

## THE ELEVATOR ESCAPE THEORY

Two minutes after the killing of President Kennedy, a most curious coincidence took place inside the Texas School Book Depository. As Roy Truly and Marrion Baker were going up the rear stairs to get to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, the west freight elevator went down from the 5<sup>th</sup> floor to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. This article will demonstrate that Depository employee Jack Dougherty escorted two snipers down in that west elevator. It also indicts several other employees as complicit in the assassination.

### THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF JACK DOUGHERTY'S ASSASSINATION AFTERMATH ALIBI

DPD motorcycle patrolman Marrion Baker was on Houston Street about 200 feet south of the Depository when he heard a high-powered rifle shot and saw a huge flock of pigeons flying from the roof. He raced his motorcycle and parked in front of the crowd around the Depository entrance, 45 feet away. A film taken by Malcolm Couch shows him sprinting for the front steps. In a re-enactment Baker made it from where he'd first heard the shot to the Depository entrance in 15 seconds. Comparative film analysis puts this closer to 25 seconds.

Roy Truly was at the bottom of the steps and ran up and caught up with him. He told Baker he was the building manager and offered to show him how to get upstairs. They pushed the glass entrance door in, scurried 15 feet across the lobby and went through the swinging double doors into the warehouse. But 5 feet further Baker bumped into Truly's back at the customer counter. The counter-door was latched shut and Truly had to slide the bolt and swing back this waist-high partition. They "ran diagonally across to the northwest corner of the building", a distance of about 80 feet, to the west freight elevator.

Truly pushed the control button but the elevator didn't respond. He yelled up the shaft, "Turn loose the elevator!" He and Baker looked up over the 5-foot slatted wooden gate and noticed that the two freight elevators were "both even" up on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor.<sup>1</sup>

The Baker-Truly timeline is well-explored.<sup>2</sup> Assigning 25 seconds for Baker to reach the Depository entranceway, 5 to talk to Truly, 10 to get through the lobby and counter-door, and 15 to dash across the cluttered warehouse floor- that's 55 seconds, give or take 5. Truly looked up the elevator shaft absolutely no later than 60 seconds after the first shot.

He rang the service bell and hit the control button again. "Bring that elevator down here!" he repeated, to no avail. They decided to use the stairs and, 65-75 seconds afterward

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<sup>1</sup> WCH III pp. 221, 240, 254

<sup>2</sup> "The Baker-Oswald Encounter: Proof That Oswald Did Not Shoot JFK?" by Michael T. Griffith; Sean Murphy, JFK Lancer posts #61097 and #61202, 7/18-20/07

(including Baker's estimate of a 30-second encounter with Oswald in the 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor lunchroom), they boarded the east elevator on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor to head for the roof.

During their one-minute ascent the west elevator descended. Jack Dougherty admitted taking it down but he claimed he'd never heard Truly yelling up the shaft. The Warren Commission didn't ask him if he'd heard the service bell.

Dougherty was taken down to the DPD Homicide Office and gave his affidavit while the just-arrested suspect, Lee Harvey Oswald, was led into the interrogation room.<sup>3</sup> Detective Walter Potts recorded the following statement:

"I was working on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor today... went down to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and ate my lunch and went back to work at 12:45 p.m.

I had already gone back to work **and I gone down to the 5<sup>th</sup>** 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 to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, and asked a man named Eddie Piper if he had heard anything and he said yes, that he heard 3 shots. I then went back to work on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor."<sup>4</sup>

Incredulously, with the DPD investigation centered around the idea that their suspect was in the sniper's nest at 12:30, Dougherty acknowledged he was in fact present on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor shortly beforehand. There is no indication the DPD made even a cursory attempt to follow up on this information. They could have simply asked him how much he ate for lunch, to establish a timeframe for when he was up on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. They could have taken him up there, to help retrace his steps, and asked if he remembered where he looked, or if he heard anything, or 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 observation that would certify the suspect's guilt- who, after all, was vehemently protesting his innocence. There can be little doubt that the Homicide division's blatant disregard of Dougherty's admission was intentional.

Dougherty continued to foster the impression that he went downstairs immediately after the shooting. Interviewed by the FBI on December 19<sup>th</sup>, he "stated that it was while he was on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor that he heard a loud noise. He said that it appeared to have come from within the building but he could not tell where. He said that he went down to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and saw a man, Eddie Piper, and asked him if he had heard a loud noise, and Piper told him that he had heard 3 loud noises. He also told him that someone had just shot the President."

On March 18<sup>th</sup> he clarified his whereabouts at the time of the shooting: "I was at a point about 10 feet from the elevator on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor."<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> WCH XXIV p. 317

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, p. 206

<sup>5</sup> WCH XIX pp. 620-622

The following exchange from his April 8<sup>th</sup> testimony serves to demonstrate the obscurity of Dougherty's activities after lunch, the lack of curiosity by Commission counsel Joseph Ball, and the inability of Dougherty to keep his alibi straight:

Q: Where did you take that- to what floor?

A: I took it up to the 6<sup>th</sup> floor.

Q: Then what did you do?

A: Well, when I got through getting stock off of the 6<sup>th</sup> floor, I came back down to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor.

Q: What did you do on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor?

A: Well, I got some stock.

Q: Then what happened then?

A: Well, then immediately I heard a loud noise- it sounded like a car backfiring, and I came back down to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, and I asked Eddie Piper, I said, "Piper, what was that?" I says, "Has the President been shot?" He said, "Yes."<sup>6</sup>

Ball quickly reminded him that he'd told the FBI it was Piper who'd mentioned that the President had been shot. Ball's previous witness had been Piper, who gave further testimony on May 14<sup>th</sup>- yet he never asked Piper whether he'd talked to Dougherty in the assassination aftermath. Nor did Piper mention this conversation in his November 23<sup>rd</sup> Sheriff Department affidavit or his March 18<sup>th</sup> FBI statement.

Indeed, a review of 55-year-old janitor Eddie Piper's movements makes it clear that he cannot have spoken with Dougherty in the manner implied. He sat on a box at "the second window from the corner" to watch the motorcade, and after the shots "I came out to the end of the counter where they make coffee there by the stand." This coffee stand, maintained by wrapper Troy West, was located near the middle overhead door in the west wall.<sup>7</sup>

Q: You mentioned you saw Truly?

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

Q: And where were you?

A: Standing right there where they make coffee.

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<sup>6</sup> WCH VI p. 380

<sup>7</sup> Ibid, pp. 357-358

Q: What did they do?

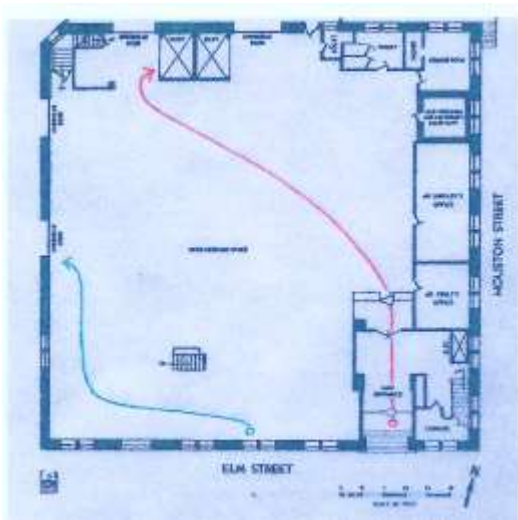
A: He ran in and yelled, "Where is the elevator?" And I said, "I don't know, sir, Mr. Truly."

...Q: And the first people that you saw on the floor after the shooting was who?

A: Mr. Truly and some fellow... I believe he was an officer...

Q: Had anybody come down the steps before they went up the steps?

A: No, sir... and when the elevators come down- *I really don't know who brought the elevators down, but I know nobody ever come down the steps.*<sup>8</sup>



Not only did Piper give absolutely no corroboration- it was physically impossible for Dougherty to do what he'd claimed. Fellow employee Billy Lovelady informed the FBI on the 22<sup>nd</sup> that "it takes 30 seconds for the elevators to go from the 7<sup>th</sup> floor to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, as he has timed this."<sup>9</sup> That's 5 seconds per floor.

Even if we give him every benefit of the doubt: to scan the premises after the first shot, scoot 10 feet to the west elevator, close the wooden gate and ride 4 floors down- he's still got to open the gate and step out in order to see Piper halfway across the warehouse floor. All of that takes a barebones minimum of 35 seconds.

It would take at least an additional 30 seconds to: learn from Piper that the President's been shot, return to the elevator, close the gate and ride it back to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. But his return trip would exceed the 60-second time limit for when Truly & Baker looked up the shaft- and they didn't report that the elevator was ascending.

<sup>8</sup> WCH VI p. 385; WCH VII pp. 388-389

<sup>9</sup> WC Document 5, p. 333

Dougherty's alleged conversation with Piper can only have occurred *after* Truly & Baker had climbed up to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, and the west elevator had gone downstairs- with Dougherty in it, a full two minutes after the assassination.

Having now unequivocally established that Dougherty was on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor until about two minutes after the shooting, a seemingly harmless phrase in his DPD affidavit takes on sinister overtones: "It sounded like it was coming from inside the building, **but I couldn't tell from where.**" If Dougherty was 10 feet from the elevator, as he claimed, he had to have surveyed the 5<sup>th</sup> floor to see if he could tell from where the shot originated. There were 3 other employees on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor during this same timeframe: James Jarman, Bonnie Ray Williams and Harold Norman all watched the motorcade from the corner windows underneath the sniper's nest, about 80-90 feet from the elevators. After the shots they said they ran across the 5<sup>th</sup> floor to the other side of the building. **Yet Dougherty and these 3 black employees never mentioned seeing each other in their statements or testimony.**

Dougherty has generally been regarded as a factory oaf. His testimony is filled with non sequiturs, and his father attended his two FBI interviews, because Jack "had considerable difficulty in coordinating his mental facilities with his speech." He had worked as a shipping clerk for the Depository for over a dozen years and normally arrived an hour early to perform routine building maintenance checks.

Roy Truly described him as "intelligent and smart and a hard worker... a good, loyal, hard working employee... I think what is wrong with him mostly is his emotional makeup... He gets flustered, has a small word for it sometimes."

"A few times he would get a little bit- maybe do a little something wrong, and I would mention it to him, 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."<sup>10</sup> It is not known whether Truly elucidated on Dougherty's temperament, or if counsel David Belin shifted the line of questioning.

Dougherty's emotional defects camouflaged a quite capable IQ. He testified he "would have loved to have went out and watched" the President's motorcade but the front steps were too crowded; instead he "got some stock" on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floors. He wasn't seen and saw nothing. A young co-worker remarked years later that "**Jack always acted as if he knew something about the assassination that none of the rest of us did.**"<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> WCH III p. 237

<sup>11</sup> Duke Lane, JFK Lancer post #82512, 7/5/09



## LIES & OMISSIONS FROM JARMAN, WILLIAMS & NORMAN

Dallas Morning News photographer Tom Dillard snapped two pictures of the Depository while he was in Camera Car 3 on Houston Street, “50, 60 yards” away. The first was taken with a wide-angle lens, and the second with a conventional long-lens news camera. He testified his cameras were “hung around my neck and held in my hand,” and indicated that he took his 1<sup>st</sup> photo only a few seconds after the 3<sup>rd</sup> shot he’d heard, and that his 2<sup>nd</sup> photo was taken quickly thereafter.

“... and Bob Jackson said, ‘There’s a rifle barrel up there’. I said, ‘Where?’ He said, ‘It’s in that open window’... and I scanned the building... And at the same time I brought my camera up and I was looking for the window. Now this was after the 3<sup>rd</sup> shot... **I shot those pictures in rapid sequence** with the two cameras.”<sup>12</sup>

A crop from the 1<sup>st</sup> photo, Dillard A, shows the well-known figures of Bonnie Ray Williams and Harold Norman in the 5<sup>th</sup>-floor windows. Norman is looking directly at Dillard. In the HSCA’s wider-field crop (top left), James Jarman is seen watching the President’s limousine accelerate for the triple underpass. Dillard A was taken 5-7 seconds after the 3<sup>rd</sup> audible shot.

