay phone in the building and that he saw the man actually go to the phone before he left.”¹²



Harry Holmes corroborated this: “Policemen rushed- I take it back- I don't know whether he said a policeman or not- a man came rushing by and said, ‘Where's your telephone?’ ”

¹¹ Daily Campus conference, Dallas, 11/21/13

¹² Warren Report p. 629

“And the man showed him some kind of credential and I don’t know that he identified the credential, so he might not have been a police officer, and said I am so and so, and shoved something at me which I didn’t look at and said, ‘Where is the telephone?’ And I said, ‘Right there’ and just pointed in to the phone, and I went on out.”¹³

The Secret Service investigated this thoroughly and concluded that Oswald had actually encountered WFAA’s radio men Pierce Allman and Terrence Ford.¹⁴ Allman explained that they had watched the motorcade at the Elm/Houston hairpin corner. Upon hearing the shots he ran across Elm Street to a couple who had fallen on the ground. He then ran up and down the pergola incline and then bolted for the Depository. “After he had entered the front door [and] emerged in a hallway,” he met a white male and asked him where a telephone was located. This man pointed out a phone “which was located in an open area on the first floor.” Allman immediately went to the phone and called WFAA.

Allman carried his press pass in a leather case similar to those of federal agents, which explains why Oswald mistook him for Secret Service. He had some initial trouble connecting to his station but soon gave the world the first news broadcast from the Dealey Plaza area, time-stamped by ABC at 12:34.

Bill & Gayle Newman were the couple who had thrown themselves to the ground, protecting their two small children. But there is no sign of Allman in any photos or footage of them. Bond 9, for example, taken upwards of 50 seconds after the shots, shows the Newmans standing but no Allman.

In a 1998 interview, the Newmans recalled how shortly after they had stood back up they were approached by Allman in the company of Jerry Haynes, a kids’ TV personality known as Mr. Peppermint. Allman described thinking then that “I’ve got to get to a telephone” and how they “continued up the little hill there... and Bob Jackson from the Times-Herald was running behind me... then I turned around, ran back down the hill, ran up the sidewalk, went into the Depository building, and asked the guy where the phone was.”¹⁵

Allman had run about 200 feet to the Newmans, 120 feet up & down the pergola incline, and 200 feet further to the TSBD. But any meaningful estimate of his arrival time depends upon an estimate of when Jackson reached the knoll walkway.

Jackson had been seated on top of the rear seat of Camera Car 3, the 8th car in the motorcade. He was captured in Dillard 3 which, based upon established sequences in the Couch film, has been time-stamped at Z-313 plus 35-40 seconds.

¹³ WCH VII p. 302

¹⁴ WCD 354

¹⁵ Texas Monthly, November 1998



The Bell and Hughes films show CC3 accelerating toward the Triple Underpass. Jackson said it didn't slow down enough for him to dismount until it "had reached the curve into the Stemmons Freeway."¹⁶ This is approximately 260 yards beyond the knoll walkway. Jackson dismounted 78-83 seconds after Z-313, based on filmed vehicle speed.¹⁷ A 7:30 mile pace brings him to the walkway at 148-153 seconds.

Allman used up an additional 25 seconds to trot down the incline, break for the TSBD and get in the front entrance. He intercepts Oswald at 173-178 seconds, just under 3 full minutes after the last shot.

The ballpark mathematics give us a keen qualitative understanding. We can be sure that at 12:33 Oswald was still in the front lobby, watching Allman make his way for the phone outside Shelley's office. The rigamarole on the landing with Barnett and Shelley still awaited him.



Howard Brennan went home that afternoon to find out from his wife and grandson that he'd been filmed standing in front of the TSBD. He was surprised that the Warren Commission didn't have any photos of him standing there. "Somebody cut those films, because a number of times later the same films were shown, and that part was cut."¹⁸ He complained that the FBI's Robert Lish had the segment edited out.

Brennan recognized two of the 5th-floor window trio of Jarman, Williams & Norman at the bottom of the steps and alerted police. The Martin and Hughes films show that these three had reached as far as the street, a fact never volunteered in any of their statements.

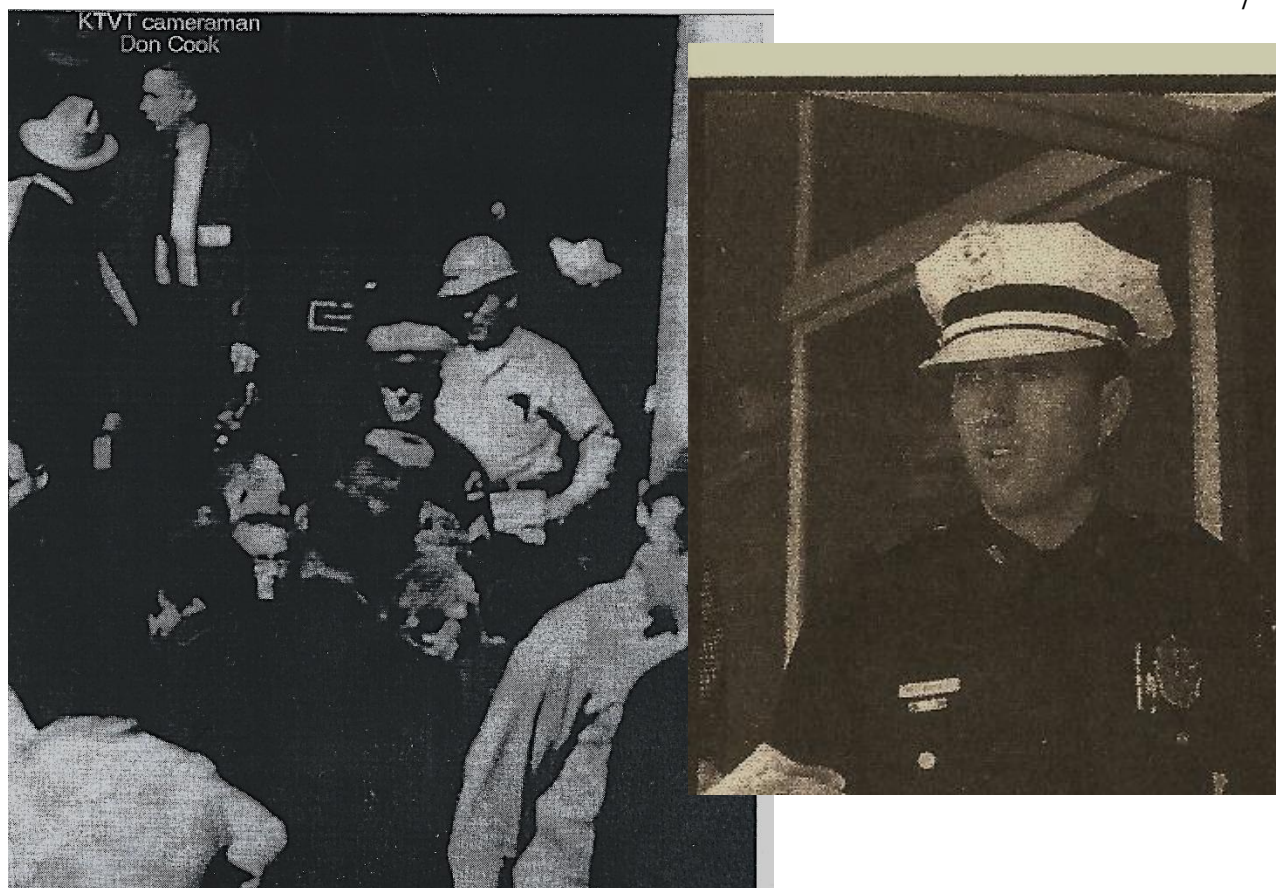
Distracted by a reporter, Brennan felt sure he missed Oswald leave the building. "I felt exposed to the whole world as I tried to evade that reporter and cameraman. I don't know how long the reporter stayed with me, but it had to be several minutes. Each time he'd approach I'd turn or move away a few steps. It is my sincere belief that Lee Harvey Oswald came out the front door of the Depository while I was trying to avoid the TV reporter."¹⁹

¹⁶ WCD 87 p. 1018

¹⁷ My 2010 JFKLancer study found CC3 reached 19.5 mph and slowed to about 5 mph, averaging 12.3 mph (18ft/sec) over 768 feet, and thus took roughly 43 sec.

¹⁸ WCH III p. 150

¹⁹ Eyewitness to History by Howard Brennan, Chapter 2



Cameraman Don Cook of KTVT and radioman Walter Evans of KRLD were photographed on the steps near Brennan.²⁰ In 1967 photoresearcher Richard E. Sprague interviewed Cook and learned that his film had been turned over to the editor at KTVT, which had no network affiliation. Sprague phoned the station and was told that Cook's footage had been lost "on the cutting room floor."²¹

²⁰ Pictures of the Pain by Richard Trask, p. 502

²¹ The Taking of America 1-2-3 by Richard E. Sprague, Chapter 9, p. 17

WILLIAM SHELLEY: BETRAYAL AND PERJURY

During his initial interrogation Oswald explained to Captain Fritz why he left the Depository so soon after the assassination. He said he “went outside and stood around for five or ten minutes with foreman BILL SHELLEY, and thereafter went home. He stated that he left work because, in his opinion, based upon remarks of BILL SHELLEY, he did not believe that there was going to be any more work that day due to the confusion in the building.”²²

This statement was not rendered until FBI agent James Bookhout’s solo report, filed after Oswald’s murder. It was a detail omitted from a joint report filed with James Hosty while Oswald was still alive.

Interviewed by the FBI on November 22nd, Shelley admitted to seeing Oswald just before lunch. But he explicitly denied seeing him again until he saw him down at the police station.²³ The Commission opted to determine that the interaction on the front landing never happened.

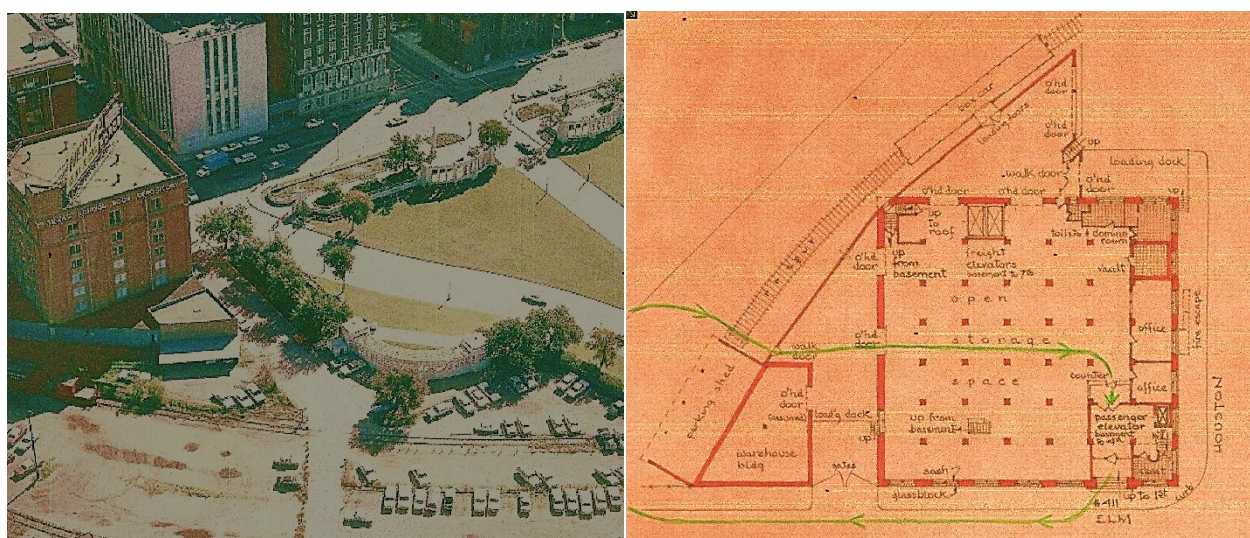


Shelley and Billy Lovelady had watched the motorcade from the landing. Their testimonies give the impression that they lingered there as long as 3 or 4 minutes after the shots, confusing the arrival time of secretary Gloria Caverly with that of motorcycle officer Marrion Baker. But Caverly, who’d been down at the Stemmons sign, 200 feet away, was nowhere near the front steps when Baker arrived there, only 22 seconds after the shots. Shelley and Lovelady’s mis-synchronization has erroneously been attributed to their mis-memories during those confusing first few minutes.

²² Warren Report p. 619

²³ WCD 5 p. 371

We now know, from a discovery in the Couch film, that Shelley and Lovelady actually left the front steps several seconds before Baker even arrived there.²⁴ And they would each testify that they did indeed walk down the Elm St. Extension to the first railroad track in the parking lot, about 90 yards. Although they had initially claimed in brief FBI interviews 3 weeks earlier that they'd stood there in the parking lot "about ten minutes" and "approximately five minutes", their testimonies narrowed this down to "maybe a minute or two" and "just a minute, maybe a minute and a half."²⁵ Setting Z-313 at 0:00 (12:30:00) and gauging from the Couch film, their estimated time at the railroad track can be placed at about 0:45 seconds afterward; they stayed there until somewhere between 01:45-02:15.



Lovelady further testified how "we went into the west entrance on the back dock had that low ramp" and then went through "that double door that we in the morning when we get there we raised. There's a fire door and they have two wooden doors between it." This 1st-floor diagram shows that Lovelady was referring, somewhat muddledly, to having entered the overhead doors that connect the West Annex with the rear of the main warehouse.

Shelley and Lovelady weren't asked whether they returned promptly to the front landing area. They were plenty capable of reaching it, at a comfortable pace, by 3 ½ minutes after Z-313.

Oswald was telling the truth at his initial interrogation, although to say "he stood around for five or ten minutes" with Shelley is an obvious exaggeration. And we don't know whether or not Shelley said anything about the work day being done. For Oswald to contend he'd gotten the impression from Shelley that it was OK to leave- this was a comparatively

²⁴ Gerda Dunckel @ jfkassassinationforum, "Shelley & Lovelady in Couch film?"

²⁵ WCH XXII pp. 673, 662; WCH VI pp. 331, 339-340

trivial matter; it wasn't as if Oswald had been seen running out the back of the Depository at 12:32. Shelley could have disputed Oswald's contention and effectively said, "I never told him it was OK. I don't know what gave him that idea." But Shelley thoroughly denied even being there, from the get-go.

His second DPD affidavit claimed that "After the President's accident, I started checking around and I missed Lee... I didn't see Lee until the Police brought him to the Police Homicide Bureau." This was reiterated in his November 22 FBI statement.

Lovelady didn't mention Oswald in his affidavit. His same-day FBI interview stated that "The last contact he had with Oswald was at about 11:50 A.M.," just before the elevator race. "After the shooting, and his return to the building, LOVELADY did not see OSWALD again at any time."²⁶

They continued their denials when interviewed by the Secret Service in early December.²⁷ This denial constituted perjury when they testified.

BALL: Did you see him in the building at any time after 12?

SHELLEY: No.

BALL: Did you at any time after the President was shot see Oswald in the building?

SHELLEY: No, sir.

BALL: Did you ever see him again that day?

LOVELADY: No.²⁸

Why did this twosome pretend they had no contact with Oswald on the front landing? One obvious reason was that they would have been asked which direction he went. Did he go right, or did he go left? A left would have meshed with the story that began emerging the next day, that he had walked several blocks and boarded a city bus that soon became mired in traffic. A right meant he went toward the pergola, to wait for a pre-arranged rendezvous with a white 1961 Rambler that had picked him up on the Elm St. curb, according to Deputy Sheriff Roger Craig.

An innocent twosome would have volunteered all the information they could muster. But

²⁶ WCD 5 pp. 371, 332

²⁷ WCD 87 p. 780

²⁸ WCH VII p. 390; WCH VI p. 338

Shelley and Lovelady were not innocent. They could have assisted the police investigation by acknowledging which direction Oswald went, but they chose to keep it secret. Had he gone left there would have been no need to keep this secret; their accounts would have given support to the official story. Occam's Razor suggests that Oswald actually went to the right.

Shelley and Lovelady betrayed him that very afternoon, by failing to disclose they'd had contact with him on the landing. This was the act that brought Oswald's metamorphosis from suspect to patsy. It may well be that Lovelady was persuaded that afternoon to keep his mouth shut, and can only be damned as an accessory after the fact. But it was Shelley who had been named by Oswald. Shelley's denial revealed that he had foreknowledge that Oswald was the designated patsy. He did not simply decide on a whim to see what would happen if he denied seeing Oswald. This foreknowledge necessarily implicated him in the plot to kill the President.

In 1975 Shelley told journalist Elzie Dean Glaze that the DPD had placed him **“under arrest and formally charged him with the murder of the President.”** During this interview he allowed Glaze to take notes and use a tape recorder and there is little doubt that Glaze was relating exactly what he was told. Shelley had been tied in with Oswald's disappearance and something about his manner must have made police suspicious, even if it was simple nervousness or reticence when answering questions. An arrest helps clarify why Shelley, unique among the assassination witnesses, would produce two first-day affidavits for the police.

He also told Glaze that he had been “an intelligence officer during WWII and **thereafter joined the CIA.**” The CIA was founded in 1947 and this sounds as though Shelley signed on during its formative years. He was only 19 when the war ended and started as a clerk at the Depository two months later. Shelley had been a lieutenant in the ROTC at Crozier Tech in Dallas and testified that he “worked in defense plants a little bit during the war.” The likelihood is that this was as an informant for the Office of Strategic Services.

Glaze contacted the HSCA late in 1977, indicating that “fear of getting involved” had delayed his coming forward. An unexpected visit from about 20 DPD officers completely unnerved him, while he was investigating the Gestapolike screening procedures the TSBD now used for hiring even minor clerical personnel. The HSCA responded with only a form letter and didn't pursue his revelations.²⁹

Considering that Oswald and Shelley were each involved in the JFK plot, what did they really know about the other? What did they not know? Each man wavered through surmisal and pretense while on the landing. Each man had to be wondering what the other had revealed down at the police station.

²⁹ “The Glaze Letters” by William Weston, The Fourth Decade, Vol. 6, No. 4, May 1999

DOUGHERTY ON THE LOOSE

At 2:00 PM on November 22nd, TSBD order-filler Jack Dougherty was in the DPD Homicide Office giving his affidavit to Detective Walter Potts. They were briefly interrupted when the just-arrested suspect, Lee Harvey Oswald, was brought in past their table.³⁰ Dougherty's meticulous penmanship revealed both a major unexplored lead and a well-crafted falsehood. Recounting his actions after he ate lunch:

*12:00 noon, I went
first floor and ate my lunch and
went back to work at 12:45 P.m. I
had already gone back to work and I
had gone down on the fifth floor
to get some stock when I heard a
shot. It sounded like it was
coming from inside the building, but*

Who, after being by me duly sworn, on oath deposes and says:

*I couldn't tell from where. I went
down on the first floor, and asked
a man named ^{Eddie} Piper if he had
heard anything and he said yes that
he had ~~so~~ heard three shots. I
then went back on the sixth floor.*

"I had already gone back to work and **I had gone down to the fifth floor** to get some stock when I heard a shot. It sounded like it was coming from inside the building, but I couldn't tell from where. I went down on the first floor, and asked a man named Eddie Piper if he heard anything and he said yes that he heard three shots. I then went back on the sixth floor."

The President's death had been announced a half hour earlier. Reports were coming in that shots had been fired from one of the upper floors of the Texas School Book Depository. And astonishingly, despite having a witness who admitted to being up on the 6th only minutes before the assassination, the DPD did not ask Dougherty what he had seen up there. And neither would the FBI, Secret Service nor Warren Commission. None of these agencies

³⁰ WCH XXIV p. 317

had the curiosity to take him back up there and help retrace his steps and ask him if he noticed anything out of the ordinary. Dougherty's input would have at least helped to narrow the range of Oswald's actions, and potentially led to a major incriminating find that would help certify the suspect's guilt- who, after all, vehemently protested his innocence. But the fix was on from the get-go, and remained locked in place.

Dougherty portrayed his reaction as near-spontaneous, upon hearing a shot- he went down to the 1st floor and asked janitor Eddie Piper if he'd heard anything. But this claim was physically impossible, given the known velocity of the freight elevators and the established fact that the west elevator descended while Truly & Baker were ascending the corner stairwell. This impossibility will be made rigorously clear.

When Truly & Baker arrived at the west elevator they looked up the shaft and noticed they were "hung several floors up" as Baker described in his same-day affidavit, "both even" up on the 5th floor as Truly testified. Baker, who had never been in the building before, thought the pair looked like "just one... anywhere from three to four floors up."

BELIN: It didn't appear to be two elevators on different floors?

BAKER: No, sir.³¹

Dougherty acknowledged on December 18th that he was on the 5th floor at the time of the shots, eventually specifying that he was "about 10 feet from the west elevator." He finally admitted to taking the west elevator down in the tail-end of his April 8th testimony.³² Ballpark mathematics for the respective itineraries again give a precise understanding.

