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STATE OF LOUISIANA VS. CLAY L. SHAW

OSWALD, MARINA

OSWALD, LEE, POST RUSSIAN PERIOD

OSWALD, LEE, POST RUSSIAN PERIOD, ASSOCIATES AND RELATIVES

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CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ORLEANS

STATE OF LOUISIANA

.....
STATE OF LOUISIANA

198-059

VERSUS

1426(30)

CLAY L. SHAW
.....

SECTION "C"

PROCEEDINGS IN OPEN COURT,
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1969

HELEN R. DIETRICH,
Reporter.

002031

B E F O R E : THE HONORABLE EDWARD A. HAGGERTY, JR.,
JUDGE, SECTION "C"

Dietrich & Pickett, Inc.

Stenotypists

333 ST. CHARLES AVENUE, SUITE 1221
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70130 - 522-3111

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Document I.D. Shaw trial proceedings Vol. 27

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MARINA Oswald Bates

COPY TO

Robert Blakey
 Gary Cornwell
 Kenneth Klein
 Charlie Mathews
 Jim Wolf
 Donovan Gay
 Jackie Hess
 Cliff Fenton

Team #1

Team #2

Team #3

Team #4

Team#5

Form #2

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SHAW TRIAL PROCEEDINGS
VOL. 27

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I N D E X

WITNESS DIRECT CROSS

Marina Oswald Porter 5 46
116

E X H I B I T S

EXHIBIT NO. IDENT. OFFERED REC'D.

D-20 11 115 116

1 Pursuant to the adjournment, the 2
2 proceedings herein were resumed at 9:05
3 o'clock a.m. on Friday, February 21, 1969. . . .

4 THE COURT:

5 I am going to make a ruling out of the
6 presence of the Jury. I think my
7 ruling should be made out of the
8 presence of the Jury.

9 Now, let me make one preliminary state-
10 ment. Mr. Reed asked me no matter
11 what my decision was would I take a
12 five-minute recess afterwards. So
13 that we won't have a mad rush for
14 the door, I will grant that recess.

15 The motion for a directed verdict is
16 denied.

17 I will take a five-minute recess.

18 (Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.)

19 AFTER THE RECESS:

20 THE COURT:

21 I don't know whether you wish to reserve
22 a bill, Mr. Dymond. If you do, it
23 should be in the presence of the
24 Jury.

25 MR. DYMOND:

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I would like to do it in detail and
then renew it when they come in.

THE COURT:

All right.

MR. DYMOND:

The Defense would like to lodge a formal
objection and reserve a bill of
exception to the ruling of the Trial
Court in overruling the motion for a
directed verdict which was filed at
the close of the State's case, making
parts thereof the entire record and
all the testimony up to the time of
the filing of the motion, together
with the ruling of the Court in over-
ruling said motion, all parts of the
bill.

THE COURT:

All right. Bring in the Jury.

(Jury returned to the box.)

THE COURT:

Are the State and the Defense ready to
proceed?

MR. DYMOND:

We are ready.

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MR. ALCOCK:

The State is ready.

THE COURT:

I think the first thing you want to do
is renew your objection.

MR. DYMOND:

If the Court please, at this time in the
presence of the Jury I would like
to reserve a bill of exception to
the ruling of the Trial Court in
overruling the motion filed yesterday
by the Defense, making parts of the
bill, the motion itself, the entire
record and testimony up until this
time, and the ruling of the Court,
parts of the bill.

THE COURT:

Very well.

The State has rested and the Defense
may proceed with its case.

MR. DYMOND:

Will you please call Mrs. Marina Oswald
Porter.

THE COURT:

Sheriff, call the witness, please.

1 MRS. MARINA OSWALD PORTER,
2 a witness called by and on behalf of the Defense,
3 having been first duly sworn, was examined and
4 testified as follows:

5 DIRECT EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. DYMOND:

7 Q Mrs. Porter, if you will talk right into the
8 end of that microphone, I don't think
9 anyone will have any trouble hearing you.
10 Now, for the record, are you Mrs. Marina
11 Oswald Porter?

12 A Yes, I am, sir.

13 Q Mrs. Porter, are you the widow of the late
14 Lee Harvey Oswald?

15 A Yes, I am.

16 Q Are you presently remarried?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q To whom are you married at this time?