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<sup>12</sup> WCH VI p. 164

Dillard B (top right) was taken approximately 5 seconds afterwards- once Dillard had set his wide-angle down, and raised the long-lens hung around his neck up to his eye. Conspicuously, 10-12 seconds after the 3<sup>rd</sup> shot, the trio of black men have vacated their 5<sup>th</sup>-floor window posts.

Williams indicated in his testimony that the three of them did step back from the windows almost in unison: “Harold was sitting next to me, and he said it came from right over our head... My exact words were, ‘No bull----’. And we jumped up.”

Army Intelligence agent James Powell photographed the Depository while standing diagonally across the intersection of Elm & Houston. He estimated a month later he’d taken the photo 30 seconds after the assassination;<sup>13</sup> this puts it in the neighborhood of 15 seconds after Dillard B. It is evident (bottom right) that Williams had returned to his window; Jarman & Norman are not seen.

There is no reason to question the accuracy of Dillard and Powell’s memories, since the sequencing of their photos can be established independent of their memories. There are two book cartons stacked in the center-right of the Powell sniper’s nest that aren’t seen in the Dillard photos, even after autoradiographic enhancement (top left). The HSCA was forced to conclude that “the additional boxes seen in the Powell photograph were moved during the interval between the Dillard and Powell photographs.”<sup>14</sup> **The FBI did not give the Powell photo to the Warren Commission**, because this box-stacking would have irreparably delayed Oswald’s mythical flight from the sniper’s nest to the 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor lunchroom.

This photo is irrefutable evidence that Williams remained behind at his window, while Jarman & Norman departed *for an unknown purpose*. But the three of them gave a very different impression of their movements immediately after the shooting. They maintained that they ran *together* across the 5<sup>th</sup> floor to *the corner window*, facing Elm Street, on the west side. This story evolved over time.

Only an hour after the shooting Williams told the DPD that “I heard 2 shots it sounded like they came from above us. We ran to the west side of the building.”<sup>15</sup> The next day he told the FBI that “ he and the other two then ran to the west side of the building where they looked out.”<sup>16</sup>

Jarman’s November 24<sup>th</sup> FBI interview stated that the three of them “went to the west side of the building on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor where they discussed the shots.”<sup>17</sup>

Two days later Norman told the FBI that they “ran to the other end of the room and looked out the windows there. He stated he saw nothing **and then returned to the window from**

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<sup>13</sup> HSCA 180-10027-10333, FBI Memorandum to Director from SAC Dallas, 12/31/63

<sup>14</sup> HSCA VI p. 115; HSCA IV p. 423

<sup>15</sup> WCH XXIV p. 229, Exhibit 2003 No. 65

<sup>16</sup> WC Document 5, p. 330

<sup>17</sup> Ibid, p. 335

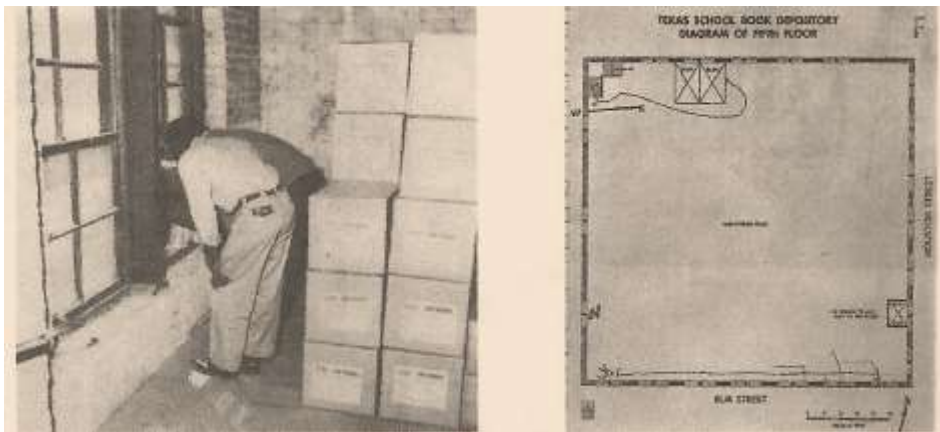
**which he had previously been looking.**<sup>18</sup> This incongruous statement, the first sign that something in their story was seriously amiss, was never explored by the investigators.

The Secret Service then questioned Norman on December 4<sup>th</sup> and he said, “I saw all of the people down on the street run toward the west side of the building, so I went to that side with Williams and Jarman, and looked out the west side window.”<sup>19</sup>

Williams was the only one to mention their post-assassination movements when the FBI gathered Depository employee statements in March, and he left open the possibility that the three of them had run separately: “When I saw all of the confusion on the street below I ran to the west end of the building to get a better view. Hank and Junior who were on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor with me also ran to the west end of the building.”<sup>20</sup>

Thus far, it may seem trivial to criticize their accounts. Perhaps Jarman & Norman simply ran for the west side and Williams followed them only 10-15 seconds later. Perhaps Jarman & Norman had simply stepped back from their windows, and once Williams had another quick look at the street, the three ran together for the west side. But notice that a tacit assumption needs to be made in order to support their story: Williams’ return to his window was disregarded. Without this tacit assumption, there is a wide-open possibility that they were fabricating a cover story.

They posed for a re-enactment photo on March 20<sup>th</sup> before testifying in Washington on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Finally it was specified that they went to the southwest corner window facing Elm Street. Commission counsel Joseph Ball queried each one of them.



Williams testified first and gave the most details, sketching their movements on a diagram of the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. “We moved rather fast. We was at a trotting pace... I left here, and I came like this. The other fellows followed like this. We all was running this direction here. And I believe when we got to this point here, we stopped. And I am not sure, but I think James

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<sup>18</sup> WC Document 5, p. 26

<sup>19</sup> WCH AVII p. 208, Exhibit 493

<sup>20</sup> WCH XXII p. 681, Exhibit 1381 No. 101



Jarman, he raised this window, this corner window here, and we all huddled in this corner window.”<sup>21</sup>

Williams has eliminated the possibility that he followed 10-15 seconds behind the others. The only alternative remaining, according to the Powell photo, is that Jarman & Norman stepped back and waited while Williams made a brief return to his window, before the three of them proceeded to the corner.

Norman repeated the corner-window story without much embellishment: “we ran to the farthest window facing the expressway... it seems as though everyone else was running toward the railroad tracks, and we ran over there. Curious to see why everybody was running that way for.”<sup>22</sup>

Jarman also affirmed that “we ran down to the west side of the building...”

Q: When you ran down there was the window open or closed?

A: It was closed.

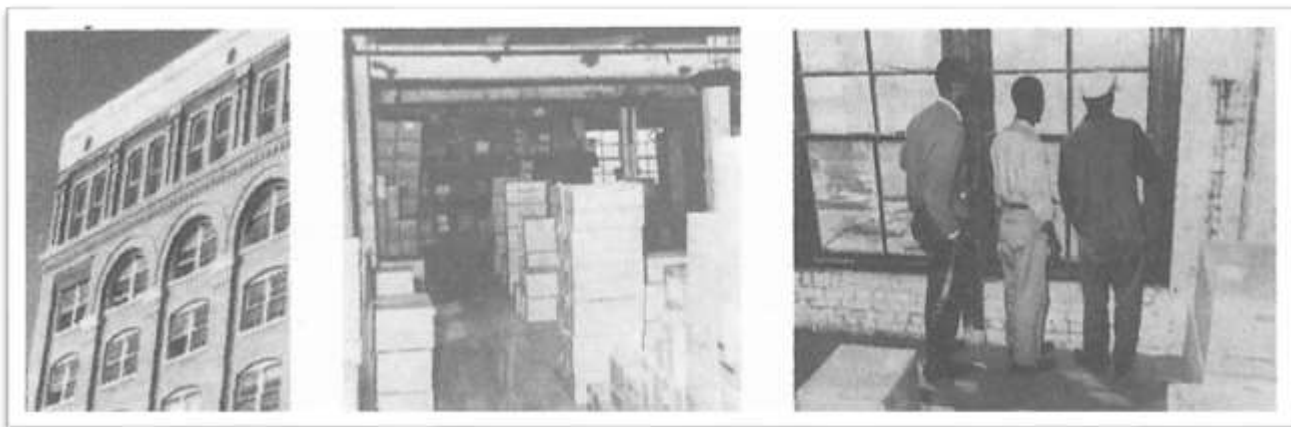
Q: And who opened it?

A: I did.

Q: And what did you do after you opened the window?

A: I leaned out...<sup>23</sup>

Powell’s photo includes the west corner window on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. **It was already open. Nobody was in it.**



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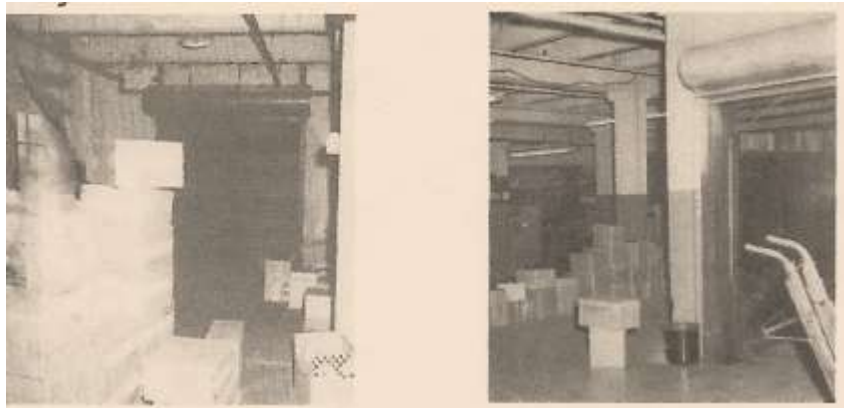
<sup>21</sup> WCH III p. 177

<sup>22</sup> Ibid, p. 192

<sup>23</sup> Ibid, pp. 204-205

Not only did Jarman lie about opening this window- the three of them cannot have gone to this corner in the timeframe implied. *At the very minimum there was a pregnant pause of 20 seconds- the interval between Dillard B (10 seconds after the shots) and Powell (30 seconds)- before they started for the corner.* The Powell photo refutes their contention that they ran to the corner as a near-immediate response to the shots and raised the window. Without granting them this unspoken pause, we have cause to suspect that *they never went to the corner at all-* that this idea was concocted to hide their true behavior.

From this corner they headed to the “book bin” next to the rear stairwell, where they could watch the commotion in the parking lot. Wood crates and book cartons, stacked tight to the ceiling, completely blocked the Down stairwell from view. Roy Truly acknowledged that this bin had been in place “nearly two years.”<sup>24</sup> *On the warehouse side it was only 5 feet high, however.* The west freight elevator was only 20 feet away and the 6-foot Williams admitted he could see it “pretty plainly.” The 5’6” Jarman said he could have if he had looked over there.<sup>25</sup> Yet 2 ¼ minutes after the assassination Truly & Baker hurried past the book bin on their way to the east elevator, and Williams only acknowledged that he’s seen the top of Baker’s helmet. Both men denied seeing their boss, Truly, who was nearly a full head taller and had led the way.



Worse, some 30-45 seconds previously Jack Dougherty had begun his descent in the west elevator- an action which entailed rolling down its wooden gate. Yet these three black men denied hearing or seeing the elevator move. The big and husky white Dougherty somehow slipped into the elevator unnoticed- and unaware that anyone was over in the book bin.

Indeed, once they abandoned the safety of their book-bin “fort”, Jarman contended that “We ran to the elevator first, but the elevator had gone down... we ran to the stairway and ran downstairs, and we paused a few minutes on four.”<sup>26</sup>

This directly contradicted Williams’ November 22<sup>nd</sup> affidavit, which stated “we took the elevator to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor”- a gaffe which forced Jarman to testify they’d checked on using the

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<sup>24</sup> WCH III p. 231

<sup>25</sup> Ibid, pp. 180, 206

<sup>26</sup> Ibid, p. 207

elevator. Williams had lied because he didn't want the DPD to think about the stairs, and in doing so had blurted out that they'd gone to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor.

