

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

Q. When will you do that?

CURRY. I imagine in a few minutes.

Q. This will be before he's transferred to the county jail?

CURRY. Oh, yes. Yes.

Q. Do you expect that he will be brought down this corridor, Chief?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. Have you heard any more about how he got from downtown to the Oak Cliff section?

CURRY. Not that I know of.

Q. Just so far what evidence has been uncovered, Chief?

CURRY. I wouldn't want to elaborate on all the evidence that has been uncovered.

Q. What about his background?

CURRY. Well, he has a background, of course. It's generally known now he defected to Russia in 1959 and married a Russian girl and then last August, I understand, he went to the American Consul and asked to be brought back to the United States.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146—Continued

Q. How would you describe his mood during the questioning?

CURRY. Very arrogant. Has been all along.

Q. What does he still say, Chief?

CURRY. He just denies everything.

Q. Does he say anything else?

CURRY. Not too much. I don't know. I haven't personally been interrogating him.

Q. Has he admitted that he was in the building at the time the shots were fired?

CURRY. Yes. Well, we know he couldn't deny that. We have witnesses that--

Q. -- ?

CURRY. I think he denies everything.

Q. Chief Curry, how long has he been in Dallas?

CURRY. I think approximately two months.

Q. He is an employee of a book binding firm which operated--

CURRY. I understand it's the Texas Book Depository.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146—Continued

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Q. Is there any doubt in your mind, Chief, that Oswald is the man who killed the President?

CURRY. I think this is the man who killed the President.

Q. You're going to bring him down -- for interrogation in just a few minutes?

COMMENTATOR. That was Dallas Police Chief Jesse Curry. This corridor is packed with some 50 reporters and photographers. We expect in a very few moments that Oswald, the 24-year-old ex-Marine accused of killing President Kennedy, will be brought through this door just behind the Chief, down this corridor into the Homicide Bureau, then taken on downstairs to the lower floor to the jail.

Q. Chief, could you tell us what you might have found in his rooming house in the way of literature or any papers connecting him-- ?

CURRY. We found a great, great amount of Communist literature, Communist books; I couldn't tell you just what all it was, but it was a large box, probably a box that, probably 2 by 2 --

Q. Two feet by two feet?

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

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CURRY. Yes, or 2 by 3 feet and probably a foot and a half tall. I'd say it was two-thirds full of different types of books and materials.

Q. Chief, we understand you've had the results of the paraffin tests which were made to determine whether Oswald had fired a weapon. Can you tell us what those tests showed?

CURRY. I understand that it was positive.

Q. What did the tests find?

Q. What does that mean?

CURRY. It only means that he fired a gun.

Q. This doesn't-- ?

Q. Chief, were the powder burns or powder marks on his cheek or on his shoulder?

CURRY. I don't know that. I don't know that.

Q. What do you know about on his hands?

Q. That he fired a gun, Chief, not the rifle or the pistol?

CURRY. That's right. We just say a gun.

Q. Chief, will you give us some details as to what form the literature was in and what kind of literature it was specifically-- where was it found--what did it say?

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

CURRY. I haven't examined all of it. I just understand it was Communist literature.

Q. Was it in English? Eh, in English?

CURRY. Yes, I think it was in English.

Q. Chief, is there any plan for a reenactment of the crime--to take him to the scene or to do anything in that respect?

CURRY. No.

Q. Is there any evidence that anyone else may have been linked with Oswald to this shooting?

CURRY. At this time, we don't believe so. We are talking to a man that works in the same building that we have in our subversive files and we are talking to him but he denies any knowledge of it.

Q. How old is this man, Chief?

CURRY. I don't know.

Q. Has he been associated with Oswald in the past?

CURRY. We don't know that. We know that he works at the same place.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

Q. How long has he worked there?

CURRY. I don't know how long the other man has worked there.

Q. What time is established-- how Oswald got to the other side of town--is there anything that can be come up about--did he get over by a bus, by a car, did he have to walk?

CURRY. I don't know. We have heard that he was picked up by a Negro in a car.

Q. That is not confirmed?

CURRY. No, it is not confirmed, as far as I know.

Q. Are you looking for the Negro?

CURRY. We would like to know about him if this is so; we'd certainly like to find him.

Q. Chief Curry, could you detail for us what led you to Oswald?

CURRY. Not exactly, except in the building, we, when we went to the building why he was observed in the building at the time, but the manager told us that he worked there and the officers passed him on up then because the manager said he is an employee.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

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Q. Is that before the shooting or after?