19 A To Kenneth Jess Porter.

20 Q And where are you residing?

21 A We are living in Richardson, Texas.

22 Q Regency, Texas?

23 A No, Richardson, Texas.

24 Q I see. Do you have any children by Lee Harvey
25 Oswald?

1 A Yes, I have two children, two girls.

2 Q Two girls. What are their ages at this time?

3 A June, she is seven years old now, and Rachel
4 is five years old.

5 Q I see. Do you have any children by your
6 marriage to Mr. Kenneth Porter?

7 A Yes, I have a son, by name, Mike.

8 Q One child?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, referring back to the year
11 1963, approximately when did you and your
12 then husband Lee Harvey Oswald move to
13 the city of New Orleans?

14 A I recall we moved to New Orleans in May.

15 Q In May?

16 A Of 1963.

17 Q I see. And from where did you move?

18 A From Dallas, Texas.

19 Q I see. Now, when you and your husband moved
20 here in May of 1963, did you have a child
21 then?

22 A Yes, I had one child and I expected another
23 one.

24 Q You had one child and were expecting another
25 one?

1 A (The witness nodded affirmatively.)

2 Q Now, did you and Lee Harvey Oswald come to
3 New Orleans in May of 1963 together or
4 separately?

5 A We came separately.

6 Q You came separately. Who came first?

7 A Lee came here first to find a job and a place
8 to stay.

9 Q I see.

10 A And then I moved down.

11 Q Approximately how long after Lee Oswald came
12 to New Orleans did you follow him, that
13 is, come here yourself?

14 A About a week's time.

15 Q About a week?

16 A I would say.

17 Q Now, when you arrived here yourself in May of
18 1963, had Lee Harvey Oswald located a
19 place for you and him to stay?

20 A A place already had been rented for us, he
21 had already rented a place.

22 Q He had already rented a place?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q And where was that place?

25 A It was 4905 Magazine Street in New Orleans.

1 Q Try to speak just a little bit louder, I
2 am afraid the Jury may have trouble
3 hearing you.
4 A All right.
5 Q You say 4905 Magazine Street?
6 A I am not sure, 4905 or 4907.
7 Q I see. And who was the landlord and landlady
8 at that address, Mrs. Porter?
9 A I don't know their names, sir.
10 Q You don't know their names?
11 A No.
12 Q Did you ever know their names?
13 A Not then, not during the time I was living
14 in this place.
15 Q I see. Have you since learned their names?
16 A I don't recall right now.
17 Q You don't recall. I see. Now, during the
18 time that you and Lee Harvey Oswald lived
19 here in New Orleans on Magazine Street,
20 was he employed, Mrs. Porter?
21 A Yes, he was.
22 Q Where was he employed?
23 A I don't know the name of this coffee company.
24 Q At a coffee company?
25 A Yes.

1 Q Did he already have that job when you got 9
2 here, or did he get it after you got here?
3 A He already had the job then.
4 Q He already had the job?
5 A Yes, sir, or he had very shortly after.
6 Q You say he either already had it or he got
7 it very shortly after?
8 A Yes, sir.
9 Q I see. Now, while he had that job at Reily
10 Coffee Company, approximately what were
11 his working hours, that is, about what
12 time in the morning did he go to work
13 and about what time did he get home?
14 A Oh, about from 8:00 o'clock I think till
15 5:00 or 5:30.
16 Q And how did he ordinarily get to work?
17 A I didn't hear you, sir.
18 Q How did he get to work, that is, what means
19 of transportation?
20 A By bus.
21 Q By bus?
22 A Yes.
23 Q And how did he return home?
24 A The same way.
25 Q Did you and he ever own an automobile here in

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New Orleans?

A No, sir.

Q Did you and he ever own an automobile during the entire time that you were married to Lee Oswald?

A No, we never owned an automobile.

Q To your knowledge, while you were living here in New Orleans, was he able to drive an automobile?

A No, he wasn't, no. I don't know, I never have seen him drive an automobile.

Q You never have seen him drive an automobile?

A Not as far as I know.

Q Did you know how to drive an automobile when you were living here in New Orleans?