Baker's sprint to the TSBD front steps is captured in the Couch film. A 2007 film study at JFK Lancer put his foot on the first step at 22 seconds after the last shot. It may have been as little as 15 seconds,³³ but the point is moot. If we allot 25 seconds for Baker to reach the top of the steps, 20 to meet Truly in the front lobby and get through the will-call counter door, and 15 more to dash across the warehouse floor- the total is a generous 60 seconds. Truly looked up the elevator shaft absolutely no later than this. It may have been as little as 50 seconds,³⁴ or even less.

Dougherty would have to bring the elevator down and back up before they arrived at the shaft, had he talked to Piper just after the shots. So, how fast did the elevator travel? Lovelady told the FBI on the 22nd that it took 30 seconds for an elevator to descend from

³¹ WCH XXIV p. 199; WCH III pp. 240, 254

³² WCH XIX pp. 618-619; WCH VI pp. 379-380

³³ Presumed Guilty by Howard Roffman, Chapter 8, p. 3; WCH VII p. 593

³⁴ Baker's second re-enactment to the 2nd-floor lunchroom took only 75 seconds, including a pause for twice calling for the west elevator.

7 to 1- which averages to 5 seconds per floor.³⁵ A week later the Bureau conducted time trials for 10 possible routes from the sniper's nest. In two of these the elevator was called up from floor 1, rather than being available on 6, and this added 39 seconds onto the route. That averages to 7.8 seconds per floor.³⁶

At this rate Dougherty's elevator ride would have consumed 62 seconds, moving down and up. And he would need a bare minimum of 3 seconds each time he opens or closes a gate and scampers in or out. That leaves zero time for asking Piper "if he heard a loud noise, and Piper told him he had heard three loud noises. He also told him that someone had just shot the President." Plus any time spent processing this information and deciding to return upstairs.

This conversation can only have occurred after Truly & Baker had climbed up to the 5th floor, and the west elevator had descended, nearly two minutes after the assassination. Which dismisses any notion that Dougherty's reaction to the shots was near-spontaneous.

Jack Dougherty brought a prepared alibi to the DPD Homicide Office, and the implications are staggering. It cleverly concealed his role in the plot to kill President Kennedy. This was an integral role that in all likelihood entailed assisting the snipers by transporting them downstairs in the west elevator. And it hinted that several other TSBD employees may have been complicit in the assassination.

Dougherty's alibi seemingly had corroboration through Eddie Piper. But Piper didn't mention him in his November 23rd Sheriff's affidavit, nor in his two rounds of testimony. Piper did concede that "I really don't know who brought the elevators down."³⁷

The understanding that Dougherty was up on the 5th floor for 90-odd seconds after the shooting brings sinister overtones to another anomaly regarding the 5th. Because Dougherty and the three black employees- Jarman, Williams and Norman- who ran across the floor after the shots, never once mentioned seeing each other in their statements or testimony. And this black trio ended up inside a book bin on the west side, only 20 feet from the west freight elevator. What might they have witnessed? Or participated in?

If the elevators were fixed on the 5th during the shooting, the snipers had no choice but to make their way across the 6th for the corner stairwell. They clomped down a flight of stairs, toting their weapons, to the waiting west freight elevator. Even hiding for dear life behind the book bin, the trio couldn't hide from the sounds these people made. At the very least they were frightened into silence and became unwilling participants in the coverup.

³⁵ WCD 5 p. 333

³⁶ FBI 105-82555 Oswald HQ File Section 21 pp. 129-131

³⁷ WCH VII p. 389

Precisely when did the west elevator descend? Was there a spotter at the stairwell, to signal when he heard approaching footsteps? The commotion from the old wooden treads resonated all the way up and down the staircase. It turns out we can get a fairly precise estimate of the elevator's descent time, based upon the available data. But this important inference will have to wait until we examine the timing of Adams' and Styles' rush down the stairs in relation to the much-disputed lunchroom incident.

Dougherty's father sat in on his FBI interviews of November 22nd and December 18th. Redfern Dougherty "advised his son received a medical discharge from the U.S. Army and... had considerable difficulties in coordinating his mental facilities with his speech."

Jack enlisted in the Army Air Corps at age 19, listed as 6'2" and 165 lbs, serving "2 years, 1 month, 17 days, to be exact," until the end of 1944. He denied any medical issues in his testimony yet stated "He didn't do anything" after his discharge until he began working for the Depository in 1952.

Curiously enough, after basic training he was stationed at Freeman Field in Seymour, Indiana. During WWII this base was selected as "the central collection point for Nazi captured equipment," which came to fill 42 warehouses. "About 81 different types of aircraft were brought here, including



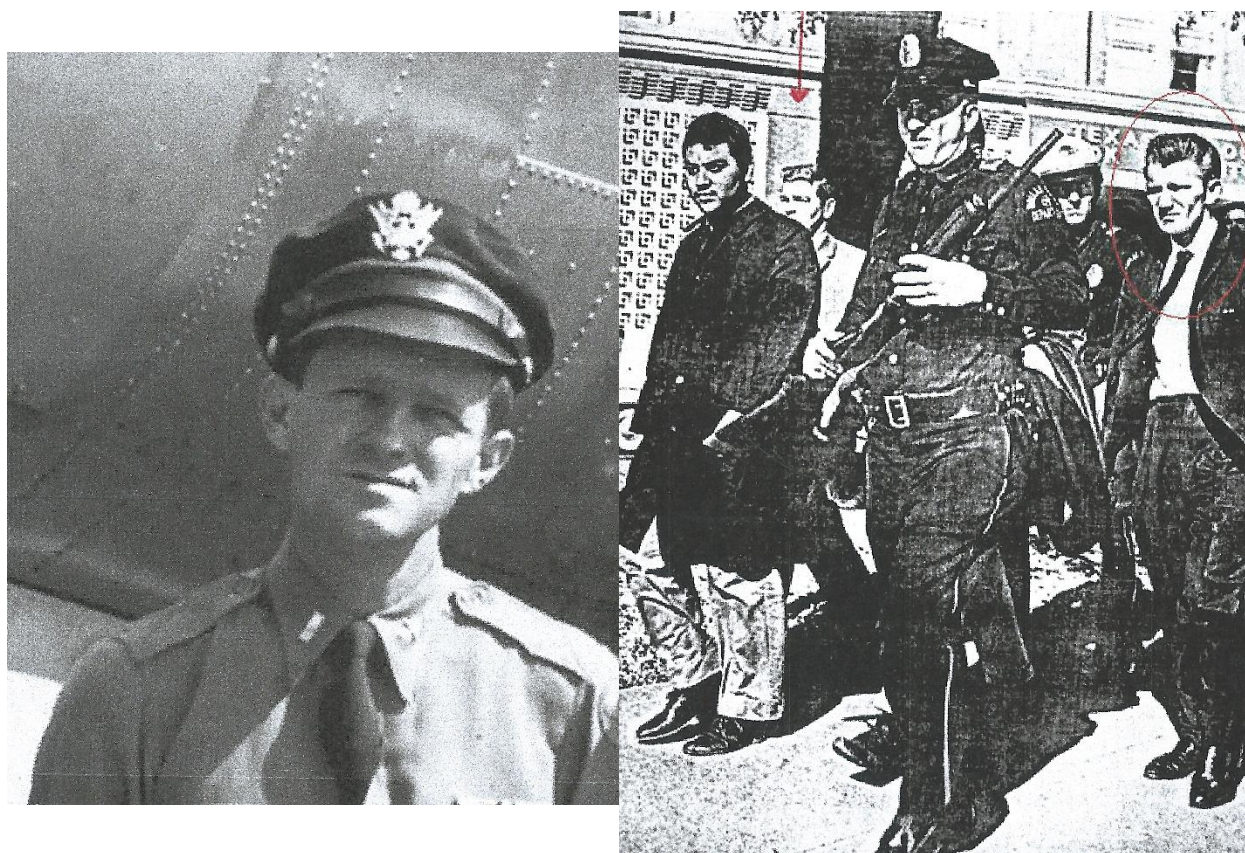
V-1 and V-2 missiles." And they were test-flown or taken apart and then reverse-engineered to learn from German technology that was several years ahead of the Allies.³⁸

Whatever his mental issues, Dougherty normally arrived an hour early at the Depository to perform routine building maintenance checks. He was trusted with a key to the building. Truly characterized him as "intelligent and smart and a hard worker... I think what is wrong with him mostly is his emotional makeup."

"A few times he would get a little bit- maybe do a little something wrong, and he would just go to pieces- not anything- but anything the rest of the day or the next day would not be right. [Deletion]. He is a great big husky fellow. I think he is 39 years old. He has never been married. He has no interest in women."³⁹ Deletion?

³⁸ "The story of the secret Nazi airplanes buried in an Indiana field" @ dailymail.co.uk

³⁹ WCH III p. 237



Dougherty was photographed being escorted to DPD Headquarters with fellow employees Danny Arce and William Shelley. Shelley, on the right, and Dougherty both stated they were taken there at 1:30 PM. Shelley went with Arce and Williams in C.W. Brown's vehicle.⁴⁰ Dougherty is the man in the light work shirt behind Arce.

Dougherty's obscure behavior caught the attention of Assistant Counsel Melvin Eisenberg. On March 12th he submitted a two-page memorandum to Chief Counsel J. Lee Rankin entitled "Identity of Assassin". Copies were circulated to six other prominent Commission attorneys. It began, "I think a thorough investigation should be run on a TSBD employee named Jack Dougherty."

Eisenberg outlined his suspicions of Dougherty:

- 1) "He has no alibi... Dougherty was inside the TSBD and all alone."
- 2) "His story is very thin."
 - a) "It does not make sense" that Dougherty would go back to work before the other five floor-layers.

⁴⁰ WCH XXII pp. 673, 645; WCH XXIV p. 324

- b) “It is questionable” that Dougherty would thereby be getting stock in connection with the floor-laying project.
 - c) Norman, Jarman and Williams make no mention of ever having seen Dougherty on the 5th floor.
 - d) “It does not seem credible” that Dougherty would casually return to the 6th floor after learning that three shots had been fired from there.
- 3) “I find disturbing” Truly’s comment to the Secret Service that Dougherty “has been especially confused since the assassination.” His alleged “mental retardation” may be an “emotional problem, which would itself be grounds for suspicion.”

Eisenberg’s title was appropriate, as Dougherty- having admitted to being up on the 6th floor in the minutes before and minutes after the shooting- almost certainly witnessed a portion of the true sniper team’s activities. At the very least.

Let us dispense with the notion that Dougherty was up on the 6th floor that morning as an independent order-filler, as he claimed in his testimony. When the Secret Service interviewed Depository employees in early December, Dougherty was chaperoned by Truly. And the Secret Service determined that “**Dougherty was working with the crew laying the new floor** on the sixth floor **and descended in the elevator with them** to the first floor a few minutes before noon.”⁴¹

Why would he deny being one of the floor-layers in his April 8th testimony, going so far as to claim he took the elevator down alone before lunch? Because as Eisenberg had pointed out, it defied common sense not only that Dougherty would return to work well before the rest of the crew, but also for the ostensive purpose of doing something completely unrelated to the floor-laying project- “getting stock”. Somehow Dougherty had been alerted, before his testimony, to the suspicions he had raised by being up on the 6th floor in the minutes before the shooting.

“**As soon as he arrived** on the 6th floor, he went down to the 5th” he had assured the FBI on December 18th. But his testimony amplified that “**when I got through getting stock** off of the 6th floor, I came back down to the fifth.” Dougherty had actually been up on the 6th, immediately prior to JFK getting shot at from the 6th, for an indeterminate length of time. “Getting stock” during his lunch break.

Eisenberg was puzzled why Dougherty would casually return up there after learning that three shots had been fired from the 6th. Such foolhardy behavior was an indication that something was dreadfully wrong with Dougherty’s alibi. But he had no reason to fear any

⁴¹ WCD 87 p. 781

violence upon himself, if he had just brought the snipers and their weapons downstairs. “There was no one on the 6th floor.”⁴² As a rough estimate for discussion purposes, we can reasonably return Dougherty to the 6th at 12:33.

On March 24th, one after another, the three black men testified and denied hearing the west elevator descend from the 5th. Truly testified after them and couldn’t say for certain who brought it downstairs. His “best guess” was Jack Dougherty. The lack of clarity prompted another memorandum from another assistant counsel, Norman Redlich, entitled “The Mystery of the West Elevator.”

“Roy Truly has testified that when he and Patrolman Baker ran to the rear of the first floor, neither elevator was there... Truly and Baker started climbing the stairs... At each landing Truly and Baker looked to see whether an elevator was present and they did not see one... The west elevator was not present on the fifth floor where Truly thought he had seen it from below...

He cannot say that the west elevator was not on the sixth floor” when he took Baker in the east elevator up to the 7th floor to get to the roof.

“It is also possible that **someone got on the elevator on the fifth floor... and headed down while Truly and Baker were running up the stairs.** Here again, Jarman, Norman, and Williams didn’t hear anyone and it is quite unlikely that Truly and Baker would not have noticed the elevator moving as they reached each landing.

While it is possible, therefore, that a worker moved the west elevator up or down from the fifth floor during this time period, we don’t know the name of such a worker and we have the problem of Jarman, Williams and Norman who have to be questioned again as to whether they heard anyone on the floor and whether they heard the elevator move...

Significantly, none of the investigations appears to have turned up anyone who admits to being on the west elevator at this time. Truly thinks that Dougherty was working there at this time. I know that Messrs. Ball and Belin plan to question Dougherty, who would have to explain why he was up there working so soon after the shots were fired.”

Only near the end of his hour-long testimony, and after some prodding, did Dougherty admit to taking the elevator down. He was never once challenged about why he took a shortened lunch break, or why he denied helping the floor-laying crew, or what he had really seen while “getting stock” up on the 6th floor. There is no indication that Jarman, Williams or Norman were ever sought for further questioning by the Warren Commission.

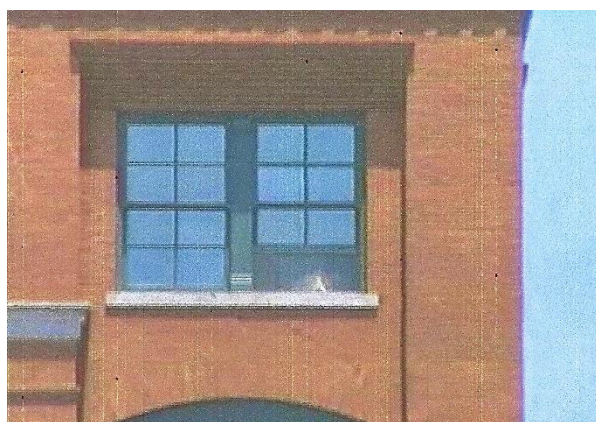
⁴² WCH XIX p. 619, Dougherty Exhibit B

In a 1977 HSCA interview Jarman again denied hearing the elevator. Norman said he could hear it but “didn’t see who was on it.”⁴³

LILLIAN MOONEYHAM

From a window overlooking Dealey Plaza, law clerk Lillian Mooneyham witnessed the assassination with co-worker Rose Clark. They were just upstairs from the Sheriff’s Office, on the 2nd floor of the Dallas County Criminal Courts Building. They proceeded to the 3rd floor to watch the drama unfolding below. Since the 2nd floor was 20 feet high to accommodate courtrooms, the 3rd floor gave them the equivalent of a 4th floor view. They were at the NW corner, the corner closest to the Book Depository.

Clark told the FBI on January 10th “that it was her impression that less than five minutes following the shots, she observed a crowd of people and policemen gathered around the entrance to the Texas School Book Depository.” Her impression receives excellent corroboration from the testimony of DPD Inspector Herbert Sawyer, who arrived very close to 12:35 and spoke with some officers on the front steps.⁴⁴



Mooneyham was also looking in that direction at this juncture in time. She was approximately 200 feet from the sniper’s nest. She “estimated that it was about 4 ½ to 5 minutes following the shots fired by the assassin, that she looked up towards the sixth floor of the TSBD and observed the figure of a man standing in a sixth floor window behind some cardboard boxes.”

⁴³ HSCA interview of James Earl Jarman, Jr., 9/25/77, p. 7; HSCA interview of Harold Dean Norman, 10/20/77, p. 12

⁴⁴ WCH VI p. 319

“The man appeared to Mrs. MOONEYHAM to be looking out the window, however, the man was not close up to the window but standing slightly back from it, so that Mrs. MOONEYHAM could not make out his features. She stated that she could give no description of this individual except to say that she is sure that it was a man she observed, because the figure had on trousers. She could not recall the color of the trousers.”⁴⁵

Mooneyham’s time estimate is no colloquial expression, such as “5 or 10 minutes”, but appears instead to be an attempt to accurately gauge when she saw this man up in the sniper’s nest. She could see his trousers, so we know he was standing inside the nest, behind the gun-rest boxes.

This man was not a sniper, casually lingering behind, showing reckless disregard for the law personnel about to enter the building. The men who shot at Kennedy made a clean, carefully prepared escape. They disappeared from the floor within the first minute.

This man was not Jarman, Williams or Norman, who each acknowledged they’d run downstairs about 5 minutes after the shots.⁴⁶ And Mooneyham didn’t mention that the man she saw was black.

Mooneyham saw Jack Dougherty. There is simply no other candidate. He had brought the west elevator back up on the 6th at 12:33. He was the only person confirmed as being on the upper three floors until about 12:37/38, when Truly and Baker came down from the roof. Truly recalled that “when coming down I am sure I saw Jack Dougherty getting some books off the 5th floor.”⁴⁷ But what was he doing in the sniper’s nest at 12:34/35?

It probably wasn’t idle curiosity. Because he had returned directly to the 6th and, as far as we know, proceeded directly to the sniper’s nest. It probably was an assignment- one which may not have materialized until the west freight elevator took on passengers.

Because boxes were moved in the sniper’s nest only seconds after the shooting. The nest as photographed by James Powell, approximately 30 seconds after the assassination, contains boxes not seen in the nest as captured by Tom Dillard about 20 seconds earlier. Even after autoradiographic enhancement, the Dillard photo lacks boxes clearly seen in the Powell photo, including one in full sunlight atop the barricade. “Somebody or something moved boxes around in that room during the time of taking of those two pictures.”⁴⁸

Dougherty’s visit completely undermines the “so-called evidence” that Oswald was in the nest. We can’t say whether or not Dougherty switched the top gun-rest carton. Oswald’s

⁴⁵ WCH XXVI pp. 531-533

⁴⁶ WCD 87 pp. 783-785

⁴⁷ WCH III p. 229

⁴⁸ HSCA VI pp. 110-115; HSCA IV p. 423

palmprint and right index fingerprint were found at opposite corners along the long side of this particular carton. This positioning was consistent with Oswald having merely hoisted the 5-10 lb carton in his left hand during the work day. Further, we can't say whether or not Dougherty planted the three rifle shells found on the floor there.



Dougherty testified that after the shooting when he was mucking around with stock on the 5th an “FBI man” showed his credentials and told him to go find his manager. “So I started from the first floor and I just started looking for him, and by the sixth floor, they had found a gun and shells.” Meaning that he arrived there after 1:22 PM, when the gun was found. “I found out later he was on the fourth floor.”⁴⁹

Truly had been on the 4th for a brief talk with Inspector Sawyer on his way down from the roof. This “FBI man” very likely was an ATF agent (Alcohol & Tobacco Tax), part of a squad that raced over to the Depository from their office at 912 Commerce, 500 yards away.⁵⁰ Dougherty would have encountered him soon after he’d been noticed by the descending Truly. **He didn’t volunteer any information about shells or a barricade of boxes to this law enforcement officer.**

Truly conducted his informal roll call of employees somewhere between 12:45 and 1:05.⁵¹ Oswald’s absence prompted Truly to head straight for the 6th and notify Captain Fritz he had “a boy missing”. But Dougherty had spent 40 or more minutes searching the floors and was not present, nor ever noted to be among the missing. Truly would protect Dougherty again two weeks later during his Secret Service interview, cutting off questioning by calling him “mentally retarded... especially confused since the assassination.”

