

VFAA-TV reel PKT 21
Saturday, November 23, 1963

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Q. You say you have something in the way of physical evidence. Do these refer to anything else beside witnesses?

CURRY. Yes, but I can't discuss these things with you.

Q. Will these be in the form of writings or indications that he had planned this?

CURRY. I couldn't go into it any further. I could say this: No, at present, we don't have anything to indicate that he had planned this in writing or anything, no.

Q. Have you located the source of the rifle?

CURRY. No, we're still working on that.

Q. Have you had a report as to whether this was the rifle that killed President Kennedy?

CURRY. We don't have a report.

Q. Do you expect that any time soon?

CURRY. We expect it soon, but I don't know just when.

Q. Thank you, Chief.

COMMENTATOR. This was Chief Jesse Curry of the Dallas Police Department. This is Bob Clark, ABC, at Dallas Police Headquarters.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2144—Continued

PRESS INTERVIEW WITH POLICE CHIEF JESSE CURRY
DALLAS POLICE AND COURTS BUILDING

CURRY. The FBI has just informed us that they have the order letter for the rifle that we have sent to the laboratory. They have that order letter that they received from a mail-order house in Chicago. This order letter has been to the laboratory in Washington, D.C., and compared with known handwriting of our suspect, Oswald, and the handwriting is the same on the order letter as Oswald's handwriting. The return address on this order letter was to the post-office box in Dallas, Texas, of our suspect, Oswald, and it was returned under another name. But it has definitely been established by the FBI that the handwriting is the handwriting of Oswald.

Q. Was it a recent purchase?

CURRY. This purchase was made on March the 20th of this year.

Q. Of this year?

CURRY. This year.

Q. This in March?

Q. And that is definitely the same gun?

Q. What about the ballistics test, Chief?

CURRY. The ballistics test--we haven't had a final report, but it is--I understand will be favorable.

Q. Is this the development you referred to today as making this case ironclad in your opinion?

CURRY. This was not what I had reference to earlier.

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Q. Will you give us an indication of what that is? Were you referring to the photograph earlier?

CURRY. No.

Q. Where did these photographs come from, Chief?

CURRY. The photographs were found in his--out at Irving, where he had been staying and where his wife had been staying.

Q. These are the photographs of the revolver and the rifle?

CURRY. There is a photograph of him with a revolver on his hip and holding a rifle in his hand.

Q. Does this rifle look like the one that you have, that you think is the murder weapon, sir?

CURRY. It does.

Q. Does it have a telescopic sight?

CURRY. It does.

Q. How is he taking this information as it builds up?

CURRY. I don't know.

Q. Is he aware of the situation--showing any awareness?

CURRY. I don't believe he knows all this, as yet. I think the Captain is talking to him about it at the present time.

Q. Chief, has the order for this gun been connected definitely with the--that is, the order for the rifle been connected with the rifle which you found?

CURRY. It has.

Q. Chief, just a moment ago he came out into the interrogation room, bitterly complaining about being deprived of his citizenship rights because he can't take a shower. Do you have any comment on that?

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2145--Continued

CURRY. I didn't know he had asked to take a shower. We have a shower up there where he could take a shower if he wants one.

Q. Chief, back to the photograph: did he have in his hand a copy of The Worker, a communist publication, with the headline "Be Militant" or it?

CURRY. It seems there are two papers there: on one of them you can see the words The Militant; on the other you can see The Worker.

Q. Is this the weekly Worker from New York?

CURRY. I don't know.

Q. What was the name under which he ordered the gun?

Q. Chief, was the post-office box rented by Oswald?

CURRY. The name--the return--the name on the return address was A. Hidell. A. Hidell.

Q. Are you going to confront him with this evidence now?

Q. How do you spell Hidell?

CURRY. H-I-D-E-double L.

Q. Is that the name under which the post-office box was rented?

CURRY. I don't know that.

Q. Chief, do you feel pretty certain that this is the rifle that killed the President?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. Will you confront him with this evidence now, Chief?

CURRY. That I don't know.

Q. Are you on the way in to show him this evidence now?

CURRY. I'm not.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2145--Continued

Q. Has he been shown it?

CURRY. Captain Fritz is with him now. He will be shown this evidence by Captain Fritz.

Q. Do you consider the case shut tight now, Chief?

CURRY. We will continue to work on it and try to get every shred of evidence that's possible.

Q. How many photos, Chief, were involved?

CURRY. I do not know.

Q. How was the rifle described?

Q. Can you give us something about the facts you found this morning--the new facts you mentioned this morning?

CURRY. No, sir.

Q. Not at all?

CURRY. No, sir.

Q. How was the rifle described on the order to the mail-order house?

CURRY. That I do not know.

Q. When was the call--?

Q. Did you say you have the order?

CURRY. I said the FBI had the order.

Q. Oh, I see.

Q. Did they get this through a tip? Do you know how it was developed, this evidence?

CURRY. I don't know how the FBI got their information. We received some information ourselves.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2145--Continued

Q. As a tip?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. Then that's definitely the same gun which had been sent to Washington?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. Can you tell us what the--?

CURRY. Now, now, let me say this: I can't say for sure on that.

Q. On what? What's that, Chief?

CURRY. He asked if this was the gun that we sent to Washington, the gun that was ordered. I can't say definitely on that; I don't know.

Q. It's the same type of gun?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. The same type of gun?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. Is the serial number the same, Chief?

CURRY. That I don't know.

Q. How much did he pay for the gun, Chief?

Q. But you say ballistic tests are encouraging so far?

CURRY. I believe the gun was supposed to cost \$12.75, I believe. I believe it was advertised in some magazine for that.

Q. What was the name of the mail-order house?

Q. Chief, did you say the ballistic tests so far are encouraging?

CURRY. I don't know the name of the mail-order house.

Q. The ballistic tests are encouraging?

CURRY. Ballistic tests are encouraging.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2145--Continued

Q. Do you have the advertisement out of the magazine which advertises this?

CURRY. No, I don't, Johnny.

Q. Had Oswald ever used the alias Hidell before?

CURRY. I do not know.

CURRY. That's all I have to tell you, gentlemen.

REPORTERS. Thank you very much.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2145—Continued

WFAA-TV reel PKT 12
Saturday p.m., November 23, 1963

INTERVIEW OF POLICE CHIEF JESSE CURRY
BY PRESS, DALLAS POLICE AND COURTS BUILDING

Q. -- under certain circumstances, what will be done?

CURRY. What will be done?

Q. Yes, sir. What will be done with Oswald?

CURRY. Well, he's been charged and he'll be transferred to the county jail and await, wait for grand jury action on him.

Q. When will he be transferred to the county jail?

CURRY. That I don't know. As soon as we get through talking to him, prob--, maybe sometime this after--

Q. Has he made any admission this morning in your further questioning of him about the killing of President Kennedy?

CURRY. I have not talked to him and I don't think anyone else has.

Q. What are you waiting for now, Chief, in terms of further interrogations?

CURRY. Well, we just want to talk to him some more.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146