A No. I still don't.

Q You still don't?

A No.

Q Now, during the time that you were living here in New Orleans with Lee Harvey Oswald, did you ever know him to wear a beard?

A No, sir.

Q Did he or did he not shave regularly?

A Not every day, but he never had any beard at all.

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MR. DYMOND:

What is our next number?

MR. SULLIVAN:

Twenty.

BY MR. DYMOND:

Q (Exhibiting photograph to witness) Mrs. Porter,
I show you a photograph which has been
marked for identification "D-20," and I
ask you whether you are able to locate
your late husband Lee Harvey Oswald in
the photograph.

A (Indicating) He is here in the middle of this
picture wearing a black sweater.
(Whereupon, the document offered by
Counsel was duly marked for identi-
fication as "Exhibit D-20" and
received in evidence.)

BY MR. DYMOND:

Q Would you kindly take this pen and put an
"X" on the white portion of the photo-
graph, if you will.

A (The witness complied.)

Q That portion, that shows Lee Harvey Oswald?

A Yes.

Q Now, Mrs. Porter, I ask you to look at that

1 photograph which you have identified as
2 being one of Lee Harvey Oswald, and tell
3 me whether you have ever seen him with
4 more beard than is shown on him in that
5 photograph.

6 A This is the most of the beard that I have
7 ever seen on him.

8 Q You say that is the most beard that you have
9 ever seen him with?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q Now, does that statement apply only to the
12 time that you were living here in New
13 Orleans with him, or during the entire
14 time that you knew him?

15 A During all the entire time.

16 Q The entire time that you knew him?

17 A (The witness nodded affirmatively.)

18 Q Now, with respect to clothing, Mrs. Porter,
19 did he ordinarily wear dirty clothing
20 or clean clothing?

21 MR. ALCOCK:

22 Your Honor, object to leading questions.

23 A Clean clothes.

24 THE COURT:

25 I will permit the question. He was

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leading up to it.

BY MR. DYMOND:

Q What was your answer, Mrs. Porter?

A He wore clean clothes.

Q He wore clean clothes. Now, with reference to when he was going out of the house, that is, going out in public you might say, did he have any unusual habits concerning his clothing?

A No, sir.

Q Would you say that he wore the same type clothing at home as he did when going out, or not?

MR. ALCOCK:

Object as leading.

THE COURT:

I will sustain the objection. It is leading. Would you rephrase your question.

MR. DYMOND:

All right.

BY MR. DYMOND:

Q Do you know of any difference in his habits with respect to clothing when he was going to stay home or when he was going

1 out in public?

2 A For example, if he had to go downtown, you

3 know, he always changed clothes, he wore

4 a fresh shirt or suit, or if he goes

5 just to nearby, to the grocery, you know,

6 little supermarket, he might wear slacks

7 and T-shirt.

8 Q Now, these garments that he wore, what was

9 their condition with respect to cleanli-

10 ness or dirtiness?

11 A I don't recall them sloppy.

12 Q I didn't hear you.

13 A I don't recall them dirty.

14 Q You would not call them dirty, you say?

15 A No.

16 Q Approximately how many shirts did he have

17 that you recall, Mrs. Porter?

18 A Not very many; he maybe have only two dress

19 shirts.

20 Q One or two dress shirts?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, do you know what a beatnik

23 or a hippie looks like?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q Did you ever see Lee Harvey Oswald in such

1 a condition as to resemble a beatnik
2 or a hippie?
3 A No, sir.
4 Q Did he ever wear long hair?
5 A No.
6 Q What was ordinarily the condition of his hair?
7 How was it kept?
8 A It was quite short.
9 Q Quite short?
10 A Yes, sir.
11 Q Uncombed or combed?
12 A There wasn't very much to comb. When he went
13 out he combed his hair, yes, sir.
14 Q I see. Now, to your knowledge, Mrs. Porter,
15 did Lee Harvey Oswald ever take a trip
16 up to Clinton, Louisiana at any time
17 while you and he were living here in
18 New Orleans?
19 A Not that I know of.
20 Q Did you yourself ever go to Clinton, Louisiana?
21 A Never, sir.
22 Q Did you ever take the baby up there?
23 A No, sir.
24 Q Did anyone else to your knowledge ever take
25 your baby up to Clinton, Louisiana?