⁴⁹ WCH VI p. 381

⁵⁰ Memorandum to SAIC Forrest Sorrels from A&TT Supervisor Carl Booth, Jr., 1/14/64

⁵¹ “The Myth of the Depository Roll Call,” by Mark Bridger, Dealey Plaza Echo, Vol. 11, No. 2, July 2007

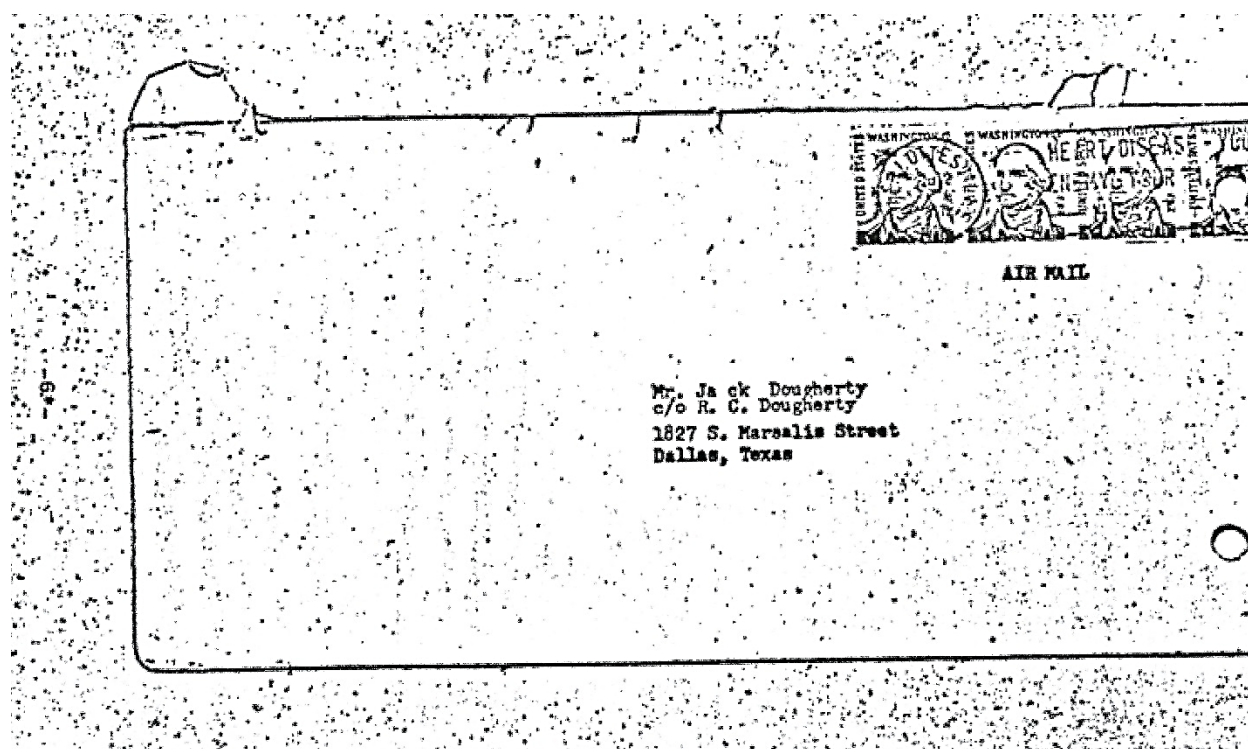
In February of 1967 the FBI received a mimeographed report that had been sent to Dougherty, contents unknown. The contents of the accompanying cover letter were saved:

“Dear Mr. Dougherty

The enclosed report may be of interest to you. In it you are accused of nothing. If you are guilty of nothing, you have no need to fear. **If, however, you were involved in the assassination, you may wish to make a statement to the press in some northern city in exchange for protection.** Within the next few days I will mail copies of this report to a number of people who might find it of interest.

With best wishes,”⁵²

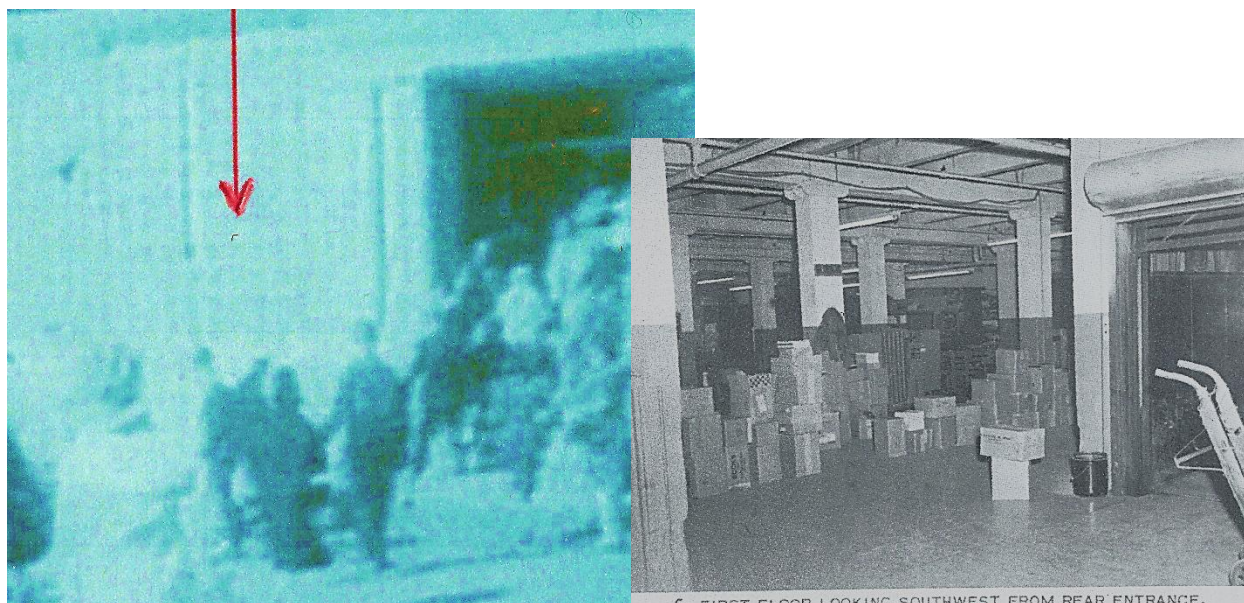
Redfern Dougherty also enclosed the envelope the mimeograph was mailed in, but the postmark had an indecipherable origin. It possibly was “Charlotte”. It was air-mailed from somewhere, by someone who remained anonymous, because the FBI erased the signatory to the letter. They did not retain the mimeographed report in their file.



⁵² FBI HQ File 105-82555 Section 232 p. 9

ON TRULY

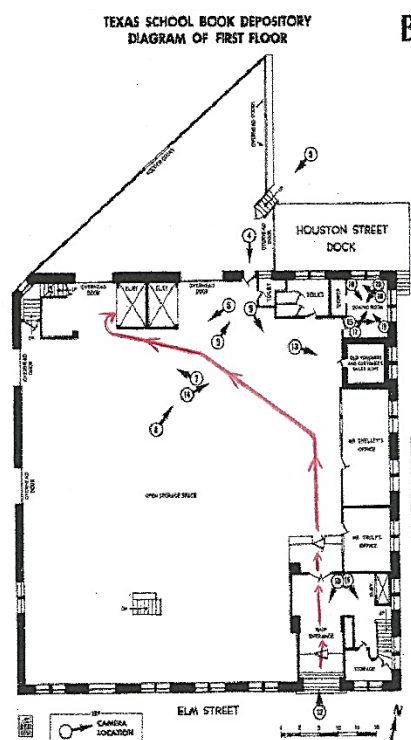
The role of building superintendent Roy Truly was inextricably linked with the parts played by Dougherty and Shelley. Truly had been company supervisor almost 20 years. It is not feasible that the elevator escape of the snipers escaped his notice. This troika, the fundamental TSBD plotters, knew beforehand that assassins would be escorted upstairs and then safely out of the building. Their conduct should be viewed accordingly.



Baker actually brushed past Truly, who was standing on the Elm St. Extension and turned and watched the officer dash up the steps. The unexpectedly quick reaction forced Truly into hyperdrive. He ran after and caught up with him in the front lobby. To Baker it was obvious that the shots came from the roof area and he wanted to get up there ASAP. Truly knew he had to buy time for the assassins to ready their flight. As they hurried to the back of the warehouse Truly could look over the wood-slat gate into the shaft, and see that the east elevator was not there.

They went around to the west elevator and Truly rang the service bell and yelled up the shaft, “Turn loose the elevator!” He repeated, “Bring that elevator down!” He could be heard as plain as day by anyone up on the 5th floor in the vicinity of the elevator shaft. He was effectively saying, “Me and this cop here beside me are coming upstairs!”

A successful escape required synchronization of the elevator’s descent with the ascent up the stairs. The cop had to be kept unaware of the west elevator and its significance. It worked. When Truly reached the 5th floor he saw that the west elevator was now gone. Across the shaft he could see the east and he immediately told the cop, “Come on, here’s an elevator!” And so they rode the east to the roof, diverting the cop’s attention from the 6th floor and from the west elevator.



Thus, to protect the 6th, the planning phase necessitated that both elevators be ready on the 5th. One to take the snipers out of the building, one to take the first police up to the 7th & the roof. Because of this requirement, it is more probable that both elevators were on the 5th during the shooting, and the staircase between the 6th and 5th was used by the fleeing snipers. Having one elevator on the 6th during the assassination would add an unnecessary step to achieving the goal. It risked a critical mistake during the tense first few moments after the shooting. It was safer and just as quick to use the stairs. And they probably were inside the west elevator when Truly yelled up the shaft, with the wood-slat gate already pulled down.

Truly, of course, proceeded to inform Deputy Police Chief George Lumpkin he had “a boy missing” after the informal head-count and they went upstairs to relay this to Captain Fritz. The boy’s name was Oswald- not Givens, not Dougherty, who were also missing. Lumpkin had driven the Pilot Car and was an officer in the 488th Military Intelligence Reserve.

We have noted that Truly cut off questioning of Dougherty when the Secret Service grilled TSBD employees in early December, calling him “mentally retarded”. According to Marrion Baker, he also called “an older, large black man” he’d noticed sitting near the corner stairs on the 1st floor by the elevators as “slightly retarded”. Elmer Moore was one of the agents interviewing TSBD employees and he next visited Parkland Hospital to help convince the doctors there that the throat wound was not an entrance wound as they had described.

It has been rigorously demonstrated that the long paper bag allegedly used to carry the alleged murder weapon was constructed at the Depository that very afternoon sometime before 3:00 PM, when Detective Leslie Montgomery brought it down the front steps. The gunsack bag and the sample paper the DPD brought back were cut from the same roll.⁵³ This bag has been represented by the DPD with a dotted line in the sniper's nest. By 2:15 the employees had been sent home, or were giving affidavits, and police had departed en masse to the Tippit murder scene. Only Truly, Montgomery, Marvin Johnson and Robert Studebaker were left in the building. **If Truly did not personally construct the bag, he instructed one of these detectives how.**

One palmprint on the gun-rest carton was clear enough to be judged identifiable but was not identified. Truly "strongly objected to the printing of all employees as he felt it would seriously handicap the work of his firm."⁵⁴ This for a quick and routine procedure. He desired to have it limited to his warehouse employees, and the print was not matched to any of them. Here was a warehouse manager dictating to the FBI what it could and could not do in its investigation of the assassination of a President.

William Manchester found that Truly strongly disapproved of JFK's foreign policy and believed he was a "race-mixer" at home. "...except for my niggers the boys are conservative, like most Texans."

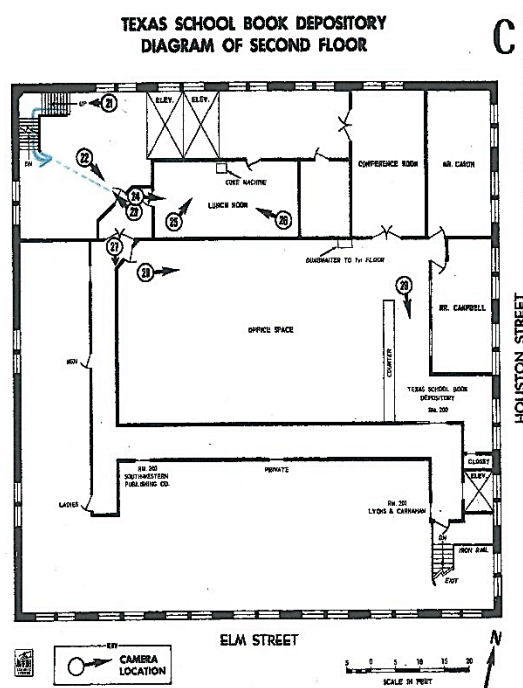
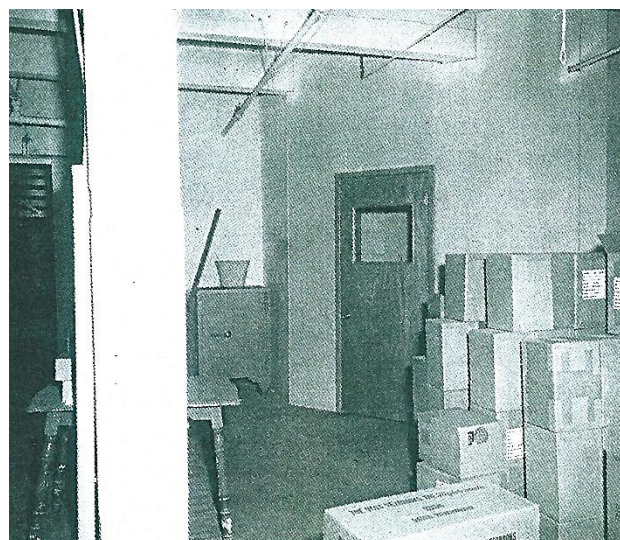
Truly refused to discuss the assassination with his family for the rest of his life.

⁵³ "The Bag Job" by Gil Jesus @ giljesus.com

⁵⁴ WCH XXVI pp. 799-801

ETERNAL RETURN: THE LUNCHROOM ENCOUNTER RE-EXAMINED

The 2nd-floor lunchroom encounter between Oswald, Truly and Baker has long been cited as support for Oswald's innocence, since his calm demeanor gave no hint of someone who'd just raced down from the sniper's nest. Moreover, since Baker spotted Oswald through the plate-glass window of the vestibule door, Oswald had to have arrived there from the center of the building.



A fashionable school of thought postulates that the lunchroom incident never happened at all, that it was a clever ruse to conceal a missed opportunity at capturing one of the perpetrators up on the 4th floor. Or conceal an encounter with Oswald that actually took place at the front entrance. Testimony, statements and evolving newspaper accounts have thereby been painstakingly disassembled, then re-constructed with a spin buttressing this lunchroom hoax hypothesis. Where this effort falls short is in its failure to understand that at every step of disassembly, where contradictions seemingly point toward a hoax, a reasonable explanation is readily available. **The explanation not have to be historically correct, only reasonable.**

The flight of Victoria Adams and Sandra Styles down the corner stairs directly pertains to the movement of Truly & Baker. Because they never encountered one another, and we must understand why this was so. This analysis will help us determine precisely when the west elevator descended.

Adams had watched the motorcade from her 4th-floor office window. She testified that it took her “no longer than a minute at the most” after the shots to reach the bottom of the stairs. In 2002 she recalled seeing Clint Hill climb onto the trunk as the presidential limousine sped for the Triple Underpass. Right then she turned to Styles and told her she wanted to see what was going on.⁵⁵ They were running in 3-inch high heels.

The following timeline, although arbitrary, illustrates their descent:

Adams leaves the window at 0:10

They get through the rear door to the office at 0:20

They reach the head of the stairs at 0:28

They reach the 3rd floor at 0:38

They cross the 3rd-floor landing by 0:42

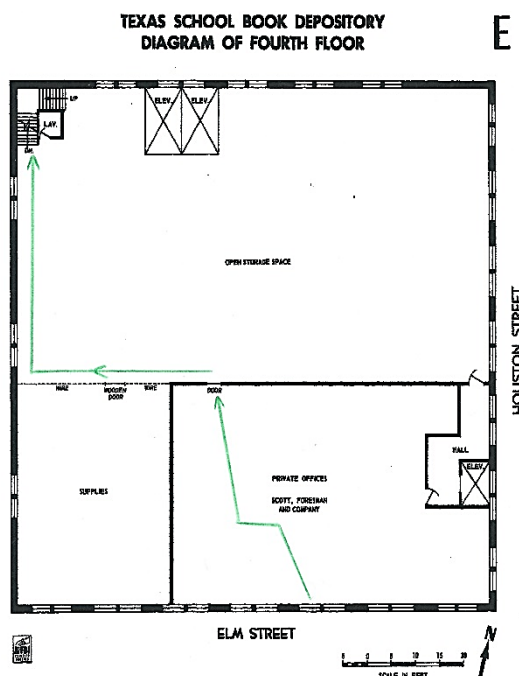
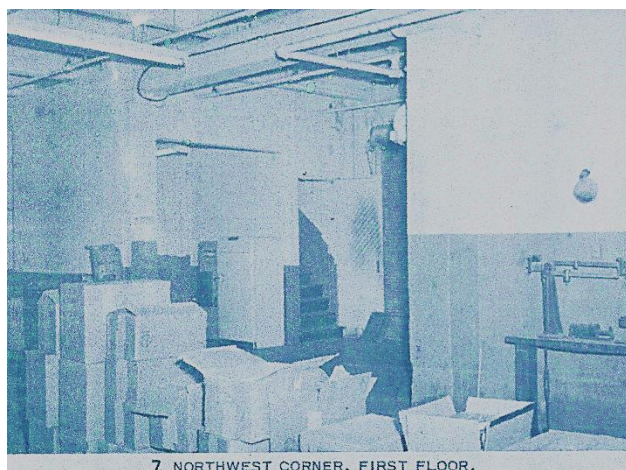
They reach the 2nd floor at 0:52

They cross the 2nd-floor landing by 0:56

They reach the 1st floor at 0:66

They get beyond the elevators at 0:70

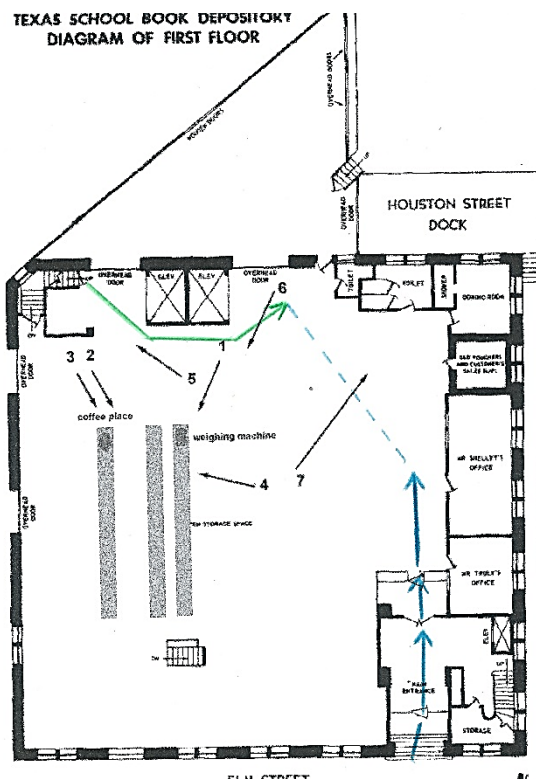
Turning our attention to Truly & Baker, the Couch



film pans left down Elm Street and we last see

Baker in full stride reaching the entranceway steps. He made it to the top of the landing by 0:24. Truly was only about 10 feet in front of those steps when Baker brushed by him. “I ran and caught up with him,” he testified. “Inside the lobby of the building, or possibly the front steps.”

⁵⁵ The Girl on the Stairs, p. 329



We can set:

Truly catches up with Baker at 0:30

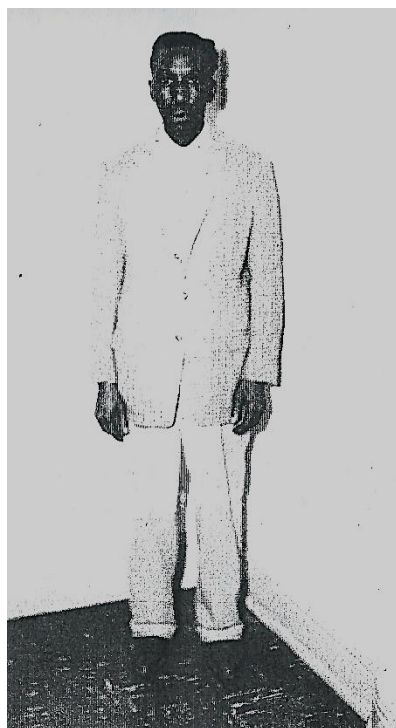
They race out of the lobby into the warehouse at 0:40

They reach Shelley's office door by 0:50

But something is amiss here, because Truly & Baker should have noticed Adams & Styles on their way out to the loading dock. We have to chop 20-plus seconds off the girls' time estimate to get them out the rear door before being seen. Here, we are essentially looking to chop 6-7 seconds off each flight of stairs negotiated: 9 steps, a split-level landing, 9 more steps, then rounding a 12-foot landing on each floor to reach the next set of stairs. They were allotted 14 seconds per flight. It is not realistic to expect that they negotiated 3 successive flights at 7-8 seconds per flight. Not in high heels.

We can ask whether there was some unacknowledged 20-second delay with Truly & Baker in the front lobby. But the evidence we are given tells us otherwise. This was an adrenalized, frantic situation. Communication was rapid-fire. Even when they ran ahead into the warehouse Baker bumped into Truly's back at the will-call counter door.