Not to be outdone, Norman omitted this 4<sup>th</sup> floor stop entirely and claimed that "We ran down to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor."<sup>27</sup>

Their convenient omissions and recurring contradictions are a solid indication that something entirely different transpired on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor after the assassination- and Jarman, Norman & Williams simply couldn't keep their stories straight.

A potential clue emerged in a 1992 interview of ATF agent Frank Ellsworth, who'd been up on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor while the rifle the DPD discovered was photographed and dusted. Ellsworth said that the Mannlicher-Carcano was actually found on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor "by a couple of city detectives"; it was hidden behind some boxes near the "stairwell back in the northwest corner."<sup>28</sup>

## **THE FLOOR-LAYING CREW TAKES TO THE STREET**

On the 6<sup>th</sup> floor that morning a small group of employees were laying down plywood sheets for a new floor. The project was only in its second day; an area on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor had been finished over the previous three weeks. They started in the southwest corner, bordering Elm Street and the grassy knoll, down the other end of the building from the sniper's nest.

Billy Lovelady, 26, had been hired by the Depository two years earlier, while a fugitive on a stolen weapons conviction out of Andrews Air Force Base.<sup>29</sup> Charles Givens, 38, in his sixth year of employment, began shortly after serving 13 months on marijuana charges. Bonnie Ray Williams, 20, had been a mail handler at the Union Terminal Postal Annex at the south end of Dealey Plaza. Danny Arce, 18, a high school dropout, had done little work other than at an oyster house. He and Williams began their employment on September 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at the north warehouse, a quarter-mile up across the railroad yard on Houston- the company building until late 1962- and were assigned to help lay floor about a month before the assassination. Order filler Harold Norman, 26, a two-year employee, spent parts of that morning hanging out with the crew. They were checked on periodically by William Shelley, 37, the distribution manager, who'd been with the book company since 1945.

Ten or more minutes before noon Lovelady, Williams and Arce raced Givens, Norman and Dougherty downstairs in the two elevators. Oswald shouted for them to wait but was left stranded on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor.<sup>30</sup> He called down, "Guys, how about an elevator?" but they didn't cooperate. No one closed the corrugated metal gate on the west elevator- leaving it safety-

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<sup>27</sup> WCH III p. 193

<sup>28</sup> The Man Who Knew Too Much, pp. 568-569

<sup>29</sup> NARA 124-10220-10183

<sup>30</sup> WCH VI p. 337

locked and it couldn't be summoned. And the east elevator operated only from the inside. Oswald had no way to get his lunch other than taking the stairs.

On the basis of their testimony Norman, Arce and Dougherty ate their lunch in the domino room. Shelley ate in his office. Jarman, who had a 1<sup>st</sup>-floor work table, grabbed a soda from the 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor lunchroom and paced around downstairs eating a sandwich. He then got together with Norman and Arce and went outside. Lovelady also went up for a soda but when he got back to the domino room “**nobody was there.**”<sup>31</sup> He saw Shelley out front and went out and ate on the steps beside him.

Givens would tell the FBI the next day he'd seen Oswald in the domino room “about 11:50”, but he denied this in his testimony. Oswald's presence on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor shortly before noontime was corroborated by Shelley and Piper.<sup>32</sup> Givens testified he realized he'd left his cigarettes upstairs in his jacket and took the east elevator to retrieve them. Heading back from the floor-laying area he noticed Oswald “coming from that way... the window up front from where the shots were fired from.”<sup>33</sup> He hadn't mentioned this cigarette trip to either the DPD or FBI on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, or the Secret Service on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.<sup>34</sup> Oswald supposedly rebuffed his offer of a ride down and Givens further claimed he met up with Jarman and Norman at a 1<sup>st</sup>-floor window before proceeding outside- no one else related this incident.

Givens was the only witness to place Oswald on the vacated floor near the scene of the crime. But despite the indications that his cigarette trip was fabricated, it's important to recognize that **Oswald disappeared during this early part of the lunch break.** He didn't eat with the rest of the crew and wasn't seen further by anyone on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, nor on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor by any office workers. He had told Piper, “I'm going up to eat.” It is virtually certain Oswald spent the early part of the lunch break on the upper floors- from approximately 11:55 to at least 12:10, if not significantly later.

Another missing employee was Dougherty, who was unaccounted for once Lovelady returned to the empty domino room- from about 12:05 onward.

The last stray cat, Williams, missed the exodus out of the domino room and said he instead took the east elevator up to the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. This elevator was locked into place until somebody got back in it. The reason he went up there, Williams said, was that “everybody was talking like they were going to watch from the 6<sup>th</sup> floor.”<sup>35</sup> He specified Lovelady and Arce, with whom he'd agreed to go up to the 6<sup>th</sup>. Yet neither crew member was asked about, nor gave any indication that they'd even considered this idea.

If Williams went straight upstairs after the exodus he arrived at approximately 12:05. He omitted his 6<sup>th</sup> floor visit in his DPD affidavit that Friday, however, and alleged that he didn't see Oswald after 8:00 AM. For the FBI on Saturday he admitted being up there for “three

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<sup>31</sup> WCH VI p. 338

<sup>32</sup> WCH XIX p. 499; WCH XXII p. 673; WC Document 5, p. 371; WC Document 87, Control Number 491, p. 6

<sup>33</sup> WCH VI p. 349

<sup>34</sup> “The Curious Testimony of Mr. Givens” by Sylvia Meagher, The Texas Observer, 8/13/71

<sup>35</sup> WCH III p. 169

minutes” and he said he saw Oswald “about 11:30”, a timeframe which expanded in his testimony to “maybe 10 until 12:00.”

He said he stayed on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor for “5, 10, maybe 12 minutes,” eating a chicken lunch that took him “maybe 5 to 10 minutes, maybe 15 minutes.” He was up there until “approximately 12:20, maybe.”<sup>36</sup>



Shelley and Lovelady remained at the top of the steps in front of the entrance and would be photographed standing there by James Altgens and Dave Wiegman after JFK had been shot. Jarman, Norman, Arce and Givens initially stood a few yards west of the steps.

Givens ate his sandwich outside and soon said, “I believe I will walk up to the parking lot.” Customarily he spent his lunch break with Edward Shields, who worked up at the north warehouse; they’d visit with James Tracey, the manager of the Classified Parking Lot, up across Elm Street from the Dal-Tex building. Shields testified that Givens “come on up there” to the lot, and that they then walked the 125 yards around the block to Mullendorf’s Café, on the corner of Main & Record Streets, to watch the motorcade. On their way back to the lot they heard the shots.<sup>37</sup>

Truly, in the crowd at the east corner of the Depository, had a definite recollection of seeing Givens leaving the entranceway area and crossing Houston Street- *with Jarman and Norman*. He remembered seeing them all “sometime earlier- a good deal”, standing together at the west end of the steps. “I’m pretty sure there was the three of them” crossing together for the Dal-Tex. He last saw them in the middle of Houston Street.<sup>38</sup>

Givens’ known movements and Truly’s memory correlated with Jarman’s testimony in this respect. He estimated he and Norman headed around for the back of the Depository “about 12:20, between 12:20 and 12:25.”<sup>39</sup> Neither of them brought up that they’d accompanied Givens, however, nor that they’d crossed the street.

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<sup>36</sup> WCH III pp. 170, 173

<sup>37</sup> WCH VII p. 394

<sup>38</sup> Ibid, pp. 385-386

<sup>39</sup> WCH III p. 202

This minor oversight becomes suspicious when Arce is identified in an enlargement of Altgens' famous first-shot panorama. Arce stands in front of the Dal-Tex, apparently speaking into a walkie-talkie.<sup>40</sup> 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 dark trenchcoat.

Arce told the DPD an hour and a half later that this was indeed where he was: "I was standing on the corner of Elm and Houston." By March he had shifted over to "the grassy area directly in front of the Depository," between the Elm St. Extension and Elm Street. Joseph Ball asked him a dozen questions that helped him to specify this phony location. But Arce had a convenient blind spot as an eyewitness: "I walked up to the grass to get a better view and still couldn't see."<sup>41</sup>

Jarman and Norman continued walking down Houston and entered the rear of the Depository. Looking up the elevator shaft, they noticed the east elevator was on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. According to Jarman, "that was about 12:25 or 12:28."<sup>42</sup> They proceeded around to the west side and took that elevator up to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor.

On Saturday morning Oswald stated "he had eaten lunch in the lunch room... alone, but recalled possibly two Negro employees walking through the room during this period... one of these employees was called 'Junior' and the other was a short individual..." Oswald was referring to noticing Jarman & Norman re-entering the building, at the tail end of the lunch break. He was not in the domino room at the beginning of the break, and Jarman & Norman would not hook up until they decided they would head outside. Oswald was not clairvoyant. **He had to have been somewhere on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor when Jarman & Norman walked by the elevators.**

The FBI's James Bookhout recorded Oswald's statement, submitted in a report dictated the following day, November 24<sup>th</sup>. It was recorded differently by two other interrogators, however. DPD Captain Will Fritz, in his undated summary of the interrogations, wrote that Oswald "said he ate lunch with some of the colored boys who worked with him. One of them was called 'Junior' and the other was a little short man..." Secret Service Inspector Thomas Kelley, in his *undated* summary of the Saturday morning interview, submitted December 1<sup>st</sup>,<sup>43</sup> wrote that Oswald "said he ate his lunch with the colored boys who worked with him. He described one of them as 'Junior', a colored boy, and the other was a little short negro boy."<sup>44</sup>

Fritz's original interrogation notes, finally donated to the National Archives in 1997, say nothing about whether or not Oswald claimed to have eaten with them. On Saturday morning: "*say two negr came in, one Jr. & short negro-*"

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<sup>40</sup> "Familiar Faces in Dealey Plaza, Part 2" by James Richards

<sup>41</sup> WCH VI p. 365; WCH XXII p. 634

<sup>42</sup> WCH III p. 210

<sup>43</sup> WC Document 87, p. 373

<sup>44</sup> Warren Report, Appendix XI

Oswald hadn't mentioned Jarman & Norman on Friday, however, and in fact, told his interrogators a demonstrable lie: "*Claims 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Coke when off came in, to 1<sup>st</sup> floor had lunch.*"<sup>45</sup> But Bookhout faithfully transcribed this lie in his report on the Friday afternoon interrogation: "Oswald stated he took this Coke down to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and stood around and had lunch in the employees lunch room." Oswald would subsequently maintain that he ate his lunch *first* and then went up to the 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor lunchroom to get a Coke.

The fact that Oswald changed his lunchtime alibi does not place him in the 6<sup>th</sup>-floor sniper's nest when JFK was shot. The question being addressed here is whether or not Oswald saw Jarman & Norman on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor at the tail end of the lunch break. To answer "No" is to accept the two belated and undated interrogation summaries- which insert that Jarman & Norman "*came in & ate lunch*"- over the two Bookhout FBI reports- which correspond with Fritz's original notes.

Forrest Sorrels, the Secret Service Dallas SAIC, also attended these interrogations, and took notes. Only half a stenographic page of these is reprinted in the Warren volumes, covering the end of the Saturday morning session. A full notepage is missing, front and back. Sorrels' original notebook disappeared.<sup>46</sup>

It is extremely unlikely that Sorrels would have missed jotting down what Oswald said he did during lunch. And it would seem that the reason his notes weren't printed is that they were at odds with the Fritz/Kelley story line.

## THE MEN ON THE 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR

Arnold Rowland, 18, and his young wife Barbara arrived in Dealey Plaza shortly before noon, and after a few minutes decided on watching the motorcade from the Houston Street sidewalk in front of the County Sheriff's Office. Whenever they came into town Rowland set his watch by the Hertz sign on top of the Depository. As they waited they scanned the plaza for police and discussed the security precautions in place for JFK's visit. A police radio on a nearby motorcycle was broadcasting the progress of the President's motorcade.