CURRY. After the shooting.

Q. Do you think that smudged fingerprints that have been found on the rifle which killed the President will be able to establish the identity of the killer?

CURRY. We hope so, but I couldn't say positively at this time that they will be.

Q. Well, will you know -- to convict him?

CURRY. I don't know whether it will be enough to convict him or not, but if we can put his prints on the rifle, why, it'll certainly connect him with the rifle and if we can establish that this is the rifle that killed the President, why --

Q. How many shots had been fired from the rifle?

CURRY. Three.

Q. Have you been able to trace the rifle? Do you know where it was purchased, or -- ?

CURRY. No, we are attempting to do that at this time.

Q. Is there any connection yet between this and the firing at Major General Walker?

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

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CURRY. I do not know.

Q. What was the subversive evidence on the other man who works in the building that you have a subversive file on?

CURRY. Just that he attended meetings and was associated with groups that were left-wing groups--

Q. Fair Play for Cuba groups?

CURRY. I don't know whether that was one of them or not.

Q. You have never found a car-- ?

CURRY. No.

Q. He doesn't have any car, as far as you know?

CURRY. No, as far as we know.

Q. Did you say, Chief, that a policeman had seen him in the building-- ?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. After the shot was fired-- ?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. Why didn't he arrest him then?

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

CURRY. Because the manager of the place told us that he was an employee--said, "He's all right; he's an employee."

Q. Did he look suspicious to the policeman at this point?

CURRY. I imagine the policeman was checking everyone he saw as he went into the building

Q. Chief, after this happened, what was done in terms of getting the trail back to Oswald?

CURRY. The next thing we knew is when he turned up as a suspect in the murder of the police officer--and then the connection was made between the two.

Q. Chief, did anyone see him shoot the police officer?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. Who was that?

CURRY. I don't know the names, but--

Q. Male or female?

CURRY. I think there were three witnesses, I understand.

Q. Three witnesses saw him shoot the officer?

Q. Has he made any admissions at all about the shooting of the police officer?

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

CURRY. No. No, he denies everything.

Q. Why do you think the police officer went to him in the street? What was the reason?

CURRY. I think he suspected him because of a description that had been put out on the radio.

Q. On the police radio?

Q. Chief, has anyone come forward saying they had seen a rifle after hearing the first shot, possibly looking toward the window? Has anyone-- ?

CURRY. I read in the paper where someone said it, but we don't have--

Q. You don't have-- ?

CURRY. I don't have it. Unless--

Q. And the police department would like anybody to come forward who did see it?

CURRY. Yes. Yes.

Q. In other words, you're still looking for public help in this case?

CURRY. Absolutely. Absolutely.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

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Q. Chief Curry, when you first heard of the Dallas policeman's death, what then led you to the theatre? What information did you have from there?

CURRY. I understand that someone called up. I think the ticket taker from the theatre called about the suspicious actions of this person.

Q. Chief, when do you expect the rifle to be returned from Washington?

Q. Can you describe briefly what happened inside the theatre?

CURRY. Well, they were searching the theatre and as the officer approached this man, he jumped up and said, "This is it," and drew a gun--attempted to draw a gun. They grappled with him and were able to twist the gun away from him and he was resisting violently. Several officers subdued him. I had two, two officers that had to have treatment for injuries wrestling around over the seats in the theatre and another officer was scratched up but didn't have to have treatment.

Q. Was he-- ?

Q. This man with the subversive background--was there any surveillance?

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

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Q. Was there any-- ?

CURRY. I'm sorry. There's too many talking. I can't understand--

Q. With this man's apparent subversive background, was there any surveillance? Were police aware of his presence in Dallas?

CURRY. We in the police department here did not know he was in Dallas. I understand the FBI did know that he was in Dallas.

Q. Is it normally the practice for the FBI to inform the police-- ?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. Chief, do you have-- ?

CURRY. We did not have the knowledge.

Q. But you were not informed?

CURRY. We had not been informed of this man.

Q. Chief, do you have any concern for the safety of your prisoner in view of the high feeling among the people of Dallas over the assassination of the President?

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

CURRY. No, but precautions, necessary precautions will be taken, of course, but I'm not, I don't think that the people will try to take the prisoner away from us.

Q. Do you regard the county jail as a more secure place to house the prisoner? Is that why you're transferring him from the city jail?