When re-enacting his movements on March 20th, Baker reached the 2nd-floor landing in 90 seconds, and then in 75 seconds- where he "kind of ran" outside the building and moved at

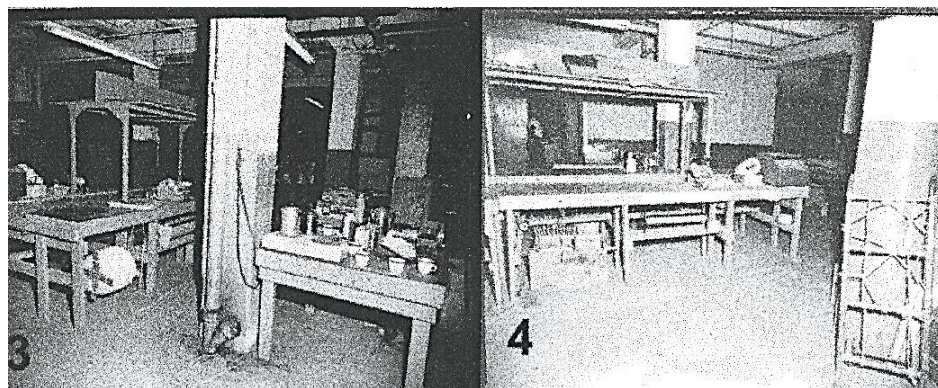


“kind of a trot” when inside. A lackadaisical hurry served the interests of the Warren Commission, since Oswald was re-enacted at 74 seconds making it into the lunchroom. However, the pace on November 22nd more likely was a “mad dash”. Serious consideration needs to be given to whether Baker actually made it to the 2nd-floor landing in only 50 seconds.⁵⁶ Let us hold that thought.

We now introduce a further piece of evidence into the timelines. Adams ran into someone on her way out the 1st floor. “I remember saying to a **fairly big black man** inside the building right near the loading dock after I got down the stairs that I thought the President may have been shot. I don’t know what his name is. I do know that he worked for the Depository and I think he was a warehouse worker.”⁵⁷

Her testimony had mentioned running into Shelley & Lovelady on the 1st floor. She repeatedly denied this in 2002. And Styles, who never testified, repeatedly denied seeing them. Neither Shelley nor Lovelady could clearly recall seeing Adams that day. The implication is that counsel David Belin altered Adams’ testimony, in order to retard her flight and thereby enable Oswald to escape unnoticed down the stairs ahead of her.

Officer Baker had noticed an “**older, large black man** sitting toward the back of the stairs, near the elevators” when he arrived there with Roy Truly. This was not mentioned in his testimony, which had offhandedly noted two white men in that area, “one was sitting on this side and another one between 20 or 30 feet away from us looking at us.” These white men were not mentioned in Baker’s 2004 interview.



⁵⁶ “The Baker-Oswald Encounter: Proof that Oswald did not Shoot JFK?” by Michael T. Griffith, pp. 3, 18-21

⁵⁷ The Girl on the Stairs, pp. 347, 417

This black man almost certainly was wrapper Troy West, who kept a coffee station at his work table near the rear corner. He was 56, 5'9 ½" and 155 lbs- not particularly imposing, but taller than Adams and Baker. West habitually spent his lunch break seated at his work table, facing the front of the warehouse.

In early December West told the Secret Service that "he heard the shots fired and stated that before he could leave the building many people came in, including many police officers. He was not able to furnish further information."⁵⁸ West's latter statement was prophetic, because by his April testimony he couldn't remember just when Roy Truly came in, or if anyone yelled for the elevators, or used them, or used the stairs in the immediate aftermath of the assassination. He denied even hearing any shots.

Baker's description places West right at his work station, where he always had his lunch. Adams' description puts West somewhere between the east elevator and the rear door out to the loading dock, as though he had stood up to walk across the back of the warehouse, curious as to what the commotion was about. Clearly, Baker saw West before Adams did. And the "two white men" were no longer around when she descended the stairs. **She did not exit the building before Truly & Baker got to the rear of the warehouse.**

And her supervisor, Dorothy Garner, stated for the Dallas office of the U.S. Attorney that "after Miss Adams went downstairs she (Miss Garner) saw Mr. Truly and the Policeman come up." Garner had followed after the girls as they ran from the 4th-floor office and was in a position to notice Truly & Baker arrive. We must now recognize as fact that the men were in the lunchroom when the young ladies ran by.

It is not so daunting. This was a heavy-duty door, newly-installed, with a pneumatic anti-slam closing device. It helped to muffle the noise from the landing and stairwell so that people could eat their lunch in relative peace and quiet.

Baker estimated about 30 seconds elapsed between the time he first spotted Oswald through the glass to when he left to go back upstairs. Truly joined him inside and gave details of the gun-in-the-belly confrontation that can only have been gleaned from moseying up to them, just beside the lunchroom's doorframe, well inside the vestibule. During those 15 or 20 seconds of the standoff Adams & Styles skittered past them on the landing.

When Baker made out his affidavit that afternoon he had also been out to Parkland Hospital and Love Field. He had never been inside the Depository before and he wrote, "as we reached the third or fourth floor I saw a man walking away from the stairway." Baker had gotten off his bike and run up a bunch of steps and for all he knew that constituted the 2nd floor. He afterwards took a split-level stairway to what was to him the 3rd or 4th floor.

⁵⁸ WCD 87 p. 785

Having reached the top of that stairway, he didn't see Oswald walking toward him, did he?

The other beef the hoaxers have with the affidavit is that Oswald was brought into the room while Baker was writing it up, yet doesn't get mentioned. Surely he would have recognized him, even with a welt on his left eye, if he had had a gun on him 4 hours earlier in the lunchroom. We will never know what factors influenced Baker's mental processes at that moment in time, but a reasonable speculation is that he could see that his buddy officers had gang-tackled a suspect- it would be unsportsmanlike to keep piling on. Baker chose at that moment to cut Oswald some slack.

The lunchroom incident was first brought up by Roy Truly the night of November 22nd. He told the FBI that he'd noticed Baker running toward the entrance and "he accompanied the officer into the front of the building. They saw no one there and he **accompanied the officer immediately up the stairs** to the second floor of the building, where the officer noticed a door and stepped through the door, gun in hand, and observed Oswald in a snack bar there, apparently alone."⁵⁹

From this phrasing (highlighted in bold) some hoaxers infer that Truly & Baker took the front lobby stairs up to the second floor. They then crossed the central office area to get to the rear stairs.

This particular route is supported by a news report a week after the assassination:

"Mr. Truly said a young policeman dashed up to him and shouted, 'Where's the stairway?'

*'I'll show you,' Mr. Truly said, and he led the policeman up to the second floor. Gun in hand, **the policeman began checking offices and rooms** and ran squarely into Oswald in the employee lunchroom.*

Mr. Truly said the policeman held his gun on Oswald as the youth leaned against a counter and said, 'Does this man work here?'

I told him 'yes', ' Mr. Truly said.⁶⁰

There is similar support from a news story two days later:

"That's my building!" Truly shouted back. "I work in there."

*He was quickly joined by a policeman, and they ran up the steps together, the officer with gun drawn. **The two men scrambled up the stairs to the second floor.** As they made their way to a back stairway, the policeman saw Oswald standing beside a soft drink machine, sipping from a Coke bottle.⁶¹*

⁵⁹ WCD 5 p. 322

⁶⁰ Washington Evening Star, 11/29/63

⁶¹ Washington Post, 12/1/63

Southwestern Publishing's office door. Otherwise she would have seen them. And/or heard them.

The key detail the lunchroom hoaxers miss in their reading of Truly's FBI report is that Truly avoided any mention of the west elevator. This was the cat he could absolutely not let out of the bag and so he related that he "accompanied the officer immediately up the stairs to the second floor." Brushing over their difficulties summoning the west freight elevator. One of the paramount requirements of the coverup was keeping this elevator's descent out of the newspapers. Because any schoolkid could have figured it out- if he knew that the west elevator went down while Truly & Baker were climbing the stairs- he could have easily deduced that the real killers escaped the building by the west elevator. This crucial fact remained hidden until alluded to gingerly in the Warren Report. And there, it had no bearing on the case, since, after all, "neither elevator could have been used by Oswald as a means of descent."⁶³



The hoaxers make further ado highlighting the Secret Service reconstruction film, made a few days after the assassination. In this film the agent playing the part of Oswald walks through the lunchroom, avoiding the Coke machine, and takes a seat at one of the tables. This detail of Oswald supposedly sitting when confronted by Baker was even cited by DPD Chief Jesse Curry during a press interview on November 23rd, yet was not mentioned by Baker in his testimony. Whether or not Oswald purchased a Coke before or after being spotted by Baker became problematic for authorities attempting to patch together his post-sniper's nest movements. Even today some lone-nutters will insist that Oswald raced down much faster than the 74-second reconstruction, and had time to purchase a Coke.

And this misbegotten detail of Oswald sitting serves to show that the authorities were willing to bend the truth in order to fit an evolving narrative. But this, in the final analysis, is only evidence that the lunchroom incident could be construed to favor Oswald's guilt, if necessary- it is not evidence that the incident never happened at all. The Coke problem does not negate the location of the event.

⁶³ Warren Report p. 153

And as the narrative evolved, the lunchroom incident became evidence for Oswald's innocence and the Warren Commission knew this. They knew that Oswald had to have entered that vestibule from the direction of the central offices, for otherwise Truly should have seen the vestibule door in the process of closing. Truly had to make a special affidavit about that door, that it had a closing mechanism that kept it shut, on August 3rd.⁶⁴ And military historian Alfred Goldberg, who co-authored the Warren Report, got the FBI to contact Baker on September 23rd because he needed clarification about this very lunchroom incident. The Report was published three days later.

Baker was one of the few heroes on November 22nd. His was a noble act, breaking off from the motorcade and racing into the Depository in search of a gunman. His modesty and integrity are there for any viewer's consideration in film footage of the 1964 CBS Warren Report and the 1986 London trial of Lee Harvey Oswald. No sober reflection can paint him a liar.

Commission Exhibit No. 3076

September 23, 1964
Dallas, Texas

I, Marvin L. Baker, do hereby furnish this voluntary signed statement to Richard J. Bennett who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

I am employed as an officer with the Dallas police department and was so employed as of November 22, 1963.

On the early afternoon of that day after hearing what sounded to me to be bullet shots, I entered the Texas School Book Depository Building on the northwest corner of Elm and Houston Streets in downtown Dallas.

I had entered this building in an effort to determine if the shots might have come from this building.

On the second ~~floor~~ ^{floor M&B} ~~entrance~~, where the lunch room is located, I saw a man standing in the lunch room. ~~Drinking a coke.~~ ^{M&B.} He was alone in the lunch room at this time.

I saw none else in the vicinity of the lunch room at this time.

M.L. Baker

⁶⁴ WCH VII p. 591

The lunchroom hoaxers have spent 10 years now chasing after a phantom “4th floor man”, mentioned in Baker’s first-day affidavit, without any fruitful leads. They have produced nothing but ephemera. They fail to acknowledge the obvious, which is that Baker was simply confused about the layout of the TSBD floors. In his September 23rd statement, Baker initially wrote, “On the second or third floor, where the lunchroom is located,” but he crossed this out to read, “On the second floor, where the lunchroom is located.”

As a last-gasp effort the hoaxers cite a Dallas Morning News story by Kent Biffle, quoting TSBD VP Ochus Campbell: “*Shortly after the shooting we raced back into the building. We had been outside watching the parade. We saw him (Oswald) in a small storage room on the ground floor. Then we noticed he was gone.*”⁶⁵

Campbell did not testify and did not mention this in FBI interviews on November 24th or 26th or on March 19th, nor in his Secret Service interview in early December. Clerical supervisor Jeraldean Reid, who watched the motorcade with Campbell and re-entered the building with him, did not mention it in her DPD affidavit, Secret Service interview, nor in 11 pages of testimony.⁶⁶ There is not one whit of corroboration for Biffle’s news report. Yet the hoaxers hang their hat on it, rather than admit that the news report, in all likelihood, was just garbled hearsay generated during that chaotic afternoon.

The real culprit in this affair is Roy Truly, who concealed the difficulties he had summoning the freight elevators. He told the DPD only that “The officer and I went through the shipping department to the freight elevator. We then started up the stairway.” He told the Secret Service only that “As they passed the shaft for the two freight elevators, [he] paused momentarily and, noting that neither of the elevators was available, he directed the way up the back stairway.” **He told nothing about the elevators to the press**, evincing not the least bit of curiosity that the west elevator was missing when he got to the 5th floor. This didn’t come out until his March 24th testimony:

TRULY: When we reached the fifth floor, the east elevator was on that floor.

BELIN: What about the west elevator? Was that on the fifth floor?

TRULY: No, sir. I am sure it wasn’t, or I could not have seen the east elevator.

BELIN: All right.

TRULY: I am almost positive it wasn’t there... So I told the officer, “Come on, here is an elevator,” and then we ran down to the east side, and got on the east elevator... We rode the east elevator to the seventh floor.

⁶⁵ Dallas Morning News, 11/23/63

⁶⁶ WCD 5 pp. 62, 336; WCD 87 pp. 776, 785; WCH XXII p. 638; WCH XXIV p. 223

Put another way, if anyone escaped the 6th floor using the west elevator, they had a 4-month headstart on their pursuers.

Truly led the way up the stairs to the 2nd floor- running ahead of a cop, recklessly risking an encounter with an armed killer. We do know that Truly had nothing to fear in this instance. We do know that Baker's instincts were to pursue a suspicious character deep in the bowels of the building, away from the parade. But we don't know whether Truly himself might have spotted Oswald in that plate-glass window.

One of the most tantalizing clues to sprout up from this investigation is Styles' recollection that Adams had told co-workers she'd heard the elevator cables moving while they were racing downstairs.⁶⁷ She had not mentioned this in her testimony, stating only that "The elevator was not moving" when she got to the 4th-floor stairs. And she did not recall if the elevator was moving when she got to the third.

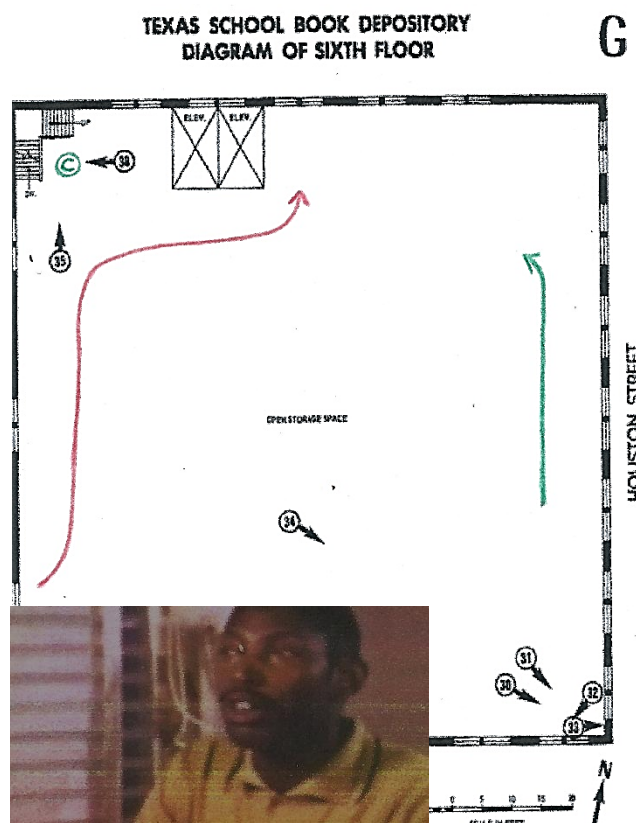
It is unlikely that Adams could have heard the cables while inside the stairwell, with its noisy wooden treads. The alternative we are left with is that she heard them while crossing the 2nd-floor landing- only moments after Truly went into the vestibule door behind Baker.

What this means is that somebody up on the 5th floor was listening to the movements down inside the stairwell. Somebody who knew that, after Truly had yelled up the elevator shaft, he had started climbing the stairs. And that someone, at the head of the stairs, realized that it was time to start bringing the west elevator down. This happened approximately 60 seconds after the assassination.

⁶⁷ Sean Murphy in "Oswald Leaving TSBD?" p. 81 @ TheEducationForum

GIVENS DID NOT RETURN TO THE 6th FLOOR

Charles Givens, one of the floor-layers, became a critical eyewitness for the government's case, since he was the only person to place Oswald on the 6th floor at lunchtime. Givens' testimony elaborated on how, after the elevator race, he had taken the east elevator back up to the 6th to retrieve a pack of cigarettes from his jacket. As he was "fixing to get on" the east elevator to return downstairs he noticed Oswald "coming down the aisle... [from] the window up front where the shots were fired from... he had his clipboard in his hand."



Whether or not Givens actually took this trip was thrown into doubt by researcher Sylvia Meagher- her major theme being that Givens never mentioned this cigarette trip until his April testimony, despite several key opportunities to do so.⁶⁸

However, floor-layers Bonnie Ray Williams and Danny Arce each testified that Givens had participated in the elevator race.⁶⁹ This supported Givens' story, in that it placed him appropriately on the 1st floor having forgotten his cigarettes. Not until the HSCA interview of Edward Shields was Miss Meagher substantiated.

⁶⁸ Accessories After the Fact by Sylvia Meagher, pp. 65-69; "The Curious Testimony of Mr. Givens" by Sylvia Meagher, The Texas Observer, 8/13/71

⁶⁹ WCH III p. 167; WCH VI p. 364

Shields worked as a shipping clerk as part of the 4-man skeleton crew sustaining the old Houston St. warehouse. Every lunchtime his habit was to visit the Classified Parking Lot, up just past the Dal-Tex, to chat with manager James Tracy. Givens routinely joined him there, and Shields testified that on the 22nd Givens “was there at noon after he had eaten his lunch, I mean, he come on up there.”⁷⁰

Shields’ Warren Commission estimate that he reached the parking lot at “5 after 12” harmonized well with his 1977 memory of leaving his warehouse “about 10 minutes to 12.” It was about 400 yards to the Depository. The elevator race took place close to 11:50, and Shields recalled seeing several of the participants standing on the rear loading dock as he was making his way toward the presidential parade. He and Givens left the parking lot together and walked about 125 yards to the corner of Record & Main, in front of Mullendorf’s Café. They arrived at their viewing spot “about 12:15”.

Shields recounted that Givens “worked steady” at the Houston St. warehouse and in fact reported for work there every morning, including November 22nd. He went “back and forth” to help out at the Depository.⁷¹

Givens gave the distinct impression on the 22nd that he left the 6th floor for keeps at 11:30 and dillydallied on the 1st floor until lunchtime. His DPD affidavit states: “I worked on the 6th floor today until about 11:30 am. Then I went downstairs and into the bathroom. At twelve o’clock I took my lunch period.”

Later in the afternoon FBI agents Bardwell Odum and Will Griffin recorded that “GIVENS worked on the 6th floor of the building until about 11:30 A.M., when he used the elevator to travel to the first floor where he used the restroom at about 11:35 A.M. or 11:40 A.M. GIVENS then walked around on the first floor until twelve o’clock noon, at which time he walked onto the sidewalk and stood for several minutes, then walked to the Classified Parking Lot at Elm and Records Street.”

The next day Bonnie Ray Williams told Odum and Griffin that “on November 22, 1963, he worked installing flooring on the sixth floor of the building until 11:30 a.m. At that time, he went down on an elevator from the sixth floor to the first floor. At the same time, CHARLES GIVENS was on the other elevator, descending at the same time.”

So Williams corroborated Givens’ early descent. Both these men knew when lunchtime started, and their 11:30 estimates cannot be considered as mere casual recollections of the time. And Givens, the only known smoker on the crew, would likely be keenly aware of where his cigarettes were as the long minutes ticked away until lunch.

⁷⁰ WCH VII p. 394

⁷¹ HSCA interview of Edward Shields, 10/23/77, pp. 4, 13, 17-18

It turns out that Williams and Arce were mistaken about Givens being in the elevator race. In the west elevator were Billy Lovelady, Bonnie Ray Williams and Danny Arce. In the east elevator were Harold Norman, Jack Dougherty and James Jarman.⁷² Order-checker James Jarman admitted this to the Secret Service, but no further explanation was ever sought or volunteered as to why he was up on the 6th floor. He had a 1st-floor work station and nobody ever mentioned that he was up on the 6th.