1 A Nobody ever took baby away from me for any
2 reason.
3 Q Now, until when did you and Lee Harvey Oswald
4 live together here in New Orleans, that
5 is, when did either one of you leave New
6 Orleans permanently?
7 A I don't remember just now.
8 Q Just take your time.
9 A August.
10 Q What?
11 A I think I left on August 25 -- or was it
12 September 25? It was August 25, I think.
13 Q About how long after you left New Orleans did
14 Lee Harvey Oswald leave New Orleans?
15 A I don't know when he left New Orleans because
16 I wasn't with him, but I saw him approxi-
17 mately after seven or ten days.
18 Q About seven or ten days after what?
19 A After I left New Orleans.
20 Q After you left New Orleans?
21 A After I left New Orleans, yes.
22 Q I see. And you say you don't remember the
23 exact date that either you or he left?
24 Is that right?
25 A No, sir.

1 Q Now, where did you see him for the next time
2 after you left New Orleans, Mrs. Porter?

3 A Next time I saw him at Ruth Paine's house.

4 Q And where is Ruth Paine's house located?

5 A In Irving, Texas.

6 Q In Irving, Texas?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q Now, Mrs. Oswald, during the time that you
9 and Lee Harvey Oswald were living here
10 in New Orleans, did you ever know him
11 to stay away from home for any period
12 of time?

13 A Only once when he spent the night in jail.

14 Q Only once when he spent the night in jail?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q Do you remember the date or the approximate
17 date of that?

18 A No, sir.

19 Q Do you recall any other nights that he was
20 not at home during the period that you
21 were living here?

22 A Not at all.

23 Q Now, did he work at the coffee company during
24 the entire time that you and he were
25 living here in New Orleans?

1 A No. I think he lost this job shortly before
2 we left New Orleans, but I don't know
3 the exact date.

4 Q You don't know the exact date?

5 A No.

6 Q Could you tell us about how long before you
7 all left New Orleans he lost this job?

8 A No, I can't tell you.

9 Q You don't know exactly?

10 A No.

11 Q After he lost his job at the coffee company,
12 was he away from home a great deal or
13 did he stay around the house?

14 A He stayed around the house most of the time,
15 and sometimes he went to the library or
16 just to hunt for a job, that is all.

17 Q Where did he ordinarily spend his evenings?

18 A Home.

19 Q At home?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Was the baby there at that time?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q And what did he ordinarily do when he was
24 at home?

25 A Mostly he was reading.

1 Q Mostly reading?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Did he read a lot?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, did you and Lee Harvey
6 Oswald have many friends here in New
7 Orleans, or not?

8 A No, sir. We have just his relatives.

9 Q What relatives are these that you --

10 A His aunt and uncle and their family, and
11 their children.

12 Q His aunt and uncle and what? I didn't hear
13 you.

14 A And their children.

15 Q And their children?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Now, what was the name of this aunt and uncle?

18 A Aunt Lily and -- I don't remember Uncle, I
19 don't remember his name. It was hard
20 for me to pronounce then, so I never
21 learned his name, but the last name
22 was Murat.

23 Q Murat?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Would you know how to spell that?

- 1 A No.
- 2 Q You don't know. Did you ever take any trip
3 or trips with the Murats?
- 4 A Yes. We went to Mobile, Alabama, Alabama or --
- 5 Q Mobile, Alabama?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q How many times?
- 8 A Once.
- 9 Q Did you ever take any other trips while you
10 were living here?
- 11 A No, sir.
- 12 Q You never did?
- 13 A (The witness shook her head negatively.)
- 14 Q Do you recall approximately how long before
15 you left New Orleans you all took this
16 trip to Alabama, Mobile, Alabama?
- 17 A No, I don't remember, sir.
- 18 Q Did you and he ever visit at any home here
19 in New Orleans other than the Murat's?
- 20 A I don't think so. Anyhow, I never visited
21 with him.
- 22 Q You never visited with him?
- 23 A And he never told me he visit somebody else.
- 24 Q Was he absent from home any night when he
25 might have been visiting with someone

1 else?