Arnold had better than 20-20 vision. Barbara was near-sighted but didn't have on her corrective lenses; they each wore sunglasses. At 12:14 by his watch he noticed the Hertz clock was a minute ahead. At 12:16 he overheard the DPD dispatcher state that the motorcade was "now turning onto Cedar Springs Road off Turtle Creek,"<sup>47</sup> less than two miles from Dealey Plaza. During the previous minute he noticed **three men on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository.**

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<sup>45</sup> Rewriting History, question 3 in "JFK Files, August 2007" by Dale E. Myers and Todd W. Vaughan

<sup>46</sup> WCH XXI p. 543; "Lost and Found Oswald Interrogation Notes" by Larry Haapanen, Kennedy Assassination Chronicles, Vol. 7, Issue 3, 2001

<sup>47</sup> WCH II p. 173; WCH XXIII p. 911

The first man was “standing and holding a rifle” in the inside window of the double-window set at the west corner; “this was the only pair of windows where both windows were completely open.” He was “3 to 5 feet back from the window.” At “port arms”, about a 45-degree angle across his body, he was holding what appeared to be “a fairly high-powered rifle because of the scope and the relative proportion of the scope to the rifle... The entire rifle was in my view... He appeared to me as though he were looking out the window and watching the crowd in particular.”

Rowland described him to the Warren Commission as “light complexioned, but dark hair... either well-combed or close cut... He had on a light shirt, a very light-colored shirt... open at the collar... then he had a regular T-shirt, a polo shirt under this... He had on dark slacks or blue jeans... He was rather slender in proportion to his size... about 140 to 150 pounds... he appeared to be in his early thirties.”

He noticed him for only “15 seconds, maybe 20.” He asked Barbara if she wanted to see a security man and “even pointed to” the window, but the man stepped back into the shadows by the time she looked up there. Rowland described the man and his rifle for her and surmised it was a Secret Service agent. He looked back “constantly... maybe twice a minute, occasionally trying to find him so I could point him out to my wife.” But he never saw him again.<sup>48</sup>

Rowland did not witness the bullets impact the President and was unaware, “until Saturday when I read the paper,”<sup>49</sup> that the sniper’s nest at the opposite end of the 6<sup>th</sup> floor had been blamed as the source of the shots. He and his wife followed the crowd surging for the railroad yards, and roughly 10 minutes after the assassination Arnold approached Deputy Sheriff Roger Craig, who was hunting for evidence in the grass in front of the pergola. It was here that Rowland told Craig about the second man he’d seen at 12:15, in the 6<sup>th</sup>-floor west corner windows.

Craig testified that “the boy said he saw two men on the- uh- 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Book Depository Building over there, one of them had a rifle with a telescopic sight on it... I asked him whether they were white or colored and he said white... He said they- uh- walked back and forth in front of the windows there- uh- several minutes... the second window from the corner.”<sup>50</sup>

Rowland recounted this meeting as follows for Commission counsel Arlen Specter: “I went to an officer, he was a plainclothesman who was there combing the area... He introduced himself and showed me his ID...”

“And did you give him a statement or what procedure did you follow?”

“It happened such as this: He was looking in this area for footprints or any visible marks. I started looking around also. I found a fountain pen that someone had probably dropped

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<sup>48</sup> WCH II pp. 169-174

<sup>49</sup> Ibid, p. 188

<sup>50</sup> WCH VI pp. 263-264, 273



during the confusion... I handed this pen to the officer and I started thinking and I went to him and **told him again** just before the motorcade came I saw a man in the building with a rifle..."<sup>51</sup>

Rowland had spotted Craig and approached him. He told him about what he'd seen going on *only* in the west corner double-window, where he'd noticed the man with a rifle. Rowland helped Craig to comb the grounds. He found a fountain pen. He handed it to Craig, and **told him again** about the man with the rifle.

**The Warren Commission deleted Rowland's account of telling Craig about the other white man in the west corner window. And in doing so the Commission blundered by not deleting the word "again".**



Rowland also explained he'd seen a third man on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor at 12:15, in the sniper's nest window, which he specifically recalled was only open about "Two feet... there was someone hanging out that window at that time... It was a colored man, I think... This was before I noticed the other man with a rifle... It seemed to me an elderly Negro, that is about all. I didn't pay very much attention to him."

"...the colored man was in that window until the procession reached Commerce- I mean, Main and Ervay... Approximately 5 minutes prior to the time the motorcade came... I was looking back quite often, as I stated... two, maybe three times a minute, an average."

He was "5'8", 5'10", in that neighborhood. He was very slender, very thin... bald or practically bald... not real dark compared to some Negroes, but fairly dark. Seemed like his face was... either very wrinkled or marked in some way... He had on a plaid shirt. I think it was red and green, very bright color, that is why I remember it."<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> WCH II p. 181

<sup>52</sup> Ibid, pp. 174-178, 188

Rowland was presented with a photograph and he circled the windows where he remembered seeing people. It is substantially accurate, excepting he shifted the 4<sup>th</sup>-floor office girls and everyone below them down one floor. The Commission took a short recess after this performance.

Following the assassination he said he was interviewed by “seven different pairs of FBI agents.” Shown his Sheriff’s affidavit from November 22<sup>nd</sup>, he said that SA Wallace Heitman had “reworded” it; “it wasn’t my words verbatim, it was reworded.” The next day SAs Calvin Rice and John Almon came to his home and “At that time I told them I did see the Negro man there and they told me it didn’t have any bearing or such on the case right then. In fact, they just the same as told me to forget it now.” On Sunday agents Paul Wulff and James Swinford “were there when I got to work, they were waiting on me... the agents were trying to find out if I could positively identify the man [with the rifle] that I saw... I brought up to them about the Negro man... as an afterthought... They just didn’t seem interested at all. They didn’t pursue the point. They didn’t take it down in the notation as such.” Rowland signed further statements on November 26<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> which are all missing from the official record.<sup>53</sup>



Carolyn Walther was on the same sidewalk as the Rowlands, and at 12:23 she was around 50 feet closer to Elm Street. She saw at this time the ambulance picking up Jerry Belknap, who’d had a seizure just across the street; this time is derived from the DPD radio logs and James Altgens, who remembered “the red lights of the President’s caravan making their turn onto Main Street” as the ambulance was leaving.<sup>54</sup> Walther worked in the cutting room of the dress factory on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Dal-Tex. She took her story to the Dallas FBI on December 4<sup>th</sup>. It was buried near the end of the Warren volumes.

She witnessed **two men in the southeast corner window** of the Depository, “on either the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> floor.” She was “positive” it wasn’t the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. And because, at 12:23, 4<sup>th</sup>-floor

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<sup>53</sup> WCH II pp. 182-187

<sup>54</sup> WCH XXIII p. 912; No More Silence by Larry Sneed, p. 43

office girls Victoria Adams, Sandra Styles, Dorothy Garner and Elsie Dorman were in the third window-set left of the east corner,<sup>55</sup> which were all Scott-Foresman publishing offices, it is virtually certain the two men Carolyn Walther witnessed were **on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor**.

*“Shortly after the ambulance left, she... saw a man standing... in the southeast corner window... **The man had the window open** and 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. The man was wearing a light shirt and had blond or light brown hair... The rifle had a short barrel and seemed large around the stock or end of the rifle. Her impression was that the gun was a machine gun. She noticed **nothing like a telescopic sight...**”*

*“In the same window, to the left of this man, she could see a portion of another man standing... As the window was very dirty, she could not see the head of this second man... This second man was apparently wearing a brown suit coat..”<sup>56</sup>*

In contrast to Rowland’s pronounced scope, Carolyn Walther witnessed a different rifle, although there is not necessarily a different man with a rifle, since both sightings indicate someone wearing a light-colored shirt. Her report is damning to James Jarman and Harold Norman, who alleged that they opened the corner windows on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor once they got up there.<sup>57</sup> Norman would occupy the cornermost window, directly underneath the sniper’s nest, as JFK passed by. It was his idea to go up to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor.<sup>58</sup> “I figured I could get, you know, a better view of the parade or motorcade.”

Ruby Henderson, another worker at the Dal-Tex, “hesitated to mention anything about her observations” but took her story to the Dallas FBI a day later. She was also standing across Houston Street, beside the corner of her workplace. Just after the ambulance departed, she noticed “**two men on one of the upper floors**” of the Book Depository, standing back from the window. “You could see their head and shoulders, but not like they were leaning out.”<sup>59</sup>

*“...one of the men had on a white shirt and one had on a dark shirt... she believes the person in the white shirt had dark hair... he appeared to be dark-complexioned... she couldn’t describe the other person other than the fact he was taller...”<sup>60</sup>* Henderson didn’t recall seeing anyone on a floor higher, and based upon the layout of open windows captured in the Dillard B and Powell photographs, can only have been referring to the 5<sup>th</sup>-floor corner windows.

The common denominator in these three witness sightings is of a white man in a light-colored shirt, as well as a second man, standing by windows on two upper floors of the Depository. They were spotted at the west corner of the 6<sup>th</sup> floor at 12:15 and went down to the east corner of the 5<sup>th</sup> floor by 12:23. There are two different rifles described, and the

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<sup>55</sup> WCH VI p. 388; WCH XXII p. 632

<sup>56</sup> WCH XXIV p. 522

<sup>57</sup> WCH III pp. 190, 203

<sup>58</sup> Anthony Frank, JFK Lancer post #35855, 8/18/05

<sup>59</sup> “Witnesses Overlooked in JFK Probe,” by Earl Golz, Dallas Morning News, 12/19/78

<sup>60</sup> WCH XXIV p. 524

second man was wearing a dark-colored suitcoat or shirt, quite probably some shade of brown.

The first man, in the light-colored shirt, rather brazenly displayed a weapon for the crowd below the 5<sup>th</sup>-floor window. Although Rowland's description of him matches Oswald, by the time of Walther's 5<sup>th</sup>-floor sighting Oswald was about to observe Jarman & Norman coming into the warehouse. And when he was confronted by Officer Baker in the 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor lunchroom 70-plus seconds after the shooting, Oswald had what seemed to be "a light brown jacket on... it was hanging out... [over a] white-looking shirt."<sup>61</sup>

Jack Dougherty and Bonnie Ray Williams were on the upper floors while the two men and their rifles moved between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floors, and it is next to impossible that they failed to see them. The unavoidable conclusion is that Dougherty and Williams knew what was about to take place.

### **CHICKEN BONES & A HAMMER IN THE SNIPER'S NEST**

Jarman & Norman, only a few minutes before President Kennedy arrived, went from street level to the corner of the floor immediately beneath the sniper's nest. But their Commission testimony failed to illuminate on this propitious choice of viewing spots.

BALL: Why did you go to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor?

JARMAN: We just decided to go to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor.

BALL: Was there any reason why you should go to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor any more than the 4<sup>th</sup> or the 6<sup>th</sup>?

JARMAN: No.

BALL: Why did you go to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor?

NORMAN: Usually, one reason was you usually fill orders, I fill quite a few orders from the 5<sup>th</sup> floor and I figured I could get, you know, a better view of the parade or motorcade or whatever it is from the 5<sup>th</sup> floor because I was more familiar with that floor.

Jarman did not mention anything about being up on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor in his DPD affidavit of November 23<sup>rd</sup>, only admitting it to the FBI after Oswald was dead. Norman was not asked to

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<sup>61</sup> WCH III p. 257

give a DPD affidavit, and didn't speak with any authorities until the day after JFK's burial. Williams had told the DPD on the 22<sup>nd</sup> that he'd watched the motorcade from the 5<sup>th</sup> floor with "Hank and Junior", but he didn't say anything about being up on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor eating his lunch until he spoke with the FBI the next day.

And, "...seeing no one there, descended to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, using the stairs at the west end of the building."<sup>62</sup> But in his March 24<sup>th</sup> testimony he maintained that "I took the east elevator down."

BALL: Where did you intend to go when you left the 6<sup>th</sup> floor?

WILLIAMS: I intended to stop on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, and if there wasn't anyone there, I intended to get out of the building, go outside.