IDENTIFICATION BUREAU
CRIME SCENE SEARCH SECTION
POLICE DEPARTMENT, DALLAS, TEXAS

DATE SUBMITTED 11-22-63 TIME 3:20 PM CSS#

OFFICER OF SUBMITTED TO

THE CSS OF THE IDENTIFICATION BUREAU THE FOLLOWING:

in evidence room } 1 Dr Pepper bottle
1 paper bag - made from wrapping paper
1 Pk. Viceroy Cigarette pack
 EXAMINATION REQUESTED: Ch for prints

LOCATION WHERE COMMITTED

NATURE OF OFFENSE DATE OFFENSE#

COMPLAINANT

SUSPECT RACE SEX AGE ID#

 RACE SEX AGE ID#

SIGNATURE OF PERSON SUBMITTING SPECIMEN M. Johnson ID# 879

SIGNATURE OF PERSON RECEIVING SPECIMEN W. Berner ID#

SPECIMEN RELEASED TO

DATE TIME BY

RESULTS:

An empty pack of Viceroy cigarettes was brought out of the Depository at 3:00 PM by Detective Marvin Johnson. This cigarette pack is not mentioned in the 26 Warren Commission volumes, nor in the hundreds of supplementary FBI documents dealing with the search of the crime scene. It did turn up in a DPD form filled out that afternoon, but never made it into an official police report. Was it found near the sniper's nest? Did it belong to Givens? That is a distinct possibility, because he admitted helping to build the sniper's barricade:

BELIN: You had taken stock down from the west part of the sixth floor where you were working and put it there?

⁷² WCD 87 pp. 781, 784; WCH III p. 167; WCH VI pp. 337, 364

GIVENS: Yes, ran it down the side right in front of the window

Lt. Jack Revill was correct in his assessment when he told the FBI's Robert Gemberling that "Givens had been previously handled by the Special Services Bureau on a marijuana charge and he believes Givens would change his story for money."⁷³ And Sylvia Meagher was correct in her assessment that Givens, a Dallas Negro with a police record and vulnerable to intimidation, was persuaded to fabricate his story.

Givens had no provable foreknowledge of the assassination, but he was an accessory after the fact.

FRAZIER & THE ELEVATOR POWER

When Victoria Adams re-entered the Depository, she lingered by the front entrance, listening to a DPD motorcycle radio's early reports that shots had been fired "off the 2nd floor [or] from the 5th or 4th floor."⁷⁴ With a correction factor from the 1982 Committee on Ballistic Acoustics, these broadcasts have been time-stamped at 12:39-40.

"I panicked, as I was at the only open window on the 4th floor." She went up the steps and explained that she worked in the building and entered the front lobby. "I pushed the button for the passenger elevator, but **the power had been cut off on the elevator.**"⁷⁵

The passenger elevator had been working just a couple of minutes earlier. Inspector Sawyer had boarded it with an unspecified police officer and warehouse worker for a quick search of the 4th floor. "I doubt it took over a minute at the most... It couldn't have been over 3 minutes at the most from the time we left, got up and back down."⁷⁶ While up on the 4th he spoke briefly with Truly and Baker, who were on their way down from the roof in the east elevator. So the passenger elevator was working at 12:38, when Sawyer returned downstairs, but not working at 12:40.

Adams went up the lobby stairs and "listened for a few minutes" to people milling about in the 2nd-floor central office, then "went out and walked around the hall to the freight elevator." Here she encountered "two men who were dressed in suit and hats, and I assumed they were plainclothesmen." The three of them got on the west elevator, "but it wasn't operating." The time was approximately 12:43.

⁷³ WCD 735 p. 295

⁷⁴ WCH XXI pp. 391-2

⁷⁵ WCH VI p. 391

⁷⁶ WCH VI pp. 317-320

Luke Mooney had just abandoned this west elevator. He had run with fellow deputy sheriffs Billy Joe Victory and Sam Webster from the parking lot behind the grassy knoll over to the rear of the Depository. They took the stairs while Mooney jumped on the elevator, just as two women came running up and asked to go up to the 2nd floor. “And when we got there, the power undoubtedly cut off, because **we had no more power on the elevator.**”

“So I looked around their office there, just a short second or two, and then I went up the staircase myself. And I met some other officers coming down, plainclothes, and I believe they were deputy sheriffs. They were coming down the staircase. But I kept going up.”⁷⁷

These “deputy sheriffs” were the same two men Vicki Adams soon encountered on the 2nd floor. There were only 29 deputies on duty that day,⁷⁸ yet Mooney evidently didn’t know these two. They were ATF agents.

“At approximately 12:35 p.m., information was received that President John F. Kennedy had been shot,” and a total of 8 ATF agents ran over to the Depository from their office 500 yards away.⁷⁹ They had probably heard the 12:34 Pierce Allman broadcast, or received a phone call from someone who just did. Their supervisor Carl Booth stayed on the landing with Sawyer, while the rest of the team split up and headed upstairs or across the 1st floor. A couple of them ran down to the railyard area behind the grassy knoll.

But the ATF failed to furnish any detailed accounts of this early search. Any after-action reports they may have produced simply disappeared.

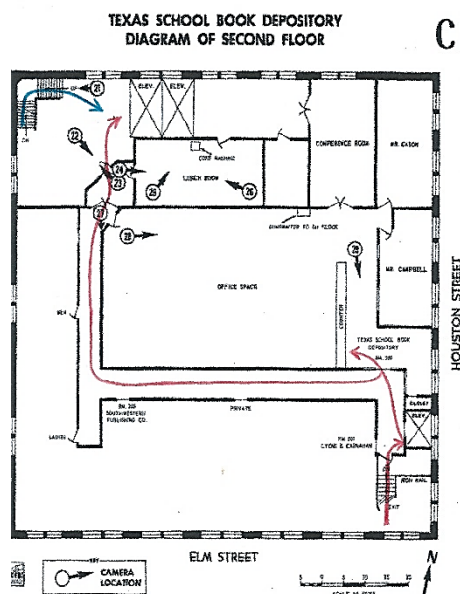
We can see that Adams encountered the two plainclothesmen at about 12:43, while Mooney had passed them on the stairs just a minute or so earlier- time-stamping the power outage to the west elevator at roughly 12:41. This was a minute or so after the power was cut to the passenger elevator. And, the west elevator lost its power just after Mooney had stopped it on the 2nd to let the women office workers out. It did not lose its power while in transit.

Some researchers have speculated that Mooney entered the Depository several minutes sooner and that the “deputy sheriffs” he encountered were imposters posing as federal agents. But Mooney had been searching the railyard area until orders were relayed, through another deputy, that Sheriff Decker wanted the TSBD covered. Decker was in the lead car and made no radio transmissions as it sped to Parkland, arriving at 12:37. By then he would have overheard the 12:34/35 reports that shots had been fired from the building, and been able to contact someone on his staff. Thus Mooney entered the rear of the Depository no sooner than 12:39.

⁷⁷ WCH III p. 284

⁷⁸ WCH XIX p. 466

⁷⁹ Memorandum to SAIC Forrest Sorrels from A & TT Supervisor Carl Booth, Jr., 1/14/64

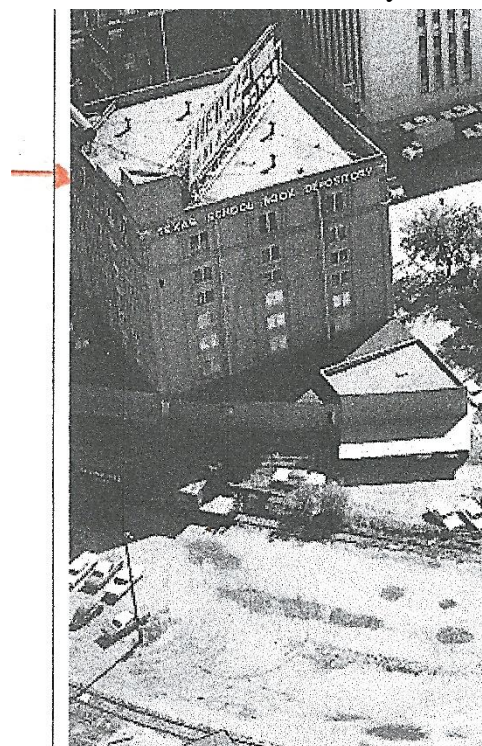


Deputy Sheriff Luke Mooney

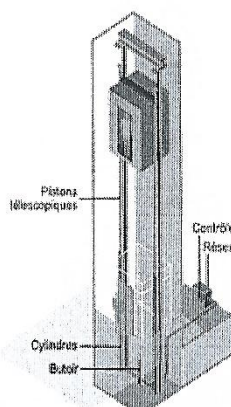
And the point deserves to be re-emphasized that the kill team left the building long before that, by 12:32. There weren't any imposters left roaming around on the floors.

Now, why was the elevator power shut off? What benefit could the conspirators possibly gain? Clearly, they hoped to delay the police search. They wanted to gain some additional time in order to ensure that the evidence was "tidied up"- ready to be discovered so as to frame Oswald.

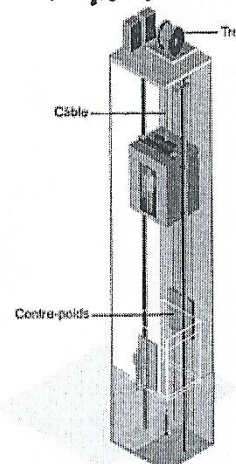
But Dougherty was already tidying up the sniper's nest by 12:35, as Lillian Mooneyham attested. He could have easily readied the rifle, found near the stairwell, immediately before or immediately after this. The evidence had already been ready for several minutes by the time the elevators were shut off. Cutting the power was superfluous. It was not a demand of the moment, but an action that had been incorporated into the planning.



HYDRAULIC

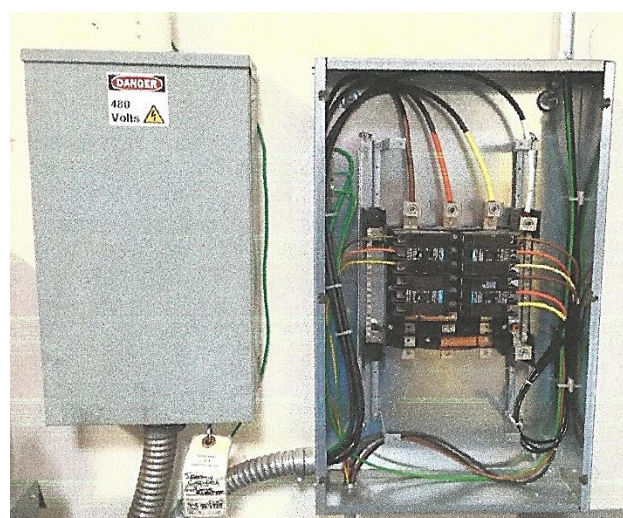


TRACTION



How was this action accomplished? The cables on the south side of the west elevator indicate that this was a traction elevator; the cables wrapped around a pulley (known as a “sheave”) with a counterweight on the other side. The sheave was housed on the roof in a small machine room, only as tall as the 5’ parapet. The freight elevators had a load capacity of 6000 lbs and required industrial-strength current from at least a 440-volt junction box.

The passenger elevator may have been a hydraulic elevator, which was a common low-cost construction choice for buildings with only a few stories. These operate by a telescoping piston being pumped with an incompressible fluid. The machine room typically is located at the bottom of the shaft, consisting essentially of just a vat of hydraulic fluid and an electrical pump. A modern-day machine room (minus pump) is seen in the photo at the left. Both the 5th-floor and basement diagrams have possible machine rooms, so we can’t say for certain whether the passenger elevator was a traction-type or hydraulic-type.



So simply flicking a toggle switch controlling the motor for the passenger elevator’s sheave (or alternatively its electrical pump) and flicking the switch for the motor controlling the freight elevators’ sheaves would shut off the elevators in the TSBD. An important complementary question is this: How long were they off? And it cannot be answered definitively.

Deputy sheriffs A.D. McCurley, Jack Faulkner and John Wiseman entered the Depository soon after Mooney. They had likewise been in the railyard lot and received information that the shots had come from the building and ran over with several DPD officers and entered the front. Wiseman said he ran up the stairs all the way to the 7th,⁸⁰ so apparently the west

⁸⁰ WCH XIX p. 535

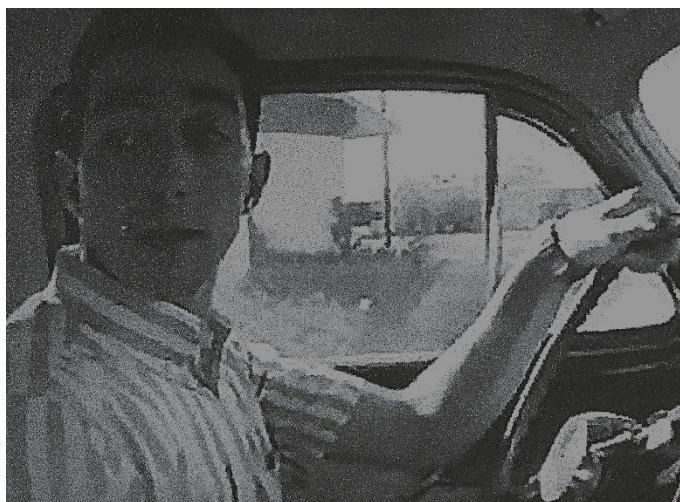


freight elevator was still stuck on the 2nd. By 1:00 PM as many as 50 officers were combing the building. DPD Sergeant Gerald Hill entered the 1st floor about this time and took a freight elevator all the way to the 7th.

There isn't any information as to when the passenger elevator became operational again. Considering the number of lawmen pouring in, it seems most unlikely that it experienced any more than a 5-minute shut-off. And the same with the freight elevators. **We simply have no further reports describing a power outage at any of the elevators,** and we must assume that it was confined to approximately the 12:40-45 time period. Recall that at this time Truly had returned downstairs and would soon commence his informal "roll call".

We can posit the hypothesis that it was Jack Dougherty who shut off power to the elevators, and initially this seems to have some merit. When Truly, returning downstairs in the east elevator, saw him on the 5th he may have been over by the machine room for the passenger elevator. From there Dougherty could have walked to the opposite corner and up the staircase to the roof and shut off the freight elevators, waiting up there a predetermined 5 or 10 minutes until he restored the power. On his return he would have to cleverly avoid the deputy sheriffs searching the 7th, but that is not inconceivable, since soon enough attention was focused on the 6th. But where this hypothesis falls short is in this redundancy: why assign Dougherty to shut off the elevator power, if he has already been assigned to tidy up the evidence?

The elevator shut-off was, in fact, a blunder that nearly blew the plot wide open. This was grasped as soon as police started pouring into the main warehouse. Power was restored after only a few minutes, by reconnecting the emergency safety switch down in the basement. By Wesley Frazier, on the orders of Roy Truly.



The National Electrical Code was formalized in 1897, about 10 years before the freight elevators were constructed. It would seem that such an industrial-sized circuit would require a kill switch in the event of workplace emergencies. Typically this is a circuit-breaker box with a pull-down lever; it would be installed next to the shaft.

The need for easy access would dictate that it be located on the 1st floor or in the basement. But the 1st-floor diagram shows that the elevator shaft was tightly flanked by wide overhead doors. The kill switch would have been in the basement, where there was plenty of available wall space next to the shaft.

I contacted a professional about this, providing only the details that I believed a 7-story International Harvester building constructed in 1905 would include a kill switch for its elevators. He replied that any such switch probably would have been located up by the pulleys, because electrical systems at that time were highly limited. I then informed him that the building was upgraded in 1962; wouldn't a kill switch have been incorporated into the system by that time?

The answer was yes. "Definitely by 1962 there would have been inputted the more traditional 'kill switch' into the elevators, even the older ones, as they would have had to of been upgraded in some ways over that many years. Most likely, even then, they should have had the more traditional 'emergency stop' button in the elevator as we have today (although in a more rudimentary manner)."⁸¹

⁸¹ E-mail from Professor Gregory White, Master Electrician, 7/24/15

And Wesley Frazier admitted in his testimony that a few minutes after the shooting he went down into the basement **alone**. "...I didn't come back up. I was sitting eating my lunch. I looked at my watch and didn't have but 10 minutes."⁸² His own estimate places him in the basement at 12:35, 5-6 minutes before power was cut to the elevators.

Frazier had tried to foster the impression that eating down in the basement was his normal routine:

BALL: When you came in that morning to go to work where did you go first?

FRAZIER: I went like I did every morning. I went down in the basement there and hung up my coat and put up my lunch.

But an hour earlier, during questioning as to whether Oswald had brought a lunch that day, he was caught off guard and acknowledged that he normally ate in the domino room:

BALL: When you get off your job [at lunchtime], do you usually go to the lunchroom on the 2nd floor to eat your lunch?

FRAZIER: No, sir; most of the time I don't. Most of the time you see several of us guys sitting down at our own table and we just sit there. I say we usually go up there to get something to drink and I say I have ate up there several times but **most of the times I eat with the guys I work with. Usually we just sit down and eat**, and we lay down on the big tables there and sometimes talk or go to sleep.

Frazier was a personable, talkative co-worker and it was out of character for him to be eating alone down in the basement. And it does not make sense that a 19-year-old youngster, who admitted having waited on the front landing for the motorcade since 12:00 noon, would forego his own lunch while others ate their sandwiches around him. He went down to the basement because he was following instructions.

Some further details of his time there emerged during a 2002 interview with the Sixth Floor Museum:

FRAZIER: So I went back into the building and had- had gone down to the basement and I set down and was eating my lunch. And there were several plainclothes detectives and there- I remember a policeman, a uniformed policeman. He came by, he asked me how long I'd been there and had I seen anybody.

⁸² WCH II pp. 235-6

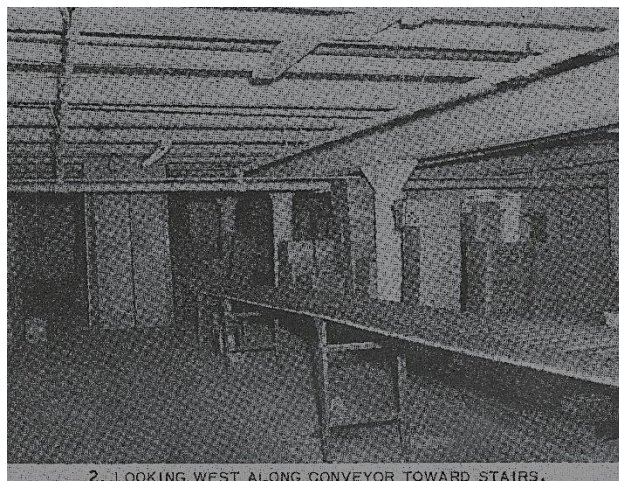
And I said, “I didn’t see anybody unusual down here.” I said, “I heard somebody over-“ Uh, there was two ways you could go down to the basement. It was, uh, right there by a belt that went up to the meter where, uh, Junior put the postage on the packages. And then over right by where Billy Lovelady would write up the freight bill of ladings. There was an entrance you could go down to the basement that way. It was a stairway...

MACK: Um, you were down in the basement when some investigators, police or whatever, came in.

FRAZIER: Yes.

MACK: You were all by yourself down there?

FRAZIER: Yes. I was all by myself. And they asked me, “Had I seen anyone come down into the basement while I was there?” Or, “Did I see anyone go up the stairway there by the belt?” And I said, I told ‘em, “I did hear somebody over on the stairway but I could never see what-could see anybody over there.” But I didn’t- I couldn’t see anybody. So it was, so- I don’t know but maybe it was just, uh, one of the investigators or policemen in the searching of the building.⁸³

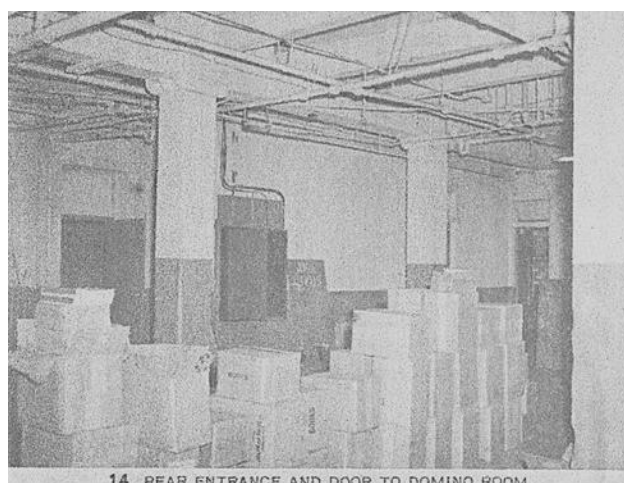


So Frazier encountered several plainclothesmen as well as a uniformed policeman. They must have come down by the corner stairwell, near the elevator shaft, since Frazier directed their attention to the set of stairs over by the conveyor belt. The ATF agents arrived at approximately 12:39 and are almost certainly the plainclothesmen Frazier encountered in the basement; the deputy sheriffs didn’t mention it in their reports.

⁸³ Sixth Floor Museum interview of Wesley Frazier by Gary Mack, 6/21/02, Hour Two, 10:05... 16:15...

Apparently some of these agents used the passenger elevator to ascend; they did a quick run-through of the upper floors but found no one except Jack Dougherty. During their run-through the power was cut to the TSBD elevators. They were forced to use the stairs on their descent and thus ran into Luke Mooney at approximately 12:42.

Frazier was careful not to cut the power while the elevators were in motion between floors. He pulled the kill switch to the passenger elevator just after it had brought the ATF agents to the 4th floor; he pulled the kill switch to the freight elevators just after Mooney had stopped it on the 2nd.