CURRY. It is customary after a man is filed on that he be transferred. We only keep him in our jail until he is filed on. After he's been filed on why then he's the sheriff's responsibility.

Q. Will there be extra police at the county jail to assure his-- ?

CURRY. I don't know. Sheriff Decker--

Q. When will he be transferred, Chief?

CURRY. I do not know.

Q. Where is the county jail?

CURRY. At the end, about a block from where the President was killed.

Q. Chief Curry, when will the formal grand jury action be taken in your estimation?

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

CURRY. Mr. Wade told me last night, or told the press last night, probably the middle of next week.

Q. Chief, can you tell us in summary what directly links Oswald to the killing of the President?

CURRY. Well, the fact that he was on the floor where the shots were fired from immediately before the shots were fired; the fact that he was seen carrying a package to the building; the fact that--

Q. When was he carrying that package -- the same day?

CURRY. Yesterday morning.

Q. Do you figure that was a disassembled rifle?

CURRY. I don't think it was disassembled; the package was large enough for a rifle to be intact.

Q. Was it in a box or was it wrapped?

CURRY. Wrapped. Wrapped in a bo--, in a paper.

Q. Have you a witness that places him there after the time of the shooting?

CURRY. My police officer can place him there after the time of the shooting.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

Q. When do you expect the report-- ?

Q. The officer who wanted to stop him and then was told by the manager that he worked there?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. Chief, what have you heard from the Civil Liberties Union? Have they sent up-- ?

CURRY. They were up here last night.

Q. Chief, will they probably have a lawyer-- ?

CURRY. I don't know. They haven't sent one up here but they wanted to know if he has been warned of his rights, and so forth, and we told them that he had.

Q. But no lawyer has seen Oswald yet?

CURRY. No lawyer has seen Oswald.

Q. Has Oswald made any request for a lawyer?

CURRY. He has, but he didn't say who he wanted or anything, so we couldn't just go out and start calling lawyers for him. That's not our responsibility.

Q. Will the CLU -- him?

CURRY. I don't know.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

Q. As of now it would be up to Oswald to hire his own lawyer if he wants one?

CURRY. Yes. His mother, I understand, at this time has said that she would get him an attorney this morning.

Q. Has he been arraigned yet for murdering the President?

CURRY. Yes. He was arraigned last night about 1:30.

Q. Chief Curry, -- ?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. Where does his mother live?

CURRY. I don't know.

Q. Is she from Dallas?

CURRY. No, I think she's from Fort Worth.

Q. You've said, of course, Chief, that Oswald hasn't made any admissions. Is he responding to questions? Is he refusing to answer questions at this stage, or-- ?

CURRY. He doesn't answer questions except to say: "That's ridiculous. That's silly. That's -- " and deny any knowledge of anything--

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

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Q. Does he say he was anywhere else at the time this was happening?

CURRY. I don't know.

Q. Does he seem confident of himself?

CURRY. He says he was at the building, but he says he was there because he worked there.

Q. Chief Curry, thank you very much.

Q. Does he seem mentally right, Chief?

CURRY. Yes, he's mentally right.

Q. You don't think the man is off his rocker, do you Chief?

CURRY. No, sir. I don't think so.

Q. Chief, thank you Chief Curry.

COMMENTATOR. We've just been talking here at Dallas Police Headquarters with Chief of Police Jesse Curry. In just a few moments we expect Oswald will be brought through this door from his jail cell one floor above, taken through--

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2146--Continued

KRLD-TV reel 15
Sunday, November 24, 1963

PRESS CONFERENCE OF DALLAS POLICE CHIEF
JESSE CURRY, POLICE AND COURTS BUILDING

CURRY. To my knowledge, he was here a couple of hours. How much of the time was spent in interrogation I don't know, because I think he had to wait for some time before they could get around to talking to him.

Q. Is there absolutely no doubt now that nobody else is involved as an accomplice?

CURRY. I would not make that statement.

Q. Do you have any possible-- ?

CURRY. I wouldn't comment on it because I would certainly hate to say we're convinced that nobody else is involved and then have somebody else involved.

Q. Have you talked to anybody besides this fellow Molina who might conceivably have a role-- ?

CURRY. I don't want to comment on that.

Q. Chief, have you interviewed other people whom you regard as subversives?

CURRY. Sir?

Q. Have you been interviewing other people who have previously been involved in subversive activities?

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2147