BALL: Well, you stopped on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. Why?

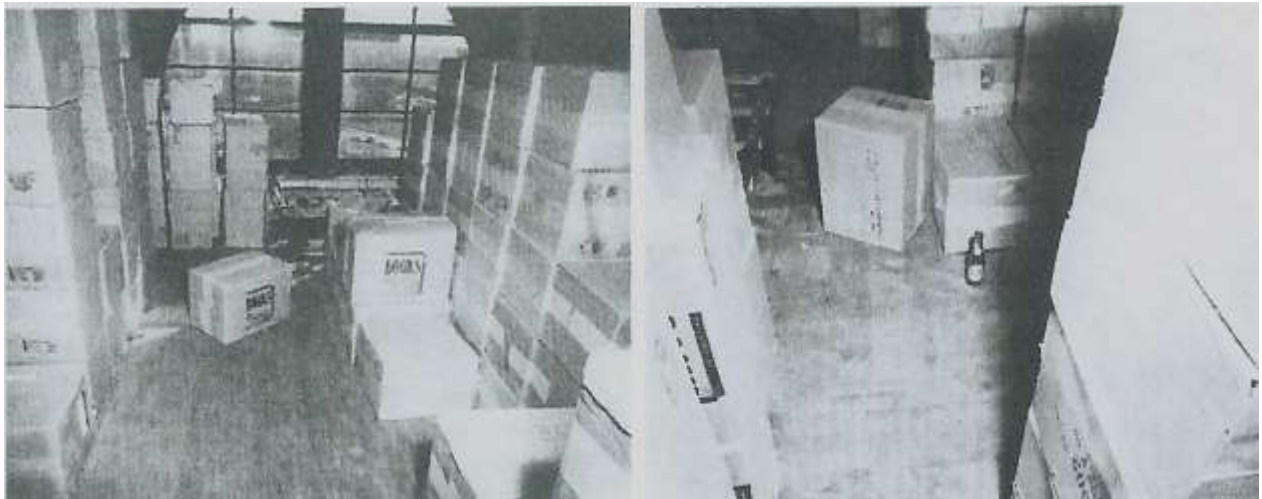
WILLIAMS: Beg pardon?

BALL: Why did you stop on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor?

WILLIAMS: To see if anyone was there.

BALL: Did you know there was anyone there before you started down?

WILLIAMS: Well, I thought I heard somebody walking, **the windows moving or something**. I said maybe someone is down there, I said to myself. And I just went on down.



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<sup>62</sup> WCD 5, p. 330

Williams spent part of his lunch break seated on a hand cart at the 3<sup>rd</sup> aisle from the east wall, with only one window between him and the sniper's nest. He brought a bottle of Dr. Pepper and a small paper sack containing pieces of fried chicken, bread and a package of Fritos. In DPD Crime Lab photo #6 the pop bottle stands in the sunlight in the foreground of the hand cart, whose background sunlight shows the paper sack at its immediate left. Photo #7 was taken in a footway between the cartons that leads to the sniper's nest.<sup>63</sup>



The sniper's nest was constructed of two parallel barricades of book cartons, with a stack on the west end giving it an overall L-shape. Three solitary boxes next to the window formed a gun rest. Deputy Sheriff Luke Mooney was the first to arrive there and observed “one partially eaten piece of fried chicken laying over to the right... on the top of these other boxes... And there was a little small paper poke... laying about a foot away from it.”<sup>64</sup> Mooney couldn't remember just which carton the chicken was on but marked his two choices.

As motorcycle officers Clyde Haygood and E.D. Brewer arrived at the scene they, too, noted “a lunch bag there... at the same location where the shells were...”; “Paper lunch sack and some chicken bones or partially eaten piece of chicken... they were there under, by the window.”<sup>65</sup>

Roger Craig recalled “a sack and a bunch of things... laying on top of a box... a small paper bag... it was rolled up kind of... kind of crushed up.”<sup>66</sup>

Fellow deputy sheriffs A.D. McCurley and Harry Weatherford reported, respectively, “I went over and saw the three expended shells laying by the window that faced onto Elm St., along with a half-eaten piece of chicken that was laying on a cardboard carton”; “I went over to where [Mooney] was and saw three expended shells... and a partially eaten piece of chicken on top of one of the cartons...”<sup>67</sup>

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<sup>63</sup> First Day Evidence by Gary Savage, pp. 169-170

<sup>64</sup> WCH III pp. 286, 288

<sup>65</sup> WCH VI pp. 300, 307

<sup>66</sup> Ibid, pp. 267-268

<sup>67</sup> Supplementary report of McCurley, 11/22/63; Supplementary report of Weatherford, 11/23/63

Sgt. Gerald Hill had been down on the street with the homicide squad and hurried upstairs once he heard Mooney shout. "On top of the larger stack of boxes that would have been used for concealment, there was a chicken leg bone and a paper sack..."<sup>68</sup>

Homicide detective Leslie Montgomery said "there was one piece of chicken on a box and there was a piece on the floor- just kind of scatted around right there... the paper sack- I don't recall for sure if it was on the floor or on the box, but I know it was just there... I know there was one piece laying up on top of the box... I believe it was partially eaten."<sup>69</sup>

**Two pieces from Bonnie Ray Williams' chicken lunch and his paper sack were discovered at the sniper's nest.** William Shelley, who had visited the 6<sup>th</sup> floor later that afternoon, attempted to confuse this matter in his testimony:

BALL: Now you say you thought you had seen someone had eaten fried chicken that morning?

SHELLEY: I thought I had; those colored boys are always eating chicken.

BALL: Do you think you did or do you know?

SHELLEY: I asked Charles Givens whether it was him that was eating and he said it was a sandwich.

But Givens was asked about this directly:

BELIN: That day had you eaten any chicken at all, or anything on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor?

GIVENS: No, sir.

BELIN: Had you eaten any chicken or left a pop bottle on any previous days on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor?

GIVENS: No, sir.

It is an established fact that, besides Givens, and Williams, the only other black worker on the upper floors that morning was Norman, who wasn't on the floor-laying crew but maintained he was up there "shooting the breeze" from time to time. Norman wasn't asked whether he ate that morning.

Following the dictates of common sense- that Williams ate a chicken lunch on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor- as well as the demonstrable fact that he committed perjury in regards to nearly every

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<sup>68</sup> WCH VII p. 46

<sup>69</sup> Ibid, pp. 97-98

critical action he participated in before and after the assassination- it can be stated without equivocation that he brought his chicken and paper sack over to the sniper's nest, and lied about it:

BALL: Where did you put the bones?

WILLIAMS: I don't remember exactly, but I think I put some of them back in the sack. Just as I was ready to go I threw the sack down.

BALL: What did you do with the sack?

WILLIAMS: I think I just dropped it there.

BALL: Anywhere near the two-wheeler?

WILLIAMS: I think it was.

**The two chicken pieces and the fried lunch were tidied up from the sniper's nest, and placed by the hand cart, before the DPD crime scene photos were taken. Further, it is a virtual certainty that Williams was the "elderly Negro" noticed by Arnold Rowland hanging out of the sniper's nest window from 12:15 to approximately 12:25.**

Although he "didn't pay very much attention to him", Rowland was so sure he'd seen a black person there he apprised the FBI on at least two occasions that weekend. He had an IQ of 147 and was blessed with a photogenic mind- an incredibly vivid power for recollection, which can be extended as it turns this way and that, but oftentimes mixes secondary details with the items from a separate memory.

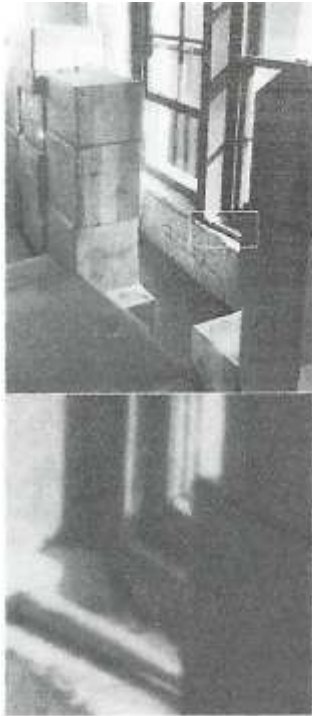
That is how he accessed Williams' gaunt physique ("very slender, very thin"), short-clipped hair ("practically bald") and complexion ("not real dark") from his memory banks, embellishing him with a "very wrinkled or marked" face. In the direct sun it mattered little that Williams' true age was only 20. Rowland's physical description of him was given at the very end of his two-hour testimony; and so he mistakenly knit a "plaid shirt... red and green, very bright" onto Williams' actual dull olive shirt.

Dallas Morning News photographer Jack Beers was let into the Depository sometime around 4:00 and took pictures of the sniper's nest from contrary angles.<sup>70</sup> They do not show the shells on the floor, which had been appropriated by this time, yet they show a hammer laying on the westernmost window ledge. This hammer is missing from the official crime scene photographs, and there is nothing in the official record that hints of its existence or of any recovered fingerprints.

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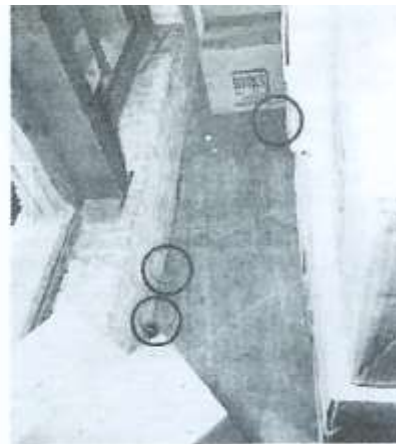
<sup>70</sup> WCH XIII p. 105





The book cartons had been brought to that area the day before, to make room for the floor-laying project, and as Givens divulged, “we had taken all that stock from that [west] side of the building and ran it down to that [east] side... right in front of the window.”<sup>71</sup>

The two DPD Crime Lab photos of the sniper’s nest with shells on the floor, #19 and #20,<sup>72</sup> have a daylight scene outside their westernmost window, yet a nighttime scene outside its companion- a strong implication that the photos were actually taken later that night, and the daylight scene was grafted onto them to give the semblance of real-time discovery.<sup>73</sup>



<sup>71</sup> WCH VI p. 350

<sup>72</sup> First Day Evidence, pp. 152-153

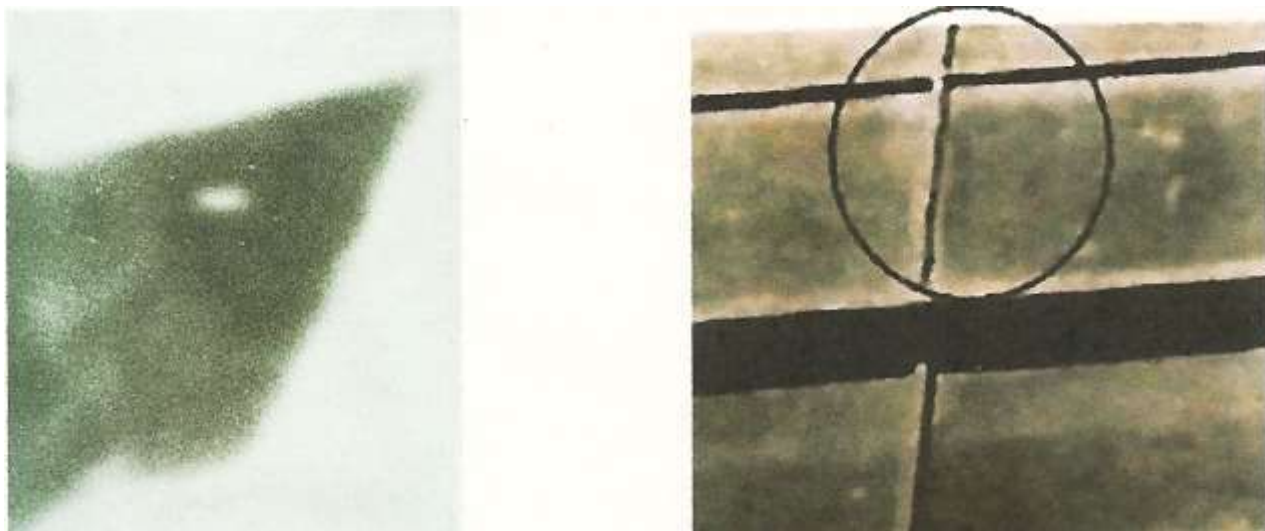
<sup>73</sup> “The Sniper’s Nest Photos: Real or Staged???” , anonymous

## PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE DEPOSITORY SHOOTERS

Once Jarman & Norman arrived in the west elevator on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, the two assassins went up to the 6<sup>th</sup> floor by the stairs. Williams, whose habit when initially speaking to the authorities was to give them the wrong version out of two possible alternatives, then brought the east elevator down to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. Dougherty took up a post beside the nearby stairwell to intercept potential witnesses.