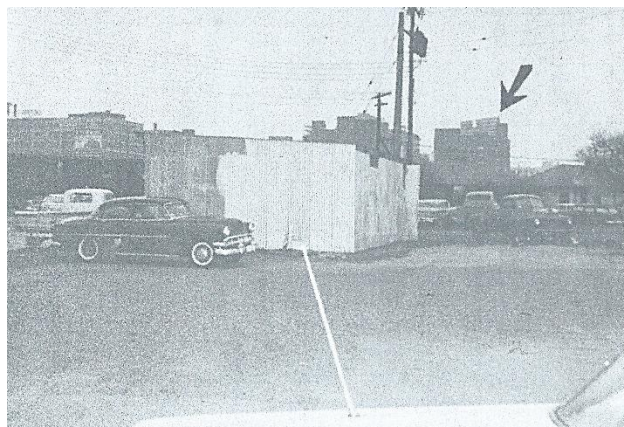
Truly and Baker arrived downstairs ahead of Sawyer and returned to the 1st floor by 12:38. Baker, who left the building almost immediately, was captured in Tom Alyea's film talking with Truly and Ochus Campbell. This discussion took place down near the domino room; the 220-volt panel that powered the lights and small machinery is seen in the background.

Truly described the floor then as "a regular madhouse... officers running around, reporters in the place." In the confusion he slipped away downstairs to signal Frazier to cut off the elevator power. This was a prearranged stratagem to ensure that the evidence was neatly in place to frame Oswald; a precious few minutes was thought to be gained.

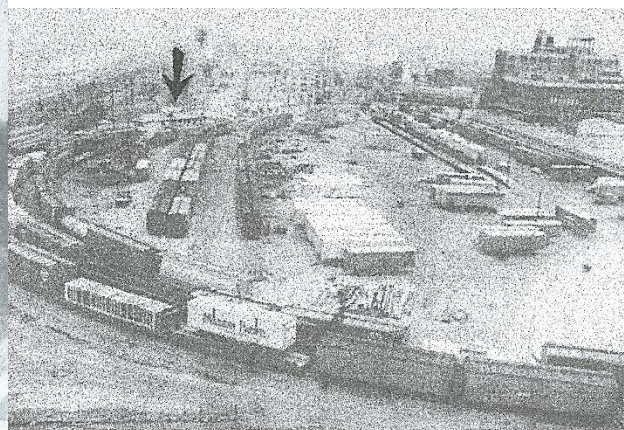
But it was an overkill measure that backfired almost immediately. As more and more lawmen poured in somebody must have shouted that the elevators were not working. Truly quickly realized that the plot would be exposed if power were not restored at once.

Not until the spring testimonies of Mooney and Adams was it learned that **there was a power outage to the Depository elevators during the early minutes of the police search. And this uncomfortable fact did not make it into the Warren Report.**

Luke Mooney had filed an after-action report that stated, “we went up one floor and the power to the elevator was cut off.”⁸⁴ The mystery was not what happened- the power was cut. The mystery was who had done it. And Sheriff Bill Decker did not see fit to remark about this to any newspapers or other media outlet. Nor did Roy Truly.



39. FRAZIER'S CAR PARKED IN APPROXIMATELY SAME LOCATION USED ON NOVEMBER 22, 1963. TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY IN BACKGROUND. (ARROW)



38. VIEW FROM ROOF OF TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY LOOKING NORTH TOWARD PARKING LOT NO. 1. (ARROW)

Frazier, who knew he would be cutting the elevator power in a few hours, gave Oswald a ride to work that assassination morning. He told a seemingly credible story about parking his '54 Chevy by the old Houston St. warehouse, spending a short time revving his engine to charge up the battery. Oswald proceeded alone, carrying his long package, walking the 400 yards across the railroad yard to the Book Depository, “roughly 50 feet in front of me,”⁸⁵ or “a good 100 yards or 150 yards.”⁸⁶

But warehouse worker Edward Shields, interviewed by the HSCA two days after Frazier, recalled an incident that casts complete doubt on this railyard episode. Shields was on the 1st floor of the old warehouse at the time that Frazier arrived in the parking lot, and he recalled:

SHIELDS: I think Charles Givens hollered out there and asked Frazier where his rider was and he told him, “I dropped him off at the building.” Yeah, that was it... Well, I was down on the floor when they hollered out and said and the answer he gave them, I don't know, I think he said, “I dropped him off at the building.” Now, whoever it was hollering asked him, I don't know.

DAY: This is the morning of the assassination?

⁸⁴ WCH XIX p. 528

⁸⁵ WCH II p. 228

⁸⁶ HSCA interview of Wesley Frazier, 10/21/77, p. IV-10

SHIELDS: Mm-hmmm.

DAY: Somebody hollered out the window and say: "Where is your rider?" And to your recollection, Frazier says, "I dropped him off at the building."

SHIELDS: Yes.⁸⁷

Shields' recollection conjures up the spectre that it was Frazier himself who carried a long package across the railyard into the Depository. He owned a .303 British Enfield without a scope; no scope was seen by the 7 or so witnesses to a rifle up in the sniper's nest.

What gets even more mind-boggling is the first media description of the rifle once it was brought out of the Depository. At 1:57 PM Fort Worth's WBAP broadcast: "Crime Lieutenant J.C. Day just came out of that building. Reported British .303 rifle with telescopic lens."⁸⁸

The reporter probably didn't know a Mannlicher-Carcano from a Mauser from an M-1 from an Enfield, and asked something like, "What make of rifle was used in the assassination?" Day, who knew that the scoped Carcano he held in his hands hadn't been used that day, may have answered truthfully. "British .303".

Another item, even more mysterious, surfaced in Frazier's HSCA interview. He apparently stood next to Oswald down at DPD Headquarters that assassination evening.

FRAZIER: ...He was standing next to me. He was pretty close to somewhere around two inches-where they could measure this thing.

MORIARTY: Two feet.

FRAZIER: Two feet?

DAY: It was two feet.

FRAZIER: Right. And- and Mr. Oswald was there and he told me that they made a positive identity down there. And I said- I said, "Lee. It was made several times." He insisted. He said, "You drove the car." He said he owned Dallas. He believed everything they told him about the package. He said he wasn't interested in other people or anything with people. He believed in no one. He said he actually told myself that.

A note on the Frazier transcripts: they are 98+% accurate. I listened to the heavily-scratched recording with a finished transcript in hand to double-check it for errors, wondering if I myself might get double-checked if someone taped the original master at the Audio-Visual Archives. The cassettes I recorded evidently had numerous splices, as the

⁸⁷ HSCA interview of Edward Shields, 10/23/77, pp. 14-15

⁸⁸ "Treasure Hunting in the National Archives" by Sylvia Meagher, *The Third Decade*. Vol. 2, No. 2, Jan. 1986

subject matter jumps to non sequiturs without warning. Nearly half of the 4-hour interview was irretrievable.

More importantly, investigator Jack Moriarty mentioned that a secretary would be transcribing the interview.⁸⁹ This transcript has never been publicly available.

JARMAN, NORMAN & WILLIAMS: TRUTH BE TOLD

An improved analysis of the sniper's nest data has brought clarification to a long-perplexing enigma: it can be definitively stated that it was Bonnie Ray Williams who was seen by Arnold Rowland up in that sniper's nest window until 12:25 PM. He left a partially-eaten piece of fried chicken on top of the barricade of boxes, only 5 feet from where the sniper crouched. This was cavalierly moved by Gerald Hill, and again by Marvin Johnson, to its official crime-scene location in the third aisle beside a hand-cart.⁹⁰

What caused Williams to abandon his lunch, but the sudden interruption by a gunman?

On this date, 4-19-78, 1978, I, Bonnie Ray Williams
(month/day) (print name)

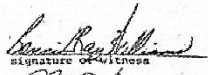
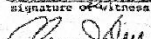
have read the attached copy of my statement(s) pertaining to
the assassination of President John F. Kennedy given to:

<input type="checkbox"/> Dallas County Sheriff Dept.	Date(s) of Report: <u>009218</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI	Date(s) of Report: <u>11-23-63, 12-5-63,</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dallas Police Dept.	Date(s) of Report: <u>1-18-64, 5-26-64, 3-19-65</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Warren Commission	Date(s) of Report: <u>11-25-63</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secret Service	Date(s) of Report: <u>unpublished</u>
	Date(s) of Report: <u>12-7-63</u>

☐ The statement(s) I have read fully and accurately reflect my recollection of the events.

☐ The statement(s) I have read do not fully and/or accurately reflect my recollection of the events. I would like to add/correct the following:

Dallas Police Dept.
I Didn't go TO THE FIFTH Floor
WITH HANK JR. THEY WERE THERE WHEN I GOT
THERE.


 Signature of Witness




⁸⁹ HSCA interview of Wesley Buell Frazier, 10/21/77, pp. IV 18-19

⁹⁰ "Bags, Bones, Bungling and Bonnie Ray" by Colin Crow and "Arnold Rowland and the two men on the 6th floor" by Tony Fratini @ jfkassassinationforum

At 12:15 Rowland had noticed a slender white man, standing and holding a high-powered rifle equipped with a scope, down at the far corner window from the sniper's nest. He had noticed Williams even sooner than this.

ROWLAND: Something that I would like to note is that the window that I have been told the shots were actually fired from, I did not see that, there was someone hanging out that window at that time.

FORD: At what time was that?

ROWLAND: At the time I saw the man in the other window, I saw this man hanging out the window first. It was a colored man, I think.

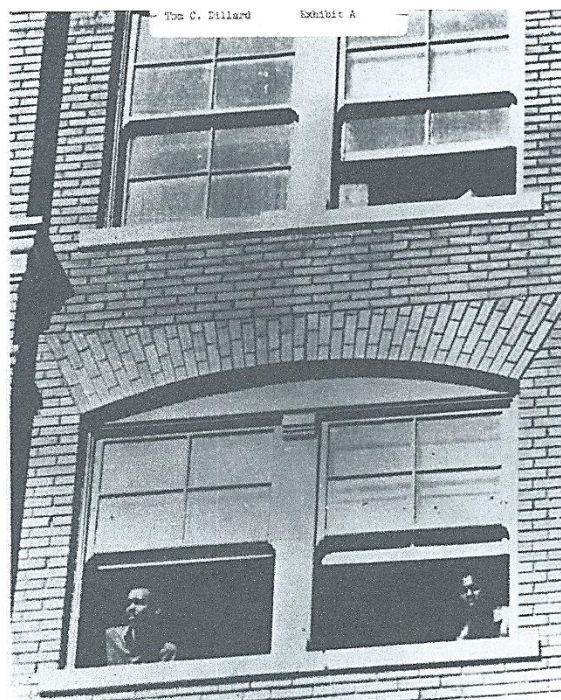
FORD: Is this the same window where you saw the man standing with the rifle?

ROWLAND: No; this was the one on the east end of the building, the one that they said the shots were fired from...

FORD: When did you notice him?

ROWLAND: This was before I noticed the other man with the rifle.⁹¹

Rowland accurately recalled Williams' gaunt



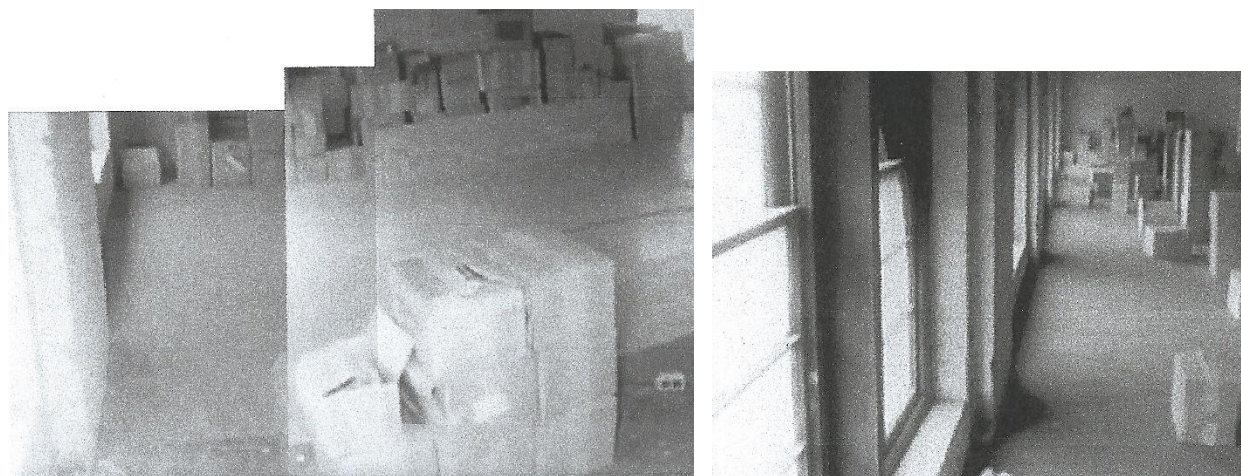
physique ("very slender, very thin"), short-clipped hair ("practically bald") and complexion ("not real dark"); he embellished this "elderly Negro" with a "very wrinkled or marked" face. In the direct sun it mattered little that Williams' true age was only 20. The brick background may have played a factor in mistaking Williams' olive shirt for a "plaid shirt... red and green, very bright."

⁹¹ WCH II pp. 174-5

For 10-11 minutes Rowland saw him, checking a couple of times a minute, consistently “hanging out the window.” There was no mention of Williams stepping back. The photo on the right shows a Secret Service agent standing in the sniper’s nest as seen from the gunman’s position. Was Rowland’s gunman aware of Williams? Was Williams aware of the gunman?

Based upon the available evidence, the answer is no. Neither man was aware of the other from 12:15-12:25. Rowland had only arrived at his viewing spot on Houston St. at 12:14. Williams, who participated in the elevator race, went back upstairs in the east elevator, which was operated from the inside by a hand pedal. He entered the sniper’s nest and began eating a bag of Fritos, somewhere between 12:00-12:10.

Rowland’s gunman arrived soon after Williams via the west freight elevator. This had a control panel and an inner wood-slat gate that had to be closed for the elevator to operate because of a built-in safety mechanism. It could also be “called”- riding empty between floors- if both floors involved had their outer overhead gates pulled down. These idiosyncracies mean it was virtually certain that the gunman was escorted by a warehouse worker up to the 6th- and the only viable candidate is Jack Dougherty, who would escort the hit team down in the west elevator after the assassination.



Did Rowland’s gunman walk over to the sniper’s nest and evict Williams? Probably not. Rowland noticed him for only 15-20 seconds, until he stepped back from the window. He didn’t see him again. The new flooring being installed provided him with plenty of open space to idle his time, waiting for the motorcade. We have no indication that Williams was dislodged from his perch until 12:25.

A figure fitting the description of Rowland's gunman turned up in that same SW window in an autoradiographic enhancement of a Dillard photo, taken 5-7 seconds after the fatal head shots. He will be discussed in greater detail in the next section. Rowland's gunman was likely posted to that SW window. And it was a second gunman, posted to the sniper's nest, who prompted Williams to drop his half-eaten chicken.

In any case, Williams took the east elevator and went to the 5th floor. About 12:27 he walked over to the SE corner windows and joined James Jarman and Harold Norman. This pair had arrived there about 12:25, and were noticed by Howard Brennan.⁹² They used the west elevator to get there, and pulled the overhead gate down upon arrival. Both elevators were now on the 5th. Soon after Williams left the 6th, Dougherty, who had also been up on the 6th, walked down to the 5th and approached the west elevator.

Seconds after the shots Tom Dillard snapped two pictures of the Depository, "50, 60 yards" away on Houston Street in Camera Car 3. Dillard had a wide-angle 28 mm Leica in his hands and a long-lens 100 mm Yashica hung around his neck. Reacting to Bob Jackson's sighting of a rifle barrel up in the sniper's nest, he snapped his Leica only seconds after the 3rd shot he'd heard. He took a close-up with his Yashica quickly thereafter. "I shot those pictures in rapid sequence with the two cameras."⁹³

His first shot became Dillard Exhibit B and his second became Dillard Exhibit A. The Warren Commission published a poor-quality photocopy of B, showing no one in the 5th-floor windows; Jarman and Williams are clearly discernible in the Trask copy, which shows Williams in the same position as the close-up.

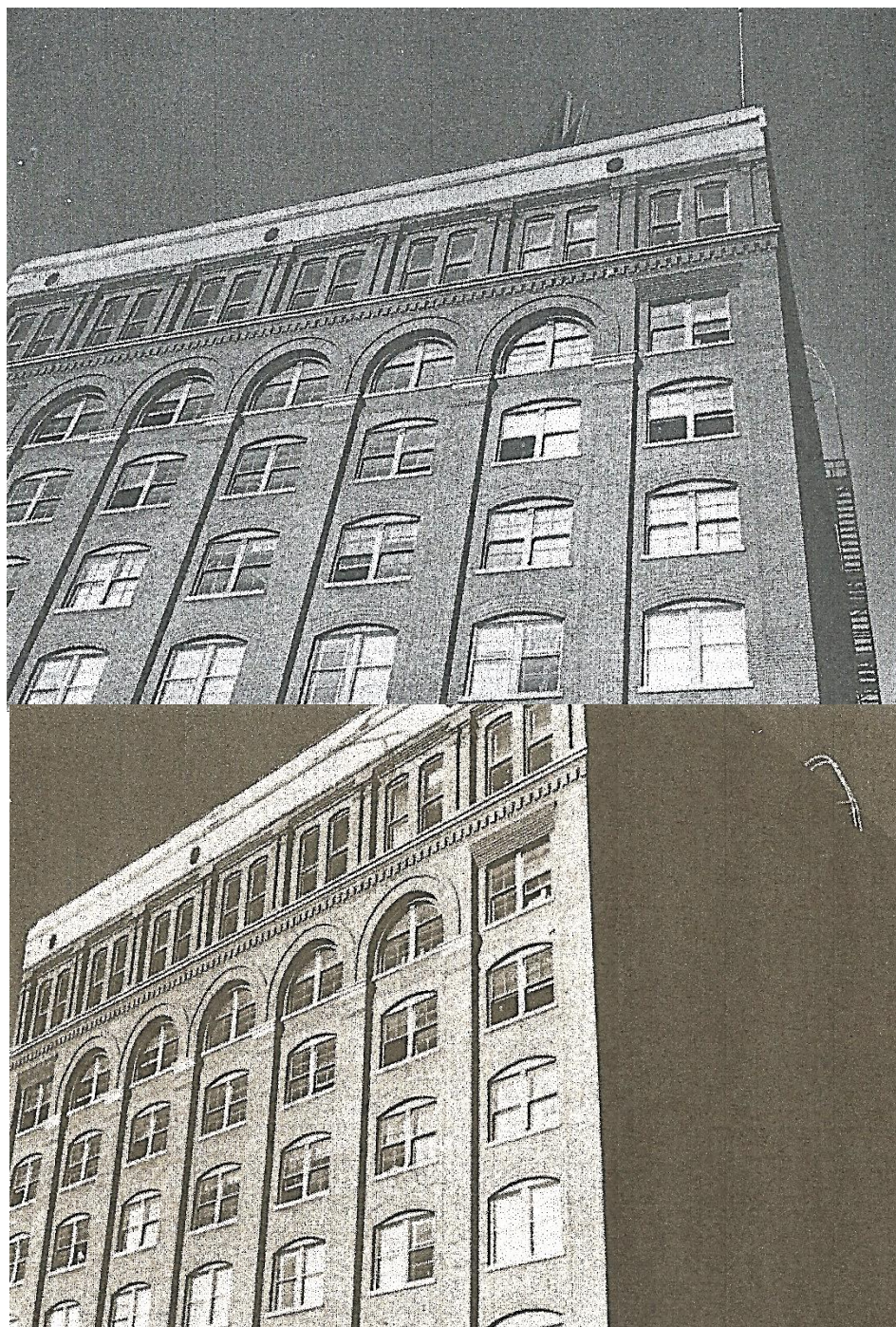
Army Intelligence agent James Powell photographed the Depository while standing diagonally across the intersection of Elm & Houston. He estimated he'd taken the photo 30 seconds after the assassination;⁹⁴ this puts it in the neighborhood of 15 seconds after the Dillard A close-up. Williams is still at his window; Jarman & Norman are not seen. Because of the discrepancy in box configurations between the Dillard and Powell sniper's nests, the FBI did not give the Powell photo to the Warren Commission.

The Powell photo puts a strain on the black trio's contention that, after the shots, they ran together down to the SW corner window. Both Jarman and Williams would claim that Jarman opened this particular window once they arrived- but the Powell photo shows it was already open. **The black trio fabricated a pit-stop at this corner window, in order to create the illusion that curiosity was motivating their movements-** that they were watching the crowd surge down on the street below.