2 A No.

3 Q Was he always home?

4 A What did you say?

5 Q Was he at home at night all the time?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q Did any friends other than the Murats ever

8 visit you and Lee Harvey Oswald at the

9 address on Magazine?

10 A No. Once friends of Ruth Paine visit us.

11 Q Some friend of Ruth Paine's?

12 A Yes, some lady with children, and that is all.

13 Q A lady with children, you say?

14 A (The witness nodded affirmatively.)

15 Q Do you recall their names or not?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q Did any men ever visit you there?

18 A No.

19 Q Now, during the time that you were living here

20 in New Orleans did you ever know or were

21 you familiar with the name, Clay Shaw?

22 A No, sir.

23 Q When was the first time that you ever heard

24 that name?

25 A When this trial began.

1 Q When this case began?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Had you ever heard the name, Clay Bertrand?

4 A No, sir.

5 Q Had you ever heard the name, Clem Bertrand?

6 A No, sir.

7 Q When was the first time that you heard those
8 two Bertrand names?

9 A From the newspapers when all this news broke.

10 Q I see. Had you ever heard the name, David W.
11 Ferrie --

12 A No, sir.

13 Q -- or Dave Ferrie?

14 A No, sir.

15 Q To your knowledge, do you know any individual
16 by the name of Dave Ferrie?

17 A No.

18 Q To your knowledge, did your late husband, Lee
19 Harvey Oswald, know a man by the name of
20 David Ferrie?

21 A No, I don't know that.

22 MR. DYMOND:

23 Mr. Sullivan, may I have the photograph
24 of Ferrie?

25 (Document handed to Counsel.)

1 BY MR. DYMOND:

2 Q (Exhibiting photograph to witness) Mrs. Porter,

3 I show you a photograph which has been
4 marked for identification "State-3," and
5 I ask you whether to your knowledge you
6 have ever seen the person depicted in
7 this photograph before?

8 A No, sir.

9 MR. WILLIAM WEGMANN:

10 I can't hear you.

11 THE WITNESS:

12 No, sir.

13 BY MR. DYMOND:

14 Q Does he look familiar to you at all?

15 A No.

16 Q (Exhibiting photograph to witness) Now, Mrs.
17 Porter, I show you another photograph
18 which has been marked for identification
19 "State-8," which has been identified as
20 a photograph of Dave Ferrie, and I ask
21 you whether you have ever seen this man
22 before?

23 A No.

24 MR. WILLIAM WEGMANN:

25 You have to speak into the microphone.

1 THE WITNESS:

24

2 No, sir.

3 BY MR. DYMOND:

4 Q (Exhibiting photograph to witness) I show you
5 another photograph marked for identifi-
6 cation "State-10," which also purports
7 to be a photograph of David Ferrie, and
8 I ask you whether you have seen him
9 before?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, during the time that you
12 were married to Lee Harvey Oswald, did
13 you ever know, or to your knowledge did
14 he know, a person by the name of Sandra
15 Moffett?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q I am going to read some other names, and the
18 same question applies to all these names.
19 Niels Peterson, also known as Lefty
20 Peterson?

21 A No, sir.

22 Q Layton Martins?

23 A No, sir.

24 Q Alvin Beaubouf?

25 A No, sir.

1 Q Melvin Coffey?

2 A No, sir.

3 Q Al Landry?

4 A No, sir.

5 Q James Llewellyn?

6 A No.

7 Q Are any of those names familiar to you?

8 A Not at all.

9 Q Is the name, Perry Raymond Russo, familiar

10 to you?

11 A No, sir.

12 Q To your knowledge, did you ever know him, or

13 did your late husband ever know him?

14 A No.

15 Q I will also ask the same about Perry Russo,

16 leaving the "Raymond" out of it.

17 A I never heard his name before.

18 Q Never heard it?

19 A No.

20 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, to your knowledge, what if

21 any other names did Lee Harvey Oswald

22 use other than Lee Harvey Oswald? Did

23 he go by any other names at any time to

24 your knowledge?

25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q Would you please tell us what these names
2 were?