The assassins went to the opposite ends of the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. No one on the street who saw the sniper's nest rifle (Amos Euins, Howard Brennan, James Worrell, Bob Jackson, Malcolm Couch) observed a telescopic sight.<sup>74</sup> Euins had spent a year in the National Defense Cadet Corps and range-fired 22s; he told the Sheriff's that afternoon that "it sounded like an automatic rifle the way he was shooting." This is the rifle Carolyn Walther had seen. The rifle with the pronounced scope seen by Arnold Rowland was used at the west-side window.

Each assassin stood in their window-set for a minimum of 5 seconds after the shots. They were captured for posterity by Tom Dillard's wide-angle lens. In the crop known as Dillard A, diagonally up from the half-open sniper's nest window, a white man wearing glasses glares out through the dust-shrouded panes. The shadow from the vertical mullion strip bisects his face, a few inches back from the glass. He has dark clothing on and his dark hair may have begun balding along the top of his forehead. He appears to be in his mid-30's, about 5'8", and at least 150 lbs.<sup>75</sup> When the HSCA sent the full Dillard negative to the Stanford Research International Institute for autoradiographic enhancement in 1978, the treated negative was returned with the emulsion comprising "The Facial Image" completely melted away.



<sup>74</sup> WCH II pp. 161-162, 193, 204, 207; WCH III p. 144; WCH VI p. 157

<sup>75</sup> Charles Wallace, JFK Lancer post #50375, 8/19/06

But down at the west window-set, where Rowland had spotted a gunman earlier, the irradiated silver grains succeeded in enhancing his ghostly image. This assassin is about a foot back from the window, surveying the crowd below. He is a white man, wearing a crew-neck t-shirt, and his short dark hair is thinning along each side of his forehead into a widow's peak.

The radioactive treatment exposed the ambient light rays from the ceiling lamp behind him, mixed with some Sun, and added a sprinkling effect above his head, to the left and right of his cheeks above his t-shirt, and along the margins of the window frame. It captured the light rays reflecting off of these surfaces, notably over his t-shirt, where a cloak of light hands in the air behind him. This sprinkling is not seen in any other upper-floor windows, because there's no strong ceiling lamp in them, and undoubtedly fresh bulbs had been put in for the floor-laying project.<sup>76</sup>

### OTIS WILLIAMS ON THE REAR STAIRWELL

Not until 1997 was it known that Depository credit manager Otis Williams had rushed up to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor just after the assassination. He had watched the motorcade on the front steps, "remained momentarily",<sup>77</sup> then hustled up the lobby stairs and across the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for the rear stairwell. This reaction was not reported in his November 23<sup>rd</sup> FBI interview.<sup>78</sup>

*"Fact is, as soon as the third shot happened, and everybody commenced milling around, I thought it came from the underpass. I entered the building immediately, climbed up the stairs where the warehouse elevator was which led to the 6<sup>th</sup> floor and went up to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, which was the first one I could see from to see the underpass.*

*After I got up there and saw that nothing was going on on the underpass, I turned around and came back down to the office and called my wife. Soon, while we were talking, people came in, officers rushed in, and I had to get off the phone.*

*I could have gone down the steps while Oswald came down, but he came down on the elevator. Anyway, I walked down the steps and didn't see him or anything."<sup>79</sup>*

If we place Williams at the top of the lobby stairs at 10 seconds after the shots, he had to travel 45-50 yards to reach the rear corner stairwell, whether he took the 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor hallway or his large central office. He was 64 and lived to 100, and a reasonable estimate puts him at the stairwell at 20 seconds. Two flights of stairs consume an additional 15 seconds, bringing

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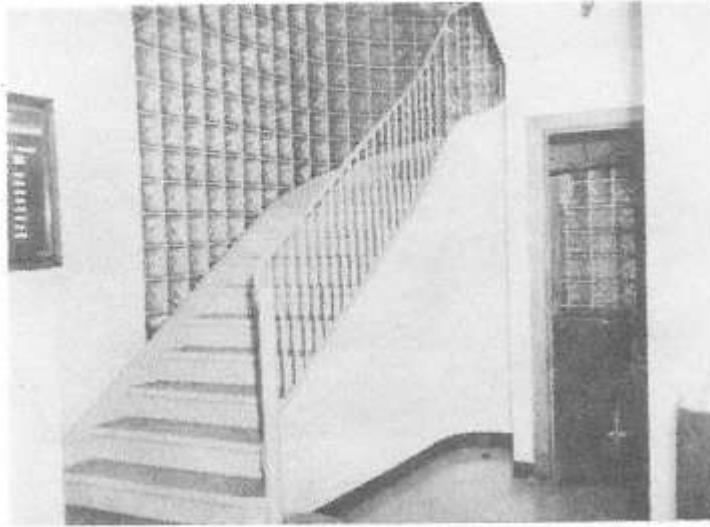
<sup>76</sup> "The Ghostly Image in the SW Window", JFK Lancer post #83723, 9/08/09

<sup>77</sup> WCH XXII p. 683

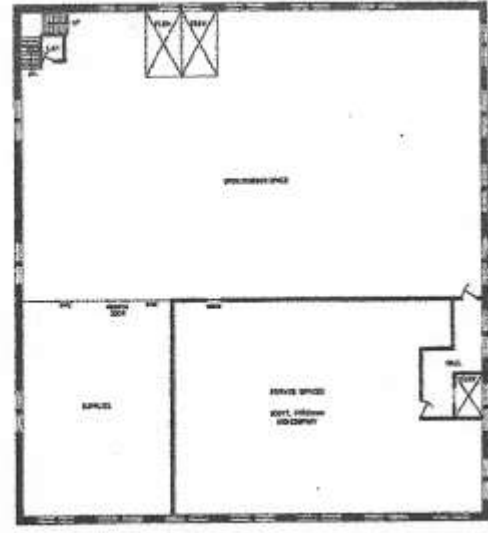
<sup>78</sup> WCD 5, p. 64

<sup>79</sup> No More Silence by Larry Sneed, pp. 117-118

him to the 4<sup>th</sup>-floor window 35-40 seconds after the shots. He was only 7 or 8 feet from the Down steps.



TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY  
DIAGRAM OF FOURTH FLOOR



When did he leave? Spectators didn't surge up the knoll walkway until 50-60 seconds, and Williams' attention wasn't focused on them; he seems to have just missed them. He was using the stairs down, at the earliest, from between 50-55 to 60-65 seconds after the shots. Oswald's mythical journey from the sniper's nest to the 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor lunchroom supposedly took 74 seconds, 1 second ahead of Baker & Truly. He would have been only 10-15 seconds behind Otis Williams, if not closer.

Williams believed in the official story, that Oswald shot President Kennedy from the sniper's nest. Surely he would have been familiar with the Warren Commission's re-enactment times for Oswald and Baker & Truly, since he had to have been on the rear stairway himself at the time in question. Why on earth would Williams even think that Oswald must have taken the elevator down instead, unless he knew he'd been on those stairs while Oswald was supposedly on them?

Two rifles, one with a scope, were used on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. A rifle with a scope was found hidden among book cartons near the 6<sup>th</sup>-floor stairwell. Jarman & Norman disappeared from their 5<sup>th</sup>-floor windows by 10 seconds after the shooting. They did not rush over to the west window, as they claimed. Truly noted that both freight elevators were at the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, by 50-60 seconds after the shooting. The two assassins, having hidden one rifle, used the stairs to descend to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, walking at separate intervals.

An assassin handed one rifle to the black men, who intended to immediately hide it on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. But there was a temporary hitch. With the extra rifle in hand, and on their way down to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, they heard Otis Williams coming up the stairwell.

They promptly carried the extra rifle into the book bin beside the 5<sup>th</sup>-floor stairway. The snipers were alerted about this intruder. They had stood transfixed after the assassination but now scurried into the west freight elevator.

In one more minute Roy Truly & Marrion Baker hurried past the book-carton fort on their way to the east elevator. If they had looked inside they would have found James Jarman, Harold Norman, Bonnie Ray Williams and one of the sniper's rifles.

## TWO WHITE MEN BY THE ELEVATORS

On the morning of March 25, 1964, Baker gave two hours of testimony before the Warren Commission. A half-hour in he described how he encountered Truly at the entrance to the front lobby. In another half-hour Senator John Cooper sat in on the proceedings; he had missed the previous day's testimony, which had wrapped up with Truly. Baker was recounting his movements from the 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor lunchroom to the roof, where his memory of his search there was aided by Exhibit 362- a 1<sup>st</sup>-floor diagram with an inset photo of the Depository taken from a helicopter. After about 20 minutes he recalled how when he saw Oswald later in the DPD homicide office- as he was writing his affidavit- "*he looked like he didn't have the same*" clothes on. Cooper 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, sir.

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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?

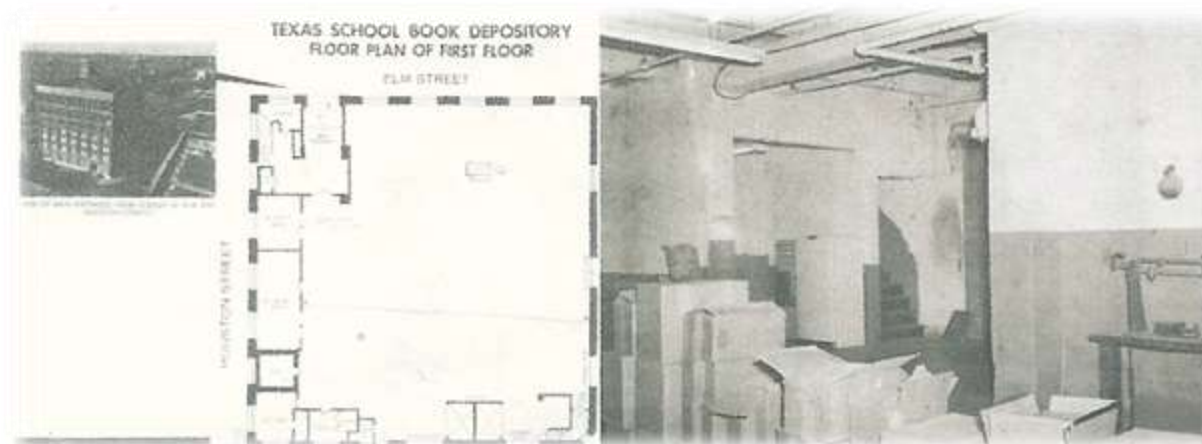
BAKER: Yes, sir.

Counsel David Belin immediately interrupted and, with the aid of Exhibit 362, spent 5 minutes with Baker rehashing his encounter with Truly at the front lobby. When Belin was finished Allen Dulles, who was conducting the hearing in Earl Warren's absence, asked if there were "Any further questions?", turning to Waggoner Carr. The Texas Attorney General's only curiosity was rumors among the motorcycle escorts regarding the direction of the bullets, which consumed the next 10 minutes. Finally Cooper broke in and said:

"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 1<sup>st</sup> floor."

