

KRDL-TV reel 44
Saturday night, November 23, 1963

POLICE CHIEF JESSE CURRY ON TRANSFER OF OSWALD
POLICE AND COURTS BUILDING

CURRY. -- that is, if we plan to transfer this man not tonight, if you men would be here by no later than 10 o'clock in the morning why it will, that will be early enough.

Q. Are you through with him for the night, sir?

CURRY. Captain Fritz says he is finished with him unless possibly some witness might show up that we needed to bring him out for a show-up, but I think, I don't believe there will be any more questioning tonight.

Q. He won't be coming this way?

CURRY. No.

Q. Will he be taken to the county jail?

CURRY. He will be taken to the county jail. He would be turned over to the sheriff.

Q. Tonight or tomorrow?

CURRY. Tomorrow.

Q. Will it be after 10 o'clock?

CURRY. Well, I wouldn't be any later than ten.

Q. Thank you very much, Chief. --

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CURRY. We have one more thing here. We have filed on him for assault to murder --

Q. Assault to what?

CURRY. Assault to murder against Governor John B. Connally. That charge has been filed.

Q. Can you read that charge, sir?

Q. Did he admit owning the rifle?

CURRY. Sir?

Q. Did he admit owning the rifle?

CURRY. He will not admit ever owning a rifle, no sir.

Q. Well, what did he say when you showed him the picture?

CURRY. I wasn't there. It was Captain Fritz but he didn't get much out of him at all.

Q. Since this is probably the termination of your day with Oswald, could you sum up what progress was made today toward a confession, if any?

CURRY. I don't think we've made any progress toward a confession.

Q. You don't think so?

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CURRY. No.

Q. In building the case? In building your case?

CURRY. I think our case was in good shape this morning and it is much stronger tonight. We will continue to work on every possible shred of evidence that comes to our attention.

Q. Why are you so pessimistic about a confession?

CURRY. Well, you know we've been in the business a good while and, [laughter by group] and sometimes you can sort of draw your own conclusions after talking to a man over a period of time. Of course he might have a change of heart but I'd be rather surprised if he did.

Q. Chief, do you consider the FBI letter and the photograph a real block buster in the investigation?

CURRY. I would say that that was a very helpful link in our chain of evidence, yes.

Q. Chief, is that the warrant you have?

CURRY. This is the warrant of arrest, yes.

Q. Will you hold it up? Thank you. What court would have jurisdiction over this?

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CURRY. It was filed in the same court, Justice Court Precinct No. 2. The same as the other cases.

Q. When will he be arraigned on the -- ?

Q. On the powder burns, have you anything from the FBI on that yet?

CURRY. No, I haven't had that report yet.

Q. Chief, would you say basically . . . [several talking at once, unintelligible]

CURRY. Basically, yes.

Q. When will the arraignment be on this?

CURRY. I don't know.

Q. Today?

CURRY. No, I don't think so.

Q. Would you give us a typical reaction of Oswald when you showed him, for instance, the picture?

CURRY. I was not present so I couldn't give you that.

Q. Could you tell us why his mother and his wife were here today and what they did?

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CURRY. They visited with him. I understand that he asked them to attempt to get his attorney, John Abt, out of New York, and I think that is what they were doing.

Q. Has anyone heard anything from Abt?

CURRY. Well, it's hearsay with me and I don't know who said this but somewhere back in the office someone said that they understood John Abt did not want to handle the case. Now that's hearsay as far as I'm concerned.

Q. Do you think we'll have the final ballistics tomorrow?

CURRY. I think so.

Q. What do you think the results will be?

CURRY. I think they'll be good.

Q. Did you get a report through telephone today?

CURRY. I have had some information but not a formal report.

Q. And the information was -- positive?

CURRY. The information was very pleasing to us.

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Q. Chief, could I see the warrant again, please, sir?

CURRY. Yes, sir.

Q. Was he confronted today with all the facts that you told us?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. And even the one you didn't tell us about?

CURRY. Yes.

Q. Will we have an opportunity to see the transparencies that showed him with the guns?

CURRY. I don't think so. These might be -- we might have kept these as evidence and it might, Mike tells us, not to be able to introduce them if they have been published in the paper.

Q. Were these clearly identifiable in the photo?

CURRY. They are clearly identifiable.

Q. And so is he?

CURRY. Yes. Sir?

Q. Did he say where they came from?

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CURRY. They came from where his wife stays, I believe, out in Irving.

Q. Chief, will you transfer him under heavy guard?

CURRY. I'll leave that up to Sheriff Decker. That's his responsibility.

Q. The sheriff takes custody of him here?

CURRY. Yes. That's all I have, gentlemen, thank you.

[Chorus of thank-you's from the group]

COMMENTATOR. Chief Jesse Curry of the Dallas Police Department seems to feel like he's pretty optimistic about the case. He smiled through most of that interview discussing primarily the warrant charging Oswald with assaulting with intent to murder Governor Connally of Texas. Nevertheless when he got into discussion of the evidence, the new evidence that they seem to have against Oswald, he was all smiles. He seems very optimistic about this. This is Nelson Benton at the Dallas Police Department.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2150--Continued

WNR reel 14
Friday night late, November 22, 1963

POLICE CHIEF JESSE CURRY'S INSTRUCTIONS
TO NEWSMEN RE OSWALD'S APPEARANCE IN
ASSEMBLY ROOM, DALLAS CITY JAIL

CURRY. I won't try to name them all now.

VOICE. Take

CURRY. --anything goes wrong with his being down there. If there's a rush up here he's immediately going out and that's it. Now, do we understand each other?

REPORTERS. Right. Yes. Right.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2151