

DL 44-1639

2

Captain FRITZ asked HOWARD how long RUBY had been in the basement before the killing. HOWARD stated that RUBY told him (HOWARD) that after walking down the ramp he stood in the basement only a very short time when he saw Captain FRITZ walk out and then saw OSWALD and the other officers. HOWARD pointed out that he had heard that the time of the killing had been fixed as 11:21 AM or 11:26 AM, and therefore, he (RUBY) could not have been in the basement very long.

Captain FRITZ asked HOWARD if RUBY had given him any indication that he (RUBY) knew the officer stationed at the head of the ramp. HOWARD said no. FRITZ asked why, then, had RUBY refused to discuss this point with him (FRITZ). HOWARD stated the reason was because RUBY did not want to get the officer in trouble.

FRITZ asked HOWARD if RUBY had said why he shot OSWALD. HOWARD stated that from talking to RUBY, he (HOWARD) feels that RUBY probably thought that he would be a hero and would be carried out on the shoulders of those present.

FRITZ asked HOWARD if there was any possibility of RUBY having any communist connections or Cuban connections. HOWARD said "absolutely no."

FRITZ asked HOWARD if RUBY knew OSWALD prior to the killing. HOWARD stated RUBY had not known OSWALD.

FRITZ asked HOWARD if RUBY had ever killed anybody before. HOWARD said no, but he understood at one time in the past, an associate of RUBY's had been killed, but that RUBY was not involved in the killing; HOWARD did not elaborate further.

HOWARD stated RUBY indicated he had been active in the past in some union in Chicago.

HOWARD said that he was leaving town this weekend to confer with the attorney who was going to take the lead in RUBY's murder trial (name of attorney not disclosed). HOWARD said that he (HOWARD) and the unnamed attorney will decide whether there is any reason why an interested agency should not interview RUBY and get all the background concerning RUBY firsthand. HOWARD said in his opinion, it would be to RUBY's advantage to give complete information concerning his (RUBY's) past so it could be definitely established beyond anyone's doubt that RUBY had no communist connections or prior acquaintance with OSWALD.

1

Date 12/5/63

SA LEO L. ROBERTSON, who is 5 feet, 3 inches tall, walking at a normal rate of speed, took the following set out time to cover these distances:

From the far entrance at the front of the Western Union office down Main Street ramp leading into the basement of the Dallas Police Department--105 steps--63 seconds.

From the near Western Union door to the middle of the Main Street entrance--101 steps--58 seconds.

From the middle of the sidewalk of the Main Street ramp to the place where the shooting occurred--33 steps--22 seconds.

SA JAMES C. KENNEDY is 5 feet, 10 inches tall, and walking at a normal rate of speed, covered the distance from the nearest Western Union door to the middle of the sidewalk of the Main Street ramp in 107 steps--62 seconds.

From the middle of the sidewalk of the ramp to the place where the shooting occurred--37 steps--22 seconds.

The Western Union Building is located at 2034 Main Street, and Central Expressway, going south, runs by the east side of the building. Main Street runs on the north side of the building, and the building is in the same block with the police station. The above-mentioned doors open on the north, or on Main Street.

Captain O. A. JONES, of the Dallas Police Department, had the man in the Police Crime Laboratory measure the actual distance from the east end of the Western Union Building to the center of the Main Street ramp and found that it was 356 feet and 6 inches. It is to be noted that there are two doors opening on Main Street from the Western Union Building.

He stated the first door, or the one farthest from the police station, was 18 feet from the east side of the Western Union Building to the center of the first door of this

on 12/4/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639
by Special Agent JAMES C. KENNEDY and
LEO L. ROBERTSON - LAC Date dictated 12/4/63

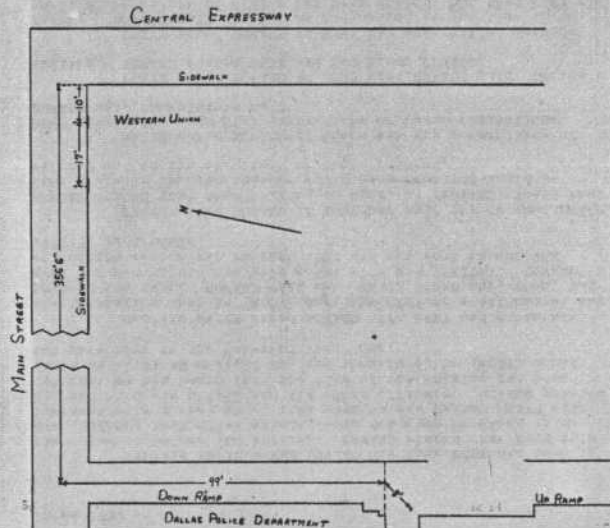
This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

23

DL 44-1639

2

building. He stated the first door, or the one farthest from the police station, was 10 feet from the east side of the Western Union Building to the center of the first door of this building. He stated it was 17 feet from the center of the first door to the center of the second door of the Western Union building. By steel tape, it measured 92 feet from the center of the sidewalk to the corner of the wall on the east side of the corridor that goes to the jail office, where OSWALD was led out at the time he was shot. It is approximately 8 feet from the center of the driveway on a line with this east wall to the point where OSWALD was shot.



COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2026—Continued

Commission Exhibit No. 2027

November 4, 1963

(1)

Detective DANIEL G. BRANTLEY advised that he is in the Burglary and Theft Detail of the Dallas Police Department. He was advised that he did not have to make a statement; that any statement he made could be used against him in a court of law, and that he was entitled to talk to an attorney. BRANTLEY voluntarily furnished the following information:

On November 24, 1963, he was assigned by Lieutenant SWAIN of the Burglary Detail to go to the basement of the Dallas Police Department. He and other detectives were told to "spread out and be inconspicuous and watch the crowd in the lobby." The lobby is the area between the information desk and the jail windows. BRANTLEY was instructed to do this shortly before LEE HARVEY OSWALD was brought out from the jail to be taken to the County Jail.

When BRANTLEY arrived in the lobby area there were two uniformed officers at the door leading from the lobby to the ramp. BRANTLEY believes that he would not have been allowed to go through that door without identifying himself. BRANTLEY went to the lobby and observed the crowd and also saw OSWALD when he was being taken from the elevator to the ramp area. He lost sight of OSWALD and the detectives transporting OSWALD within a short time after they left the elevator and did not see OSWALD further and did not see him shot.

Shortly after OSWALD was taken through a door onto the ramp area, he heard a shot and he ran to the ramp to see what was going on. He saw considerable struggling going on and only saw JACK RUBY's face. He heard someone say that it was JACK RUBY who had shot OSWALD.

BRANTLEY estimated there were 40 to 50 persons on the outside ramp area where the shooting took place and approximately half of those persons were probably people from the news media. There were television cameras and other cameras set up out on the ramp area. He does not know what the entire security picture was or what other persons' orders were in connection with security of the basement area. He does recall that when he rode down on the elevator two men pushing a television camera were trying to get on the elevator and he helped them get the camera on the elevator. When he arrived in the basement, he heard one man say to the other "I believe we can push through this crowd and go up the ramp." BRANTLEY does not believe that they would have been challenged or that anyone else appearing with a camera would have been challenged if they appeared to be working for a news media.

on 12/3/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639

by Special Agent s. JAMES E. CASPIS and JACK H. [unclear] Date dictated 12/4/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

37

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2027