But Baker avoided this issue in his reply. "As I entered that depository building, I was- people were running toward you... from the street in... I don't know whether they worked there or whether they were just trying to get out of the way."<sup>80</sup>

*These two wite men were not mentioned again.* Baker, in his rush to the back of the warehouse with Truly, had failed to determine their identities. Yet that does not explain why Truly ignored them completely in his own statements and testimony. Surely he would have alerted Officer Baker if these men were strangers. The only reasonable conclusion is that they were Book Depository employees.



Baker went out to Parkland Hospital and Love Field and returned to DPD HQ at the end of his shift. In the 3<sup>rd</sup>-floor homicide office he sat down in the small interview room in back and began writing out his affidavit. Once Oswald was returned from his first police lineup he was placed in the same small room and questioned by Sorrels and Kelley. "I got hung in one of those small offices back there, and while the Secret Service took Mr. Oswald in there and questioned him and I couldn't get out by him while they were questioning him, and I did get to see him at that time."<sup>81</sup>

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<sup>80</sup> WCH III pp. 266-267

<sup>81</sup> Ibid, pp. 257-258

Baker recognized him and knew his name by then<sup>82</sup> but did not write it in his affidavit, giving the suspect the benefit of the doubt. He described their lunchroom encounter thusly: “As we reached **the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> floor** I saw a man walking **away from the stairway**. I called to the man and he turned around and came back toward me. The manager said, ‘I know that man, he works here.’ I then turned the man loose and went up to the top floor. The man I saw was a white man approximately 30 years old, 5’9”, 165 pounds, dark hair and wearing a **light brown jacket**.”<sup>83</sup>

Baker had never been inside the Depository before, and even after a re-enactment visit, still confused the floor-spacing and -numbering in his testimony. He was focused at the time on finding somebody suspicious, rather than on where he was. “At that particular time I was looking at his face... and I really wasn’t paying any attention... it seemed to me like he had a light brown jacket on... it was hanging out... and maybe some kind of white-looking shirt.”<sup>84</sup>

In the homicide office Baker noticed that Oswald had “a brown-type shirt on that was out... [but] Actually just looking at him, he looked like he didn’t have the same thing on,” as when he’d seen him in the lunchroom. Baker’s lunchroom descriptions are consistent with Exhibit 151, the “brown shirt with button-down collar” found by Detective Fay Turner in Oswald’s rooming house dresser; he was wearing it in the lunchroom untucked over a t-shirt. Exhibit 150, the arrest shirt, is better described as reddish-brown or even burgundy.

Baker gave his affidavit to the typist. Oswald was brought into Captain Fritz’s office. Baker signed his statement and on his way out overheard the shouting from inside. “Did you kill the President?!... That’s absurd, I want a lawyer!! I want a lawyer!!”<sup>85</sup>



<sup>82</sup> WCH III pp. 251, 262

<sup>83</sup> WCH XXIV p. 199

<sup>84</sup> WCH III pp. 254, 257-258; Duke Lane, JFK Lancer post #82765, 7/13/09

<sup>85</sup> Harvey and Lee by John Armstrong, p. 893; HSCA 180-10121-10027, #014899, p. 3

According to her testimony, Victoria Adams and her co-worker Sandra Styles left their 4<sup>th</sup>-floor window “between 15 and 30 seconds” after hearing the third shot. They ran through the stockroom in their 3-inch high heels and when they reached the rear stairway noticed “The elevator was not moving... Because the cables move when the elevator is moved, and this is evidenced because of a wooden grate.” They saw no one as they clopped down the stairs.

BELIN: How long do you think it took you to get from the window to the bottom of the stairs on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor?

ADAMS: I would say no longer than a minute at the most.

Her timeframe puts her on the 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor landing (the floor space between successive flights) while Truly & Baker were next to Oswald on the other side of the lunchroom door. When she reached the 1<sup>st</sup>-floor warehouse she made her way for the nearest exit at the rear loading dock and saw “Bill Shelley and Bill Lovelady” standing a few feet from the east elevator.

BELIN: What did you do after you encountered Mr. Shelley and Mr. Lovelady?

ADAMS: I said I believed the President was shot.

BELIN: Do you remember what they said?

ADAMS: **Nothing.**<sup>86</sup>

Adams’ account was paradoxical for the Commission, which was forced to conclude she came down the stairs “several minutes” later, in order to salvage Oswald’s phantom escape from the sniper’s nest. And Styles, in a 2008 interview, agreed with them:

*“Contrary to what Vickie told the Warren Commission, she and I did NOT go to the rear stairs within a minute or so of the shooting. First, we lingered by the window for quite some time, trying to determine what was going on outside. Next, we made an attempt to take the front-of-the-building elevator downstairs. For some reason, however, this elevator- which, unlike the rear elevator, went only as high as the 4<sup>th</sup> floor- did not come when we called it. It was only after trying to call the elevator that we thought of going towards the rear stairs. And even then, we did not proceed very quickly- we were wearing high heel shoes!*

*...If the Warren Report estimated that Vickie and I reached the 1<sup>st</sup> floor via the rear stairs some 4 or 5 minutes after the shooting, then I’d have to say that sounds a little conservative. If anything, it was*

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<sup>86</sup> WCH VI pp. 388-392



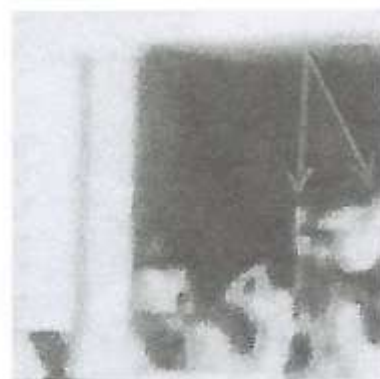
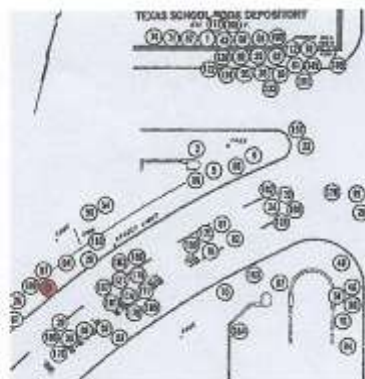
*probably longer. I have no clear recollection of seeing Bill Shelley or Billy Lovelady (both of whom I had a passing acquaintance with) near the rear of the building when we reached the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.*

*...It always puzzled me how Vickie seemed to exaggerate the speed with which we went to the rear stairway. Although I was fond of her, I guess she was what you might call 'a person of drama'. I found the version of events she told people somewhat sensationalistic and at odds with my own memory of those minutes... Vickie was a very friendly and gregarious person, while I am more reserved and less outgoing. She may have exaggerated some points, while I was cautious about what I said, not wanting to mislead. In some instances, her version might be more accurate."<sup>87</sup>*

It is noteworthy that the passenger elevator beside the Scott-Foresman offices, for some curious and unexplained reason, was not working. Adams never mentioned this aspect of their descent, although it couldn't have added 10 seconds to her time estimate. She gave the impression to the FBI November 24<sup>th</sup> that they "ran immediately to the back of the building" after the shots. Exiting the rear they proceeded to the first set of railroad tracks, were instructed to return by a policeman, and went via the Elm St. Extension to the front entrance- a trip which took "4 or 5 minutes".<sup>88</sup>

"I didn't go back in right away."<sup>89</sup> She lingered out front to listen to a DPD motorcycle radio broadcasting early reports that the shots had been fired "off the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor" or "from the 5<sup>th</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> floor."<sup>90</sup> With a correction factor from the 1982 Committee on Ballistic Acoustics, these broadcasts have been placed at 12:39-40, implying that Adams had indeed exaggerated the speed with which they'd reached the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

*But Styles' November FBI interview disappeared, and she never testified. Her 45-year-old memory was tainted by the Medusa-like propaganda emanating from the Warren Report. A careful examination of Shelley & Lovelady shows that they crafted their alibis, in tandem, so as to discredit Adams' discovery of them by the freight elevators 90 seconds after the assassination. The former novice nun had been correct all along.*



<sup>87</sup> Sean Murphy, JFK Lancer post #73990, 7/27/08

<sup>88</sup> WC Document 5, pp. 39-40

<sup>89</sup> WCH VI p. 91

<sup>90</sup> WCH XXI pp. 391-392

They had watched the assassination from the top of the Depository steps, photographed there by Dave Wiegman roughly 3 seconds before the head shots. Lovelady described his subsequent actions a little over an hour later in the DPD homicide office: “After it was over *we went back into the building and I took some police officers up to search.*”<sup>91</sup>

Shelley proceeded to tell the DPD “***I ran across the street to the corner of the park and ran into a girl crying*** and she said the President had been shot. This girl’s name is Gloria Caverly who is an employee of this same building. I went back to the building and went inside and called my wife and told her what happened.”<sup>92</sup>

Later that afternoon for the FBI Lovelady “*said immediately after hearing the shots he and Shelley started running towards the Presidential car, but it sped away west on Elm Street under the triple underpass. He and Shelley then returned to the Texas School Book Depository Building.*” Shelley didn’t provide any further details on his reactions for the different pair of FBI agents who interviewed him.<sup>93</sup>

In March Shelley introduced the railyard aspect of his story for the FBI: “*Lovelady and I accompanied some uniformed police officers to the railroad yards just west of the building and returned through the west side door of the building about 10 minutes later.*”

But the next day Lovelady was still chasing after JFK’s limousine: “*I ran toward the spot where President Kennedy’s car had stopped. William Shelley and myself stayed in that area for approximately 5 minutes when we then re-entered the Depository building by the side door located on the west side.*”

Gloria Caverly, a secretary for South-Western Publishing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, mentioned nothing about seeing either one of them. “After President Kennedy was shot, I returned to my office. I stayed there a short time then returned to the front entrance of the building.”<sup>94</sup> In a white skirt and brown coat, she had been at the middle of a group of five women on the Elm Street sidewalk just left of the Stemmons Freeway sign.

By the time of their April testimony **Shelley & Lovelady used the phantom encounter with Caverly as the basis of their post-assassination alibi, tracing a route that mirrored the one Adams had taken, which brought them back to the freight elevators a convenient few minutes later than she’d claimed she’d seen them there.** It was corroborated only by themselves. Shelley now reversed the initial who-did-what.

**BALL:** **She ran** back up to the door and you had still remained standing there?

**SHELLEY:** **Yes.**

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<sup>91</sup> WCH XXIV p. 214

<sup>92</sup> Ibid, p. 226

<sup>93</sup> WC Document 5, pp. 332, 371

<sup>94</sup> WCH XXII pp. 673, 662, 638

...ran back up there crying and said “The President has been shot” and Billy Lovelady and myself took off across the street to that little, old island and we stopped there for a minute... officers started running down to the railroad yards and Billy and I walked down that way... down the middle of the little street... We walked on down to the first railroad track there on the dead-end street and stood there and watched them searching cars down there in the parking lots for a little while and then we came in through our parking lot at the west end... in the side door into the shipping room...

BALL: Did you ever see Vicki Adams?

SHELLEY: I saw her that day but I don't remember where I saw her...

BALL: Did you see Vicki Adams after you came into the building and did you see her on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor?

SHELLEY: I sure don't remember.

Lovelady testified just after Shelley and he wasn't asked whether he'd run along Elm Street to where JFK's limousine had stopped. He, too, reversed the initial who-did-what.

BALL: You heard the shots. And how long after that was it before Gloria Caverly came up?

LOVELADY: Oh, approximately 3 minutes, I would say...

BALL: Right after you talked to Gloria, did you leave the steps and go toward the tracks?

LOVELADY: Yes... we run towards that little, old island kind of down there in that little street. We went as far as the first tracks... policemen started running out that way and we said we better get back into the building so we went back into the west entrance on the back dock had that low ramp and went into the back dock inside the building...

BALL: Who did you see in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor?

LOVELADY: I saw a girl but I wouldn't swear to it it's Vickie...

BALL: Where was the girl?

LOVELADY: I can't remember what place she was but I remember seeing a girl and she was talking to Bill or saw Bill or something, then I went over and asked one of the guys what time it was and to see if we should continue working or what.

Credit manager Joe Molina testified later that same afternoon. He had been standing partway up the front steps as the motorcade passed.