⁹² WCH III p. 186

⁹³ WCH VI p. 164; Pictures of the Pain by Richard Trask, p. 441

⁹⁴ HSCA 180-10027-10333, FBI Memorandum to Director from SAC Dallas, 12/31/63; WCD 206 p. 19, 12/31/63



The truth was that they were terrified, and ran for the safety of a book bin next to the rear stairwell, beside the furthestmost NW window. They would be photographed there, posing like tourists, looking out upon the grassy knoll parking lot. Wood crates and book cartons, stacked tight to the ceiling, completely blocked the Down stairwell from view. And the FBI did not provide any photographs of their book-bin “fort”.

WILLIAMS: You could not see the stairs from that point because this other- this is the stairway, and it has some shelves made out of some old wooden boxes. Those old wooden boxes come out to about right here. And they come out maybe 5 feet, even more than that, past the stairway. And that would block your view of the stairway from that point.⁹⁵

BELIN: How long have those bins by the stairway been there?

TRULY: Well, it would be hard for me to say, but they have been there, I suppose, almost from the time we moved in- **nearly two years**. They were there at the time of November 22.

BELIN: On Commission Exhibit 487, the line marked "W", will you state whether or not this appears to be the approximate line where the bins are located?

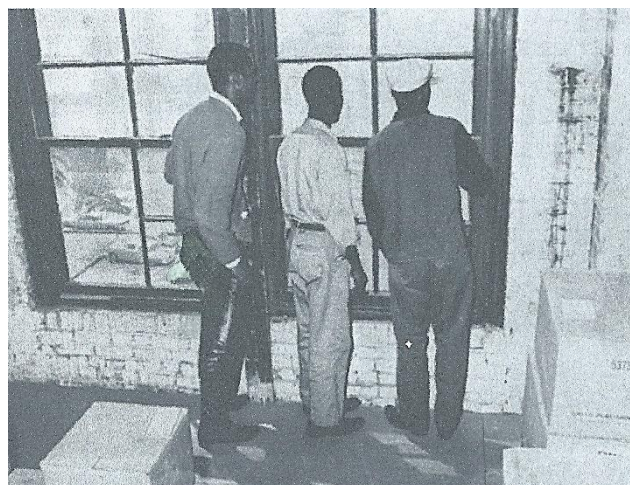
TRULY: Yes, it would be.

BELIN: Can you see over those bins?

TRULY: You cannot.

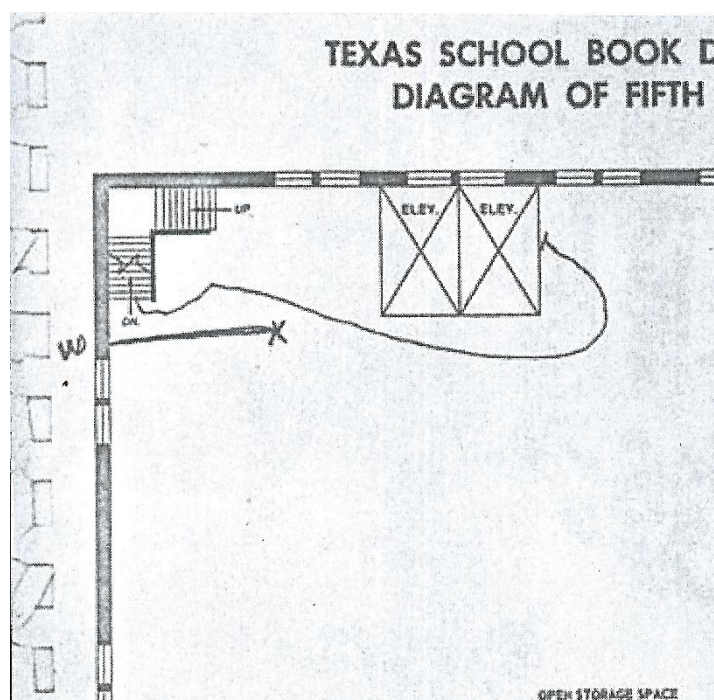
BELIN: I mean when you are at the window- say you are in the southwest corner.

TRULY: No, sir; you cannot. They obscure the stairway.⁹⁶



⁹⁵ WCH III p. 179

⁹⁶ WCH III p. 231



The TSBD Company had not even been doing business at 411 Elm Street a full year! We get an idea of the 5th-floor's west-side clutter in WC Exhibit 490; the NW window is off the field of view to the right. Exhibit 487 helps emphasize how close they were to the freight elevator- about 20 feet. Dougherty was busy pulling up the gates as the black trio hid themselves. And they surely knew when the snipers rushed down the stairs into the elevator.

And, if Styles' memory is correct- about Adams saying she could hear the elevator cables moving- then Dougherty must have positioned himself at the head of the stairs, listening for that crucial moment when Truly started ascending the first flight. He then raced into the west elevator, closed the wood-slat gate, and pressed the button for the first floor.

Under testimony, Jarman denied hearing the elevator, or anyone on the stairs, or Truly & Baker when they reached the 5th. Norman denied these also. Williams only acknowledged seeing the top of Baker's white helmet. These omissions included the west elevator returning to the 6th at 12:33.

After 5 minutes, only when they were dead sure the perpetrators' dust had settled, they ran downstairs and made it all the way into the street. Brennan saw them and alerted Sawyer and they were called back into the building.

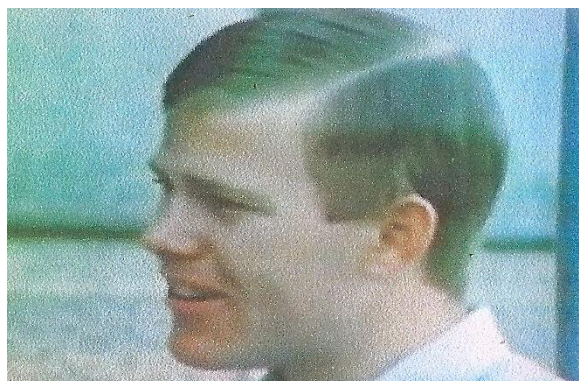
Because they had knowledge of the crime, and by their inaction helped the perpetrators evade detection, Jarman, Williams & Norman became accessories after the fact.

THE KILL TEAM

At approximately 12:25 Carolyn Walther was standing on the sidewalk in front of the County Records Building, about 120 feet as the crow flies from the sniper's nest. She watched an ambulance drive off with a man who'd had an epileptic seizure in the Elm & Houston intersection. Soon afterward she noticed **two men** up in the sniper's nest.⁹⁷

A man with "blond or light brown hair... wearing a white shirt... was standing up leaning out of the window with both his hands extended outside the window ledge. In his hands, this man was holding a rifle with the barrel pointed downward, and the man was looking south on Houston Street... She noticed nothing like a telescopic sight."

"...to the left of this man, she could see a portion of another man standing... This second man was apparently wearing a brown suit coat." Only moments after Mrs. Walther had noticed these men, the presidential limousine turned onto Houston Street.⁹⁸



Ruby Henderson was standing just around the corner from her and also noticed two men after the ambulance departed. "One of the men had on a white shirt... had dark hair... appeared to be dark complexioned... one had on a dark shirt... She couldn't describe the other person other than the fact he was taller."⁹⁹ "You could see their head and shoulders, but not like they were leaning out."¹⁰⁰

She hadn't noticed Walther's blondish man in the white shirt. Brown-suitcoat man perhaps was dark-shirt man. And now we have a dark-complexioned man in a white shirt. None of these sound like Rowland's gunman- white man, dark hair, white shirt.

⁹⁷ 1968 interview of Carolyn Walther by Barry Ernest, *The Girl on the Stairs*, pp. 83-85

⁹⁸ WCH XXIV p. 522

⁹⁹ WCH XXIV p. 524

¹⁰⁰ "Witnesses Overlooked in JFK Probe" by Earl Golz, *Dallas Morning News*, 12/19/78

Ronald Fischer and Robert Edwards was standing on the hairpin corner, directly across from the sniper's nest. About 10-15 seconds before the lead car turned onto Houston Street, Edwards drew Fischer's attention to a man up there who "looked like he was looking down toward the Trinity River and the triple underpass." Fischer described him as white, brown-haired and in a shirt that was "probably white". Edwards agreed that he was white with light-brown hair in a light-colored shirt.¹⁰¹ Now we have corroboration for Walther's blondish man, who was showboating his weapon on the window ledge.

Howard Brennan was a few feet to their left. He glimpsed the sniper for the few seconds encompassing the last shot, describing him as white, wearing "light-colored clothes in the khaki line."¹⁰² He never did specify any particular hair color, but provided nothing the sniper he saw from being Walther's gunman.

Amos Euins had stated it was a white man in his Sheriff's affidavit, and in an FBI interview on December 14th.¹⁰³ Yet he testified in March that "I couldn't tell, because these boxes were throwing a reflection, shaded" and that he had actually told the Sheriff's Department that he couldn't tell. What he told them instead was that he could see a "white spot"; the "bald spot" that he had first mentioned to the FBI was now provided with a color.



Euins was a little black kid held for 7 hours at Sheriff Decker's office, long after sunset on November 22nd, to produce a 14-sentence affidavit. He had told KRLD news director James Underwood 5 minutes after the assassination that he'd seen a colored man up in the building with a rifle. Underwood had overheard Euins telling David Harkness that he'd seen a black man with a rifle leaning out of an upstairs window, and so asked the youth directly.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰¹ WCH VI pp. 193-4, 203-4

¹⁰² WCD 5 p. 101

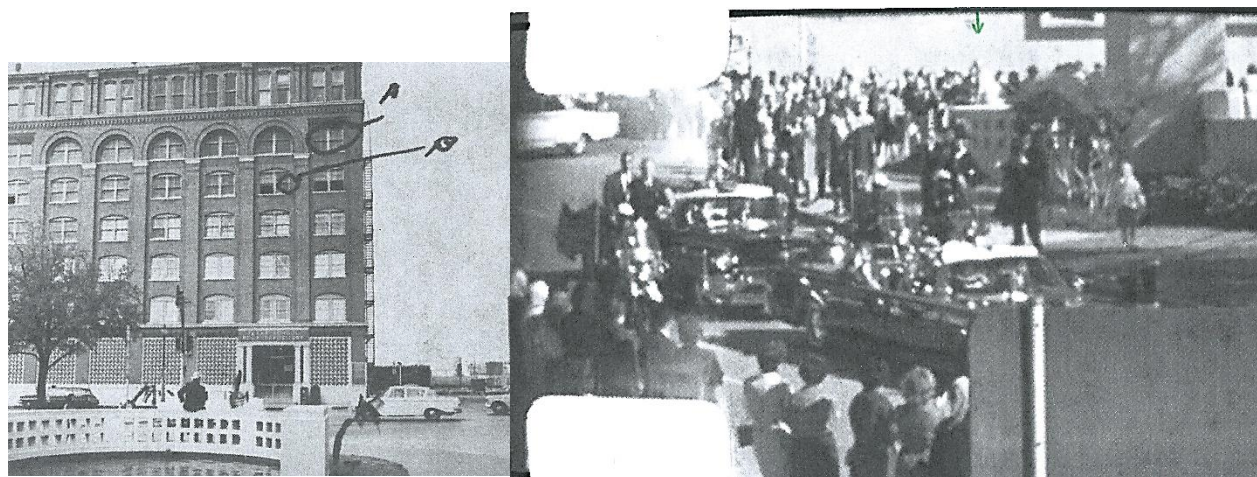
¹⁰³ WCD 205 p. 12

¹⁰⁴ WCH VI p. 170

Lest one presume that Euins was confusing the sniper with Harold Norman, who leaned out the 5th floor to look up, listen to Amos describe how the sniper handled the rifle: "...after the President had come on down the street further, you know he kind of stuck it out more... enough to get the stock and receiving house and the trigger housing to stick out the window."¹⁰⁵ A professional marksman would keep a rigid stance. This is a description of a recreational hunter, creeping forward like he was after quail in the brush.

And in between shots "he started looking down towards my way." Yet Euins still could not tell his race? Nor even whether his hair was dark or light? Might that have something to do with the threatening calls his mother received before he testified?¹⁰⁶ Might Euins have been intimidated down at the Sheriff's, since Oswald was a white man? Might Euins' description have been what motivated Decker, at 5:00 PM, to phone Captain Fritz and request that he come see him immediately?¹⁰⁷

There is a further reason to favor Euins, and doubt the accuracy of Brennan's sighting. The 44-year-old construction worker is seen in the Zapruder film, sitting 5 feet closer to Houston Street than in his re-enactment pose. He was not directly facing the Depository during the assassination. From his filmed position, he would have had to have looked to his left, to look up at the sniper's nest.



In other words, there is a solid chance that the man Brennan saw was a spotter, not a sniper. This would mean that Walther's gunman was only a spotter, even though he showboated a rifle. Fischer and Edwards had seen a similar man only a minute before the President passed them by, but did not see a weapon. We have to recognize that Euins witnessed the nest twice as long as Brennan did. And we still have to account for the man in

¹⁰⁵ WCH II pp. 206-7

¹⁰⁶ Mark Lane letter to the NY Times, 11/22/07

¹⁰⁷ JFK and the Unspeakable by James Douglass, p. 274; Forgive My Grief III by Penn Jones, p. 31

the brown suitcoat. And we have no corroboration for Rowland's gunman- until we examine the photographs.

The negative from Dillard's wide-angle Leica, taken 5-7 seconds after the shots, underwent autoradiographic enhancement at the Stanford Research International Institute in 1978. Immersed in a radioactive gel, the emulsion's irradiated silver grains slowly brought out any ambient light in darkened areas, over a period of about two weeks. The autoradiographic treatment helped elicit an otherwise undetectable figure in the 6th-floor SW window.

He stands about a foot back from the window, surveying the crowd below, a ceiling lamp above his head. He is a white man, wearing a crew-neck t-shirt, with short dark hair thinning along each side of his forehead into a widow's peak. A cloak of light hangs in the air behind him, from reflected light rays sprinkling off of his t-shirt.



There is an uncanny resemblance between this ghostly figure and a 1957 hunting photo of the doppelganger Lee Oswald, described in John Armstrong's Harvey & Lee theory.

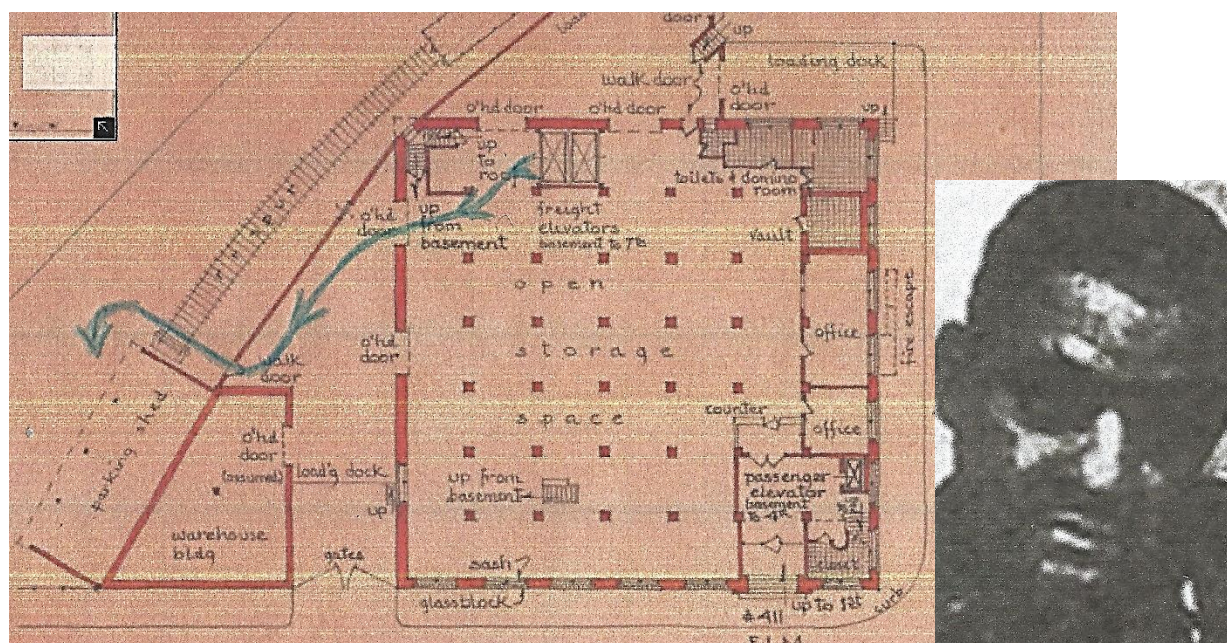
Despite assurances from SRI that the procedure was non-destructive, Dillard's negative was irreparably damaged when part of the gelatin was abraded, rubbing the emulsion from its film base. This was blamed on malfunctioning equipment. By sheer coincidence, the abrasion occurred at the sniper's nest companion window, where another figure was discernible when the negative was originally developed.

This is a white man wearing glasses, standing a few inches back from the dust-shrouded glass. The shadow from the vertical sash-strip bisects his face. He has dark clothing on, with dark hair that appears to have begun balding.¹⁰⁸

¹⁰⁸ "The Facial Image" by Charles Wallace @ alt.assassination.jfk



The Facial Image accounts for brown-suitcoat man, serving as a spotter in the sniper's nest. Another spotter there was blondish-khaki man, the figure seen by Walthers, Fischer & Edwards, and Brennan. The possibility that this man was Jack Dougherty cannot be discounted. The black sniper was possibly Herminio Diaz Garcia, an anti-Castro mulatto whom Cuban intelligence sources named as a Dealey Plaza shooter.¹⁰⁹



¹⁰⁹ JFK: The Cuba Files by Fabian Escalante

The killing crew- as many as 4 people- stormed down the corner stairs and into the waiting west elevator. Seconds after hearing Truly yell up the shaft, Dougherty began the descent down to the 1st floor. They rushed ahead into the West Annex- which was omitted from Commission diagrams of the 1st floor. Then they walked down the ramp and into a vehicle under the carport.

The time was 12:32. By sheer coincidence, Shelley and Lovelady were 40 feet away in the railyard, acting as sentinels.

TWO WHITE MEN

Nearly two hours into Marrion Baker's March 25th testimony, he commented that Oswald didn't have the same clothes on at DPD Headquarters as he did in the lunchroom. Senator John Cooper broke in and began a line of questioning to help refresh Baker's memory of the lunchroom encounter, without directly focusing on Oswald's clothing.

BAKER: ...he didn't say a word, he didn't change the expression or nothing on him.

DULLES: You testified, I believe, that he did not seem to be out of breath?

BAKER: That is right, sir.

COOPER: He did not show any evidence of emotion?

BAKER: No.

COOPER: Did you see anyone else while you were in the building, other than this man you have identified later as Oswald, and Mr. Truly?

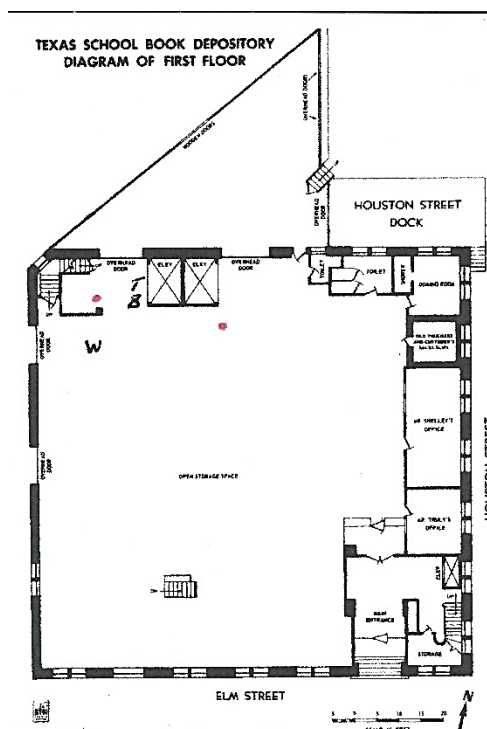
BAKER: On the 1st floor there were two men. As we came through the main doorway to the elevators, I remember **as we tried to get on the elevators I remember two men**, one was sitting on this side and another one between 20 or 30 feet away from us looking at us.

DULLES: Were they white men?

BAKER: Yes, sir.

Counsel David Belin immediately interrupted and spent 5 minutes getting Baker to rehash his encounter with Truly in the front lobby. Then Waggoner Carr consumed 10 minutes addressing rumors among the motorcycle escorts regarding the direction of the bullets. Finally Cooper broke back in and declared:

COOPER: I would like to ask a couple of questions. I think you said when you went inside the Depository you saw no one except the man you later identified as Oswald, and Mr. Truly. There were two people sitting down on the 1st floor.



But Baker avoided this issue in his reply:

BAKER: As I entered the Depository building I was- people were running toward you. I don't know whether they worked there or whether they were just trying to get out of the way.

DULLES: From inside the building?

BAKER: No; from the street in. As I ran in I was pushing them aside and running through them, and some way, Mr. Truly got from my back to my front...

The two white men were not mentioned again. Baker, in his rush to the back of the warehouse forgot to ascertain their identity. Truly ignored them completely in his own statements and testimony.