BALL: Do you know a girl named Gloria Caverly?

MOLINA: Yes.

BALL: Did Gloria come up?

MOLINA: Yes, she came. I was in the lobby standing there and she came in with this other girl.

BALL: What did she say?

MOLINA: She said, "Oh, my God, Joe, he's been shot." They were both horrified.

Caverly was "horrified" when Molina saw her in the lobby, yet, according to Shelley's affidavit, she was "crying" when he ran into her across the street. Most witnesses to trauma do not break down in tears until they've acclimated to the shock of the event.

She had been standing roughly 200 feet from the Depository entrance- the same distance away as Marrion Baker- and could not have arrived there ahead of him. Yet Shelley testified he left the steps *after* Caverly approached him, then "ran out on the island... and we turned around and we saw an officer and Truly... at the first step like they were fixin' to go in."

Lovelady committed the same gaffe: "It didn't occur to me at first what had happened until this Gloria came running up to us and told us the President had been shot... As we left the steps I would say we at least 15, maybe 25, steps away from the building. I looked back and saw [Truly] and the policeman running into the building."<sup>95</sup>

A reasonably clear frame from the Couch film, which panned left after capturing Baker's heroic dash, shows no one who could be construed as Shelley & Lovelady on the park peninsula.

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<sup>95</sup> WCH VI pp. 329-330, 339



Shelley, unique among all of the assassination witnesses, gave two affidavits for the DPD that afternoon. The second one concerned the just-arrested suspect: “After the President’s accident, I started checking around and I missed Lee. *I ask Mr. Truly about him* and he told me he had not seen him.” This brief interaction was not explored in his testimony. Truly’s version of it switches their roles: “I asked Mr. Shelley if he had seen Lee. He said no.”<sup>96</sup> Shelley, by this re-arrangement, distanced himself from any direct knowledge of Oswald’s post-assassination whereabouts and movements. Although he arrived at the police station about 1:30, he did not leave until 5:00 PM.<sup>97</sup>

In the mid-1970’s Shelley told Dallas journalist Elize Glaze that the DPD had placed him under arrest that afternoon and formally charged him with the murder of President Kennedy. He also confided that he’d “been an intelligence officer during World War II and thereafter joined the CIA.”<sup>98</sup>

Shelley & Lovelady were the two white men witnessed by Marrion Baker by the freight elevators about 50 seconds after the assassination, and by Victoria Adams about 40 seconds later- a fact that had to be hidden at all costs.

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<sup>96</sup> WCH XXIV pp. 226-227; WCH III p. 230

<sup>97</sup> WCH XXII p. 673

<sup>98</sup> “The Glaze letters” by William Weston, *The Fourth Decade*, Vol. 6, No. 4, May 1999

## THE SNIPERS ESCAPE

As Otis Williams descended the stairs Victoria Adams & Sandra Styles rushed into the 4<sup>th</sup>-floor stockroom. Williams crossed the 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor landing and opened the door to the triangular foyer, which would close automatically behind him. He headed right and entered the double-doors into the central office area to phone his wife.

Oswald was seated in the lunchroom in back at the left side of the foyer and heard the noise. He got up and walked into the foyer to look through the door's plate glass window.

While in front of the west freight elevator Marrion Baker noticed two white men, "One was sitting on this side and another one between 20 or 30 feet away from us looking at us." Lovelady was sitting on a chair or carton near the refrigerators in the adjacent alcove, while Shelley was standing by the corner of the east elevator.

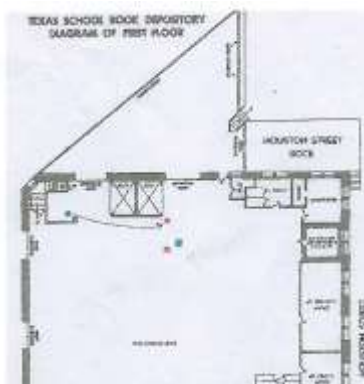
"Where is the elevator?!" Roy Truly yelled, after two frantic calls up the shaft.

"I don't know, sir, Mr. Truly," replied Eddie Piper, who was standing 50 feet away beside Troy West.

Truly & Baker scrambled up the stairs and Baker caught sight of Oswald's face in the plate glass.

Piper denied seeing Adams come down the steps. "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.*"<sup>99</sup>

West, who had been seated by his coffee machine with his back to the elevators, only halfway through his lunch, admitted he was "spellbound" as Truly & Baker rushed into the warehouse. Yet he failed to recall whether anyone came in before them, whether Truly yelled, or whether anyone used the elevators or stairs.<sup>100</sup>



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<sup>99</sup> WCH VII p. 389

<sup>100</sup> WCH VI pp. 361-362

Adams encountered Lovelady and Shelley standing “slightly east of the front of the east elevator, and probably as far south as the length of the elevator.” This means that once Truly & Baker started up the stairs, Lovelady got up and walked over to the corner of the east elevator. Adams didn’t recall seeing any other employees as she made her way out the rear door for the Houston Street dock.<sup>101</sup>

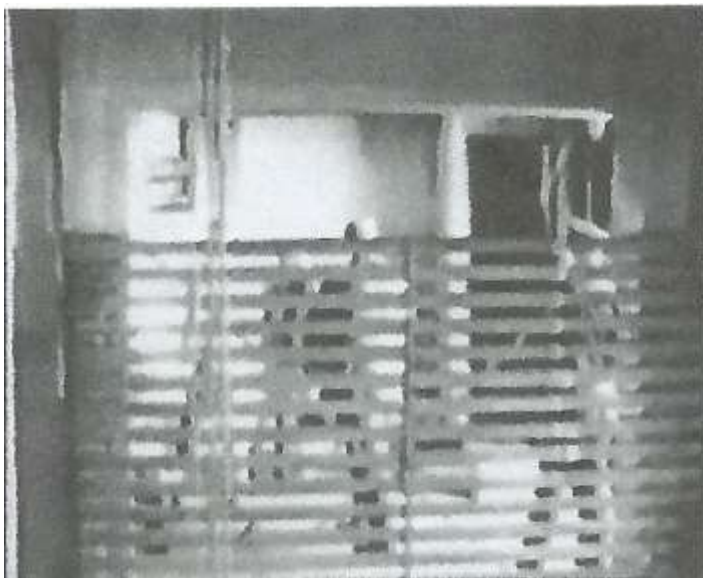
Piper disappeared from the scene- whether he actually walked over to the east side of the floor, or instead suffered a convenient memory lapse, like West. Lovelady, by the time Adams saw him, probably had already sent a signal up the east elevator shaft.

Jack Dougherty pushed the control button inside the west elevator. The two snipers on board were without their rifles. Access to the elevator was controlled and offered a means of concealment. Considering the foot traffic expected on the stairs, there could be no other feasible method of escape.

Truly would have been able to notice the elevator cables moving as he crossed the 3<sup>rd</sup>- and 4<sup>th</sup>-floor landings. When he reached the 5<sup>th</sup> floor he was able to see the east elevator and immediately realized that the west elevator had gone down. But he didn’t mention this to Baker.

In the 4<sup>th</sup>-floor stockroom, Scott-Foresman mail clerk Mary Hollies’ attention was drawn to the west freight elevator, and as she looked through the wooden slats she saw Oswald descending on the platform.<sup>102</sup>

But it was his lookalike.



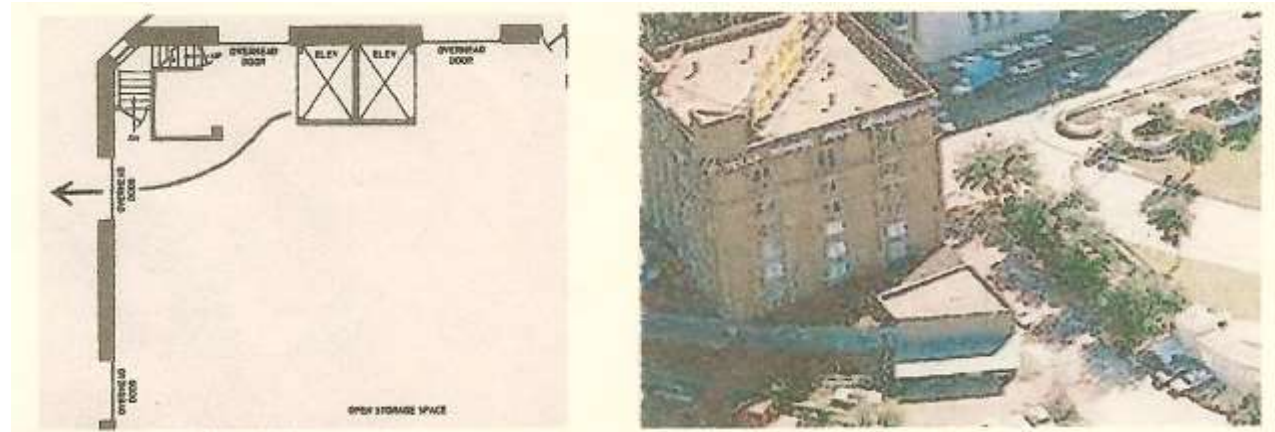
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<sup>101</sup> WCH VI p. 390

<sup>102</sup> American History Illustrated, November 1988

When they reached the 1<sup>st</sup> floor Dougherty opened the slatted gate and stepped out to scout the warehouse. He may have diverted Piper's attention with a brief conversation.

With Shelley watching the rear door and Lovelady shielding the west floor, the snipers emerged from the elevator and hustled through the overhead door into the West Annex- which was omitted from Commission diagrams of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. They exited the door midway along its side and split up underneath the carport. The time was 12:33.



In two or three minutes, on the sidewalk at this far corner of the Annex, Malcolm Couch and WFAA news editor A.J, L'Hoeste discovered an 8-10" pool of blood. Couch noticed a trail of blood spots leading toward the Depository entrance. "Just then an FBI man stepped out of the building, and in his hand was an object dripping blood. It looked like a piece of hairy flesh. I know I didn't imagine this. The scene is very clear to me."<sup>103</sup>

At approximately 12:42 Roger Craig was standing with some spectators on the Elm Street infield, across the street from the eastern end of the pergola. He heard a shrill whistle from that direction and saw an off-white Nash Rambler come to a sudden stop. A man ran down the slope, got inside, and the station wagon took off before Craig could reach it. He soon described the man as white, 5'9", 140-150 lbs, medium-brown hair, in his 20's, and wearing a white t-shirt. When he saw Oswald in custody a few hours later he identified him as the man.

But it was his lookalike, and it was the same man who was photographed in the west window on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor only seconds after the assassination.

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<sup>103</sup> WCH VI p. 160; The Clifton Record, November 22, 2000





The Texas School Book Depository left an indelible imprint on the fabric of the world's collective psyche. Bullets from its brick façade contributed to the brutal slaying of President John F. Kennedy, but they were blamed on the wrong person. The warehouse employees were accomplices to the murder, accessories to the escape of two killers, and purveyors of deceptive evidence against the designated patsy- who was doomed to a swift execution in the hands of the Dallas police. This brood of vipers included, but was not limited to: William Shelley, Billy Lovelady, Jack Dougherty, Bonnie Ray Williams, Harold Norman, James Jarman and Danny Arce. The schoolmaster Roy Truly was intimately involved in at least the coverup of this intergenerational crime, at its source.

The deeper illusion was that it was a long-established business. Truly revealed to the FBI that the building had been occupied "for only a few months." It was a vacant warehouse for about a year, until renovations began sometime around the turn of 1963. The supply of book cartons on the upper floors far exceeded the normal demands of the schoolyear cycle, while the book company continued operations at its old storehouse on Houston Street.<sup>104</sup>

An unanswered question is whether Captain Fritz and Lieutenant Carl Day, who controlled the crime scene investigation, had foreknowledge of the elevator escape, and hence the assassination. My prediction is that the answer will be yes.

Richard Gilbride

in memory of Roger Craig

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<sup>104</sup> "411 Elm Street" by William Weston, *The Fourth Decade*, Vol. 1, No. 4, May 1994