These men were probably a failsafe unit, posted at the foot of the elevators to ensure that no surprise visitors wandered onto the premises. They may well have been the same phony Secret Service agents David Harkness encountered behind the Depository at 12:36. Something had drawn Troy West out of his seat to walk toward the rear door by the time Adams got downstairs and spoke to him.

It is interesting to note that Baker did not recall these “two white men” in his 2004 phone interview with Barry Ernest: “Other than the black man, Baker said he saw no one else standing or sitting at the elevators or on the stairs.”¹¹⁰ Was this due to a memory lapse, or had he been intimidated by Dulles in his 1964 testimony?

Piper had said he was “standing right there where they make coffee,”¹¹¹ when Truly was at the elevator, and with West sitting at his wrapping table, the two men Baker had first mentioned perhaps had been black. Dulles would then be motivated to steer Baker into Belin’s deception of placing Shelley & Lovelady near the elevators then.

But Baker had recalled a black man sitting toward the back stairs; this had to be West. He didn’t say anything about a second black man. With so much accuracy lost in this case, lost to the sands of time, judgment must discern the path to truth. It says that the “two white men” Baker forgot about in 2004 were skilled at blending into the background. They were professional imposters.

One such imposter was described to a police artist in the 1980s by assassination eyewitness Malcolm Summers. He ran across the infield and up the grassy knoll and was stopped by a well-dressed man with a topcoat over his arm who said, “Y’all better not come up here or else you could get shot.” Summers could see the barrel of a gun under the topcoat. These stills from the Darnell film show that man.





West had a near-total memory lapse when he testified, regarding what had transpired on the 1st floor. Harkness had said the “agents” were well-armed and there is a likelihood they made West aware of that. He was stationed at a crucial eyewitness position by his wrapping table and couldn’t be ignored in the assassination plans. And his failure to provide more than a morsel of corroboration for the comings and goings at the rear of the warehouse consign him as an accessory after the fact.

A William Allen photo taken about 12:45 shows Eddie Piper was wearing a khaki cabbie’s uniform that day, complete with a cap to cover his bald head. Norman wore a similar uniform in his re-enactment photos. An inspection of the Jim Murray photos of the front of the Depository and eastern pergola show several such cabbies, who likely converged upon Dealey Plaza as news of the shooting spread.



Piper said he sat on a box at the second window from the corner to eat his lunch and watch the motorcade. It was a terrible spot. Through the peristyle latticework, the best Piper could have hoped for was a split-second glimpse. “I could not see the President’s car from where I was sitting but I heard 3 shots ring out and saw people looking up at the building.”¹¹²

PIPER: I heard one shot, and then the next shot went off- the one that shot him and I got on up and went on back... I came out to the end of the counter where they make coffee there by the stand...

BALL: You mentioned you saw Truly?

PIPER: I don’t know whether it was a policeman or FBI or who it was, but another fellow was with him.

BALL: And where were you?

PIPER: Standing right there where they make coffee.

BALL: What did they do?

PIPER: He ran in and yelled, “Where is the elevator?” And I said, “I don’t know, sir, Mr. Truly.” Then they taken off and went on up the stairway and that’s all I know about that.

Piper may as well have been invisible. Neither Truly, nor Baker, nor West mentioned seeing him there. Piper did not say a thing about talking with Dougherty, who had used him as an anchor point in his own alibi.

An indication that he had been coached prior to his testimony comes from the following exchange, which supported the Commission’s belated timeline for Adams:

BALL: Did you see Vicki Adams come down the steps?

PIPER: No, sir; I don’t know about that, if she said she did, it was after I got over here and walked over to the back door.

BALL: Did Vicki Adams come down before Truly and the man went up the steps?

PIPER: No, sir; no, sir; she didn’t do it.

Piper may not have witnessed the escape of the kill team, if he had wandered off, as he implied, shortly after standing next to West’s wrapping table. But he could not have missed the two white men that Baker- as a police officer a trained eyewitness- attested to. And so he joins the list of accessories after the fact. Black men in 1963

¹¹² WCH XXII p. 668



Dallas were easily intimidated- a fact that Truly exploited in the assassination planning.

Danny Arce, one of the floor-layers, told the DPD he watched the motorcade from the corner of Elm and Houston. He told the FBI that same day that “I stood on a corner, across the street from 411 Elm Street.”¹¹³ Indeed, he stands in front of the Dal-Tex in Ike Altgens’ famous first-shot panorama. A photocomparison shows the same coal-black hair- with a curlicue in the middle of the forehead- long eyebrows, shadowy eye cavities, pudgy cheeks and a dark trenchcoat. Suspiciously, he seems to be speaking into a walkie-talkie.¹¹⁴ But at 320 feet from the photographer, the object is hard to clarify. It may be jutting out from LBJ’s follow-up car.

For some unknown reason, by March Arce had shifted his location. He now told the FBI he’d been “standing on the grassy area directly in front of the Depository.”¹¹⁵ His testimony showcased his considerable prowess at confabulation and is reproduced here for entertainment purposes:

BALL: Where were you standing when you heard the shots?

ARCE: I was standing in front of the Texas School Book Depository. I was on the grassy area part in front.

BALL: You were not on the sidewalk?

ARCE: No. I was on the sidewalk, then I walked up to the grass to get a higher view and still couldn’t see...

BALL: When you were on the grass, were you south where you were? Where were you with reference to the entrance to the Texas School Book Depository?

ARCE: I was down to the west side, a little more to the west.

¹¹³ WCD 205 p. 7

¹¹⁴ “Familiar Faces in Dealey Plaza, Part 2” by James Richards

¹¹⁵ WCH XXII p. 634

BALL: Were you west of the building itself?

ARCE: Yeah.

BALL: You were not in front of the building?

ARCE: I was directly in front, but then I walked a few steps down to the west side.

BALL: Where were you with reference to the west wall of the building?

ARCE: Oh, I was way far from it. I was across the street, I mean.

BALL: What do you mean “across the street”?

ARCE: Well, there’s a little sidewalk right across the street and there’s some grass and things up there and that’s where I was at. I couldn’t tell you exactly where I was, see, it’s hard to explain.

BALL: Well, you say you were not in front of the building?

ARCE: Well, not directly, not in front; I was across the street.

BALL: And you were west of the west wall of the building?

ARCE: Well, I was, well the building-

BALL: I understand but you were to the south of the building. You had to be south of the building, didn’t you?

ARCE: Well, I was south but I was, well, I guess you could say I was in front of the building but not directly in front, well, I don’t know how to explain it.

Arce may have been asked to change his location in order to deflect attention from the corner of the Dal-Tex, whose ominous activities will be explained in the next section. In the late 1970s he worked as a gas turbine inspector for jet engines at Cooper Airmotive near Love Field. He was the local union rep and apparently discussed the assassination freely with whoever would listen.¹¹⁶

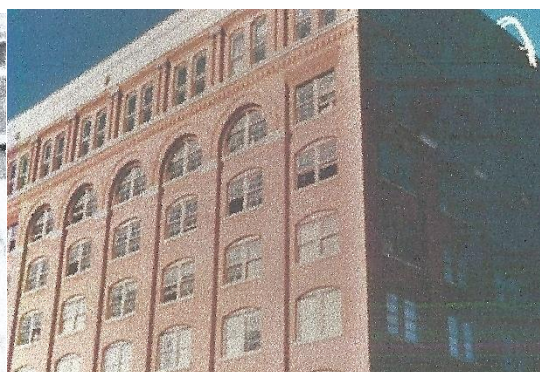
Arce may not have been aware of the significance of what he was concealing, but his repeated perjury on the witness stand earns him a place on the list of accessories after the fact.

¹¹⁶ “TSBD Staff” @ Education Forum by J. William King, 7/3/12

JAMES POWELL

In Altgens 5, among the street people watching the motorcade at the corner of Houston & Elm, there is a man in a dark suit and sunglasses holding a 35 mm camera in his hand. He is standing just below the driver's side window of the white laundry van parked at the corner of the Dal-Tex.

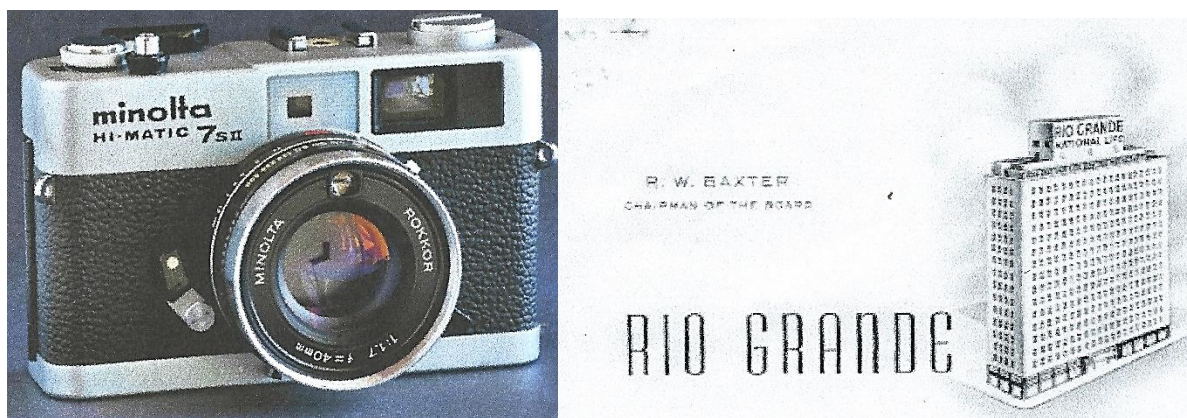
The only known photograph from this perspective- looking west toward the TSBD- taken during the first 10-15 minutes after the assassination is the famous photo of the Depository façade by Army Intelligence agent James Powell. This was snapped about 30 seconds after the shots, from about 20 feet to the Altgens man's left.



There are no publicly-available photos of James Powell, but a brief physical description of him was taken in a 1978 HSCA interview. He was white, 5'7", 155 lbs, with brown hair showing baldness, and 24 years old in 1963. This description fits the spectator in the Altgens 5 crop.

November 22nd was Powell's day off. He told his HSCA interviewers he took 3 photos of JFK's arrival at Love Field. He said he used a Minolta 35 mm Rangefinder with a standard lens. He told the ARRB in 1996 that "I was a pretty good distance away, and

unfortunately without a telescopic lens. You see these very small people coming off this great big plane..." These photos have never been made public.



Powell belonged to the 112th Intelligence Corps Group, which had their office about ½ mile from Dealey Plaza, in the Rio Grande Building on North Field St. He returned to that office about 2:00 PM on November 22nd and composed a Memorandum for the Record, which begins by stating that he took a photo of the motorcade “at the corner of Austin Street and Main Street.” “I don’t believe I have that photo as the picture came out extremely dark.” This photo has never been made public.

The Austin & Main corner is approximately 1500 feet from the Houston & Elm corner. Powell continued that he ran toward the Houston/Elm intersection, hoping to get one more picture. In a 1/3/64 FBI interview he described himself as still a half-block away from Houston & Elm when he heard shots ring out.

But was this all merely a cover story? He told the Secret Service on 1/28/64 that “ had been watching the parade from a position near the corner of Houston and Elm Streets.”¹¹⁷

He recalled for the ARRB that, after leaving Love Field, “If I’m not mistaken, I parked in the regular parking lot where we parked our government cars, which was near the Rio Grande Building, and then walked to where the motorcade was going to be coming down Elm Street. I stationed myself there waiting for the motorcade to come by.”

But Powell corrected himself when asked about his whereabouts at the time of the shots: “...you know, I was on Main Street because I went one block back to Elm Street and I was coming down this way and I was almost at this intersection when the motorcade came around and started down Elm Street, down the hill. I was probably halfway down the block when I heard the shots fired.”¹¹⁸

¹¹⁷ WCD 354

¹¹⁸ ARRB interview of James W. Powell, 4/12/96, p. 6

In the assassination aftermath Powell apparently joined the search of the railyard area, then went inside the Depository to phone his office. He went out front and briefly spoke to Howard Brennan, then returned inside to again call his office. But he was trapped inside when police sealed the building.

Police Intelligence members Jack Revill, V.J. Brian, R.W. Westphal and O.J. Tarver drove from the Trade Mart to the TSBD once they learned the building was a suspected firing point. Brian questioned Powell inside. He testified that once they left the building “we gave a man a lift... he was some type of, as I recall, Army Intelligence man... we let him out a couple of blocks, if I recall, up about Field Street, somewhere along in there. Lieutenant Revill knew him, who he was, and he rode up there with us.”¹¹⁹

Revill was the Police Intelligence liason to the 112th.¹²⁰ But he never mentioned Powell in his WC or HSCA testimonies. And Powell told the ARRB: “This is interesting. I’ll be again very candid with you, I don’t recollect the name.”

He gave his color slide of the Depository to the FBI on 1/3/64. But the existence of Powell’s photo was unknown until the time of the HSCA investigation. 112th Operations Officer Robert Jones was unaware of it until a few months before he testified.

HSCA: Would you say that Mr. Powell violated his duty by not making you aware of this picture?

JONES: I would state that if he did take a photo and he did not bring it to my attention that he would have been negligent.

Powell did not comply with an ARRB request to provide any relevant original records, notes or photos in his possession to the National Archives. I have personally checked on this.

Before one presumes that Powell had chosen a random spot for viewing the motorcade, one should consider the ARRB testimony of researcher Steve Osborn. In 1992, during the invigorated quest for truth achieved by Oliver Stone’s *JFK*, Osborn said he “came across an individual who claimed to have very near Dealey Plaza during the assassination.”

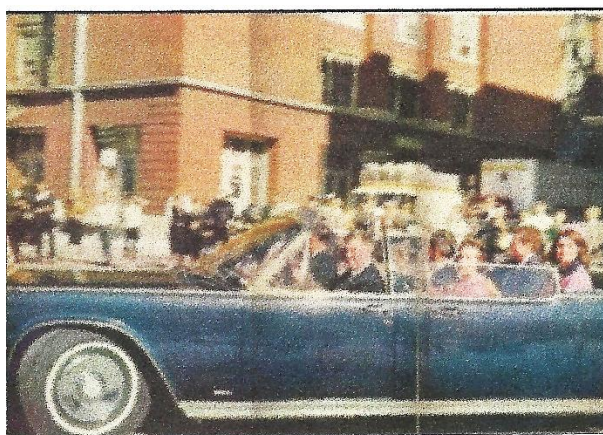
This man had been stationed at Fort Hood as part of a communications group that had been “assigned the task of observing and videotaping the presidential motorcade as it moved through the Plaza... their camera signals were transported by wireless means back to the control studio, which was actually a **semi-tractor-trailer**.”

¹¹⁹ WCH V p. 57

¹²⁰ Deep Politics and the Death of JFK by Peter Dale Scott, p. 276

“This military communications group had several cameras stationed around the Plaza... Each videotape position had a single person responsible for its proper operation. Each position these men occupied was shielded from the others so that they could only see the preview for his individual camera. Each man saw the assassination occur from a different perspective of their monitors.”

“About 15 minutes after the assassination, a group of men appeared who identified themselves as FBI agents. These agents seized all the equipment used to videotape the motorcade. Each man was put on a bus which had been summoned to the scene and they were all driven back to their base. Upon their arrival, they were simply told to forget it.”¹²¹



The Towner film shows an unmarked silver trailer parked directly behind that white laundry van beside the Dal-Tex. It had a porthole built into its front face and a person standing inside would have a view down Elm Street. A row of consoles, receiving signals from the individual wireless cameras, would fit neatly inside. **This was the control studio**, receiving multiple-angle video feeds of the murder of John F. Kennedy.

By 12:39 at the latest, as the Hertz clock reads in the Jim Murray photo, both the van and the silver trailer had driven away from the Dal-Tex. At the latest.



¹²¹ ARRB testimony of Steve Osborn, 11/18/94, pp. 1-2

If Powell had not lingered at the Depository to talk to Brennan, and returned inside to phone his office a second time with this further information, he would not have been trapped inside. We would probably not have a Powell photo, and we would definitely not have his questionable accounting of himself that day, nor any tangible affiliation with an Army Intelligence black-op.

FRAZIER: It was a military thing, because, uh- a military experience. A military experience. And they would- and someone, I think they would notice that. And eventually- where you know where a military person in that area- or maybe it's up to the police or something. Or you know where something- you know where you people look at the Dallas police.

MORIARTY: I wish there was some way for a person that had some information- or maybe some way with the police or a person or someone...¹²²

The CIA could manage brigades, liquidate spies and conduct gangland executions of undesirable foreign leaders, but it had no expertise in precision crossfire. This is why the logistics of the assassination- the coordination of the shooters- was handled by Army Intelligence. This was a land-based assault which terminated its target with extreme prejudice.



IN CONCLUSION

A phantom haunts America- the ghost of Dealey Plaza. The brutal slaying of President John F. Kennedy came about due to a perfect storm of forces united against him. This was the thanks- the payback- for outfoxing his own National Security State during the Cuban Missile Crisis. The Kennedy assassination brought an end to the constitutional republic founded by Washington and Jefferson. The people were assured of continuity of government, but the new government resisted any evidence uncovered that spoke for conspiracy. It was the United States in name only.

The crime was blamed on an enigmatic 24-year-old ex-Marine, Lee Harvey Oswald. His signature statement while in the custody of the Dallas Police resounds through the corridors of the world's collective consciousness: "I'm just a patsy!" Little wonder. He had been standing in a corner of the entranceway alcove during the shooting.

¹²² Wesley Frazier Tape 2, II-3

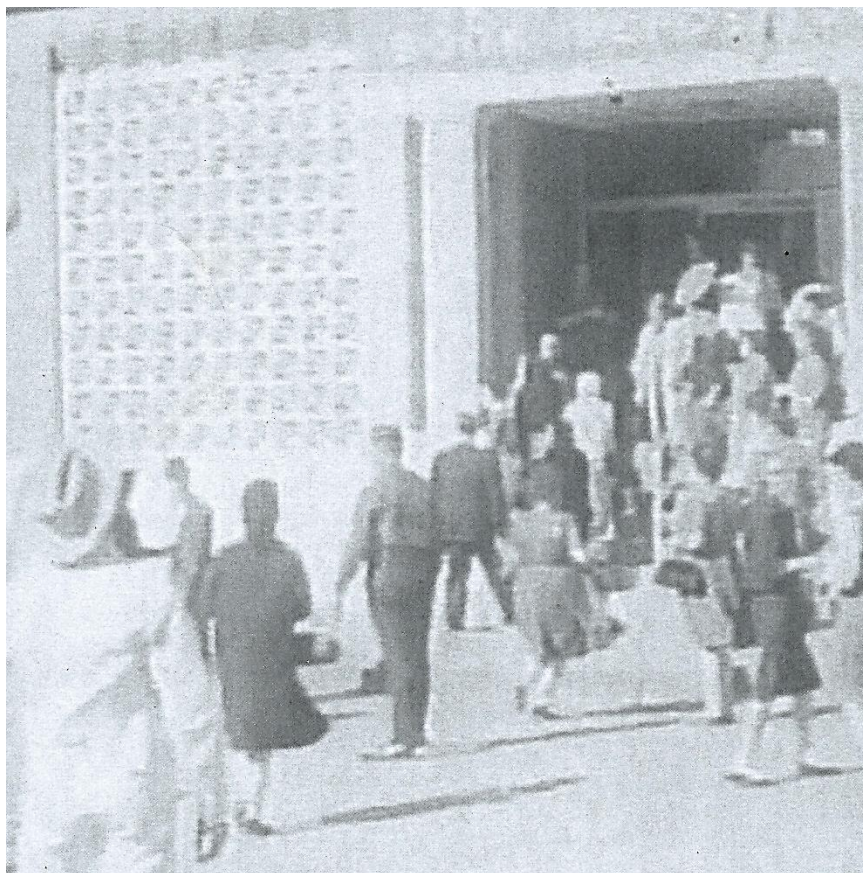
This essay has demonstrated how employees of the Texas School Book Depository participated in the assassination. The plot was devilishly simple: get the kill team out with the west freight elevator, and pin the deed on Oswald.

To recap, the full-fledged conspirators were Roy Truly, Jack Dougherty, William Shelley and Wesley Frazier. They aided and abetted the gunmen, assisted in their escape, and were purveyors of deceptive evidence against Oswald.

Accessories after the fact fill a spectrum between a technicality short of conspiracy to those who cooperated under coercion. In the former group are Billy Lovelady and Danny Arce; the latter group is comprised of Charles Givens, Bonnie Ray Williams, James Jarman, Harold Norman, Eddie Piper and Troy West.

The brick building at 411 Elm Street looked like a long-established business. The reality was that the book company had moved in less than a year before. It continued operations at the 4-story Houston St. warehouse. And effectively had doubled its inventory, far exceeding the normal demands of the schoolyear cycle. The Book Depository was a Potemkin Village populated expressly for JFK's assassination.

The 1988 words of Marina Oswald ring truer now than ever: "The danger of the truth not being known will destroy this nation, actually. Now maybe you don't believe me, but that's the fact."



by Richard Gilbride
for William Weston