3 A He signed signature some kind of papers with
4 the name, Haydel or Hydel.

5 Q Hydel?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 THE COURT:

8 Let me interrupt you a second. Can the
9 Gentlemen of the Jury hear the
10 witness?

11 A JUROR:

12 Not too good.

13 THE COURT:

14 Can you speak into the microphone?

15 THE WITNESS:

16 O.K., sir.

17 BY MR. DYMOND:

18 Q Now, other than the name, Hydel, do you know
19 of any other name that he used?

20 A Not at the time I was married to him.

21 Q Well, at any other time?

22 A Later I find out he rent apartment under
23 another name.

24 Q And what was that name, if you know?

25 A I don't remember right now, sir.

1 Q Did you ever know him to use the name, Leon
2 Oswald?

3 A No, I don't know about that.

4 Q Is that name familiar to you, Leon Oswald?

5 A No, sir.

6 Q Was he ever known as, or did he ever use the
7 name, Harvey Oswald, that is, leaving
8 the Lee off of it?

9 A I don't know about that, sir.

10 Q To your knowledge, did he ever do that?

11 A No.

12 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, when you say "I don't know
13 about that," what do you mean by that?
14 Like when I asked you, did he use the
15 name Harvey Oswald, would you say he did
16 or did not use the name?

17 A Maybe he used somewhere, you know, but I never
18 heard it or never have seen him using
19 this name.

20 Q To your knowledge, you do not know about it?

21 A To my knowledge, right.

22 Q Now, during the time that you and Lee Harvey
23 Oswald were living at the Magazine Street
24 address here in New Orleans, to your
25 knowledge did he at any time live some

1 place else?

2 A No, sir.

3 Q To your knowledge, where did he live during

4 the entire time that he was here in New

5 Orleans?

6 A At the same address I lived on Magazine Street.

7 Q You and he never separated while you were in

8 New Orleans, that is, broke up your

9 marriage?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q To your knowledge, was he rooming with anyone

12 else or sharing an apartment with anyone

13 else while you and he were living in New

14 Orleans?

15 A No.

16 Q Never was. Now, Mrs. Porter, were you aware

17 of the fact that Lee Harvey Oswald had

18 any rifle while he was here in New Orleans?

19 A Yes, sir, I knew about that.

20 Q You knew about that?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q Do you think you would recognize the type of

23 rifle that he had if I showed it to you?

24 A No, I don't think I would.

25 Q You would not?

1 A No.

2 MR. DYMOND:

3 Where is the rifle, Mr. Sullivan?

4 THE CLERK:

5 Down in the property room.

6 THE COURT:

7 Sheriff, get it.

8 You may proceed. --

9 BY MR. DYMOND:

10 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, while you and Lee Harvey
11 Oswald were living on Magazine Street,
12 did anyone ever come there and pick him
13 up or pick you up or pick both of you up
14 in an automobile?

15 A Only the Murats.

16 Q Only the --

17 A -- Aunt and Uncle, the Murats.

18 Q Only the Murats?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q Do you remember what type of automobile the
21 Murats had at that time?

22 A No. Could be his cousin, too, but he was
23 Murats' son.

24 Q I didn't hear you.

25 A Maybe Lee's cousin, you know, the son of the

1 Murats.

2 Q Yes.

3 A He could come, but other than that I can't
4 say for --

5 Q You don't know what kind of car?

6 A Can't say for sure.

7 Q (Exhibiting photograph to witness) Mrs. Porter,
8 I show you a photograph of an automobile,
9 which has been marked for identification
10 "State-2," and I ask you whether that
11 looks like the Murats' automobile.

12 A I can't say this, sir.

13 Q You don't know?

14 A No.

15 Q Do you recall what color the Murats' auto-
16 mobile was?

17 A I don't remember, no.

18 Q How many times did you ride in that car,
19 about?

20 A Two or three times, maybe.

21 Q Two or three times. Did anyone else ever
22 pick Lee Harvey Oswald up in an auto-
23 mobile from the Magazine Street address?

24 A No.

25 Q Did you and Lee Harvey Oswald ever own an

1 automobile?

2 A No, sir.

3 Q To your knowledge, did he ever own one
4 individually?

5 A No.

6 Q To your knowledge, did he ever borrow an
7 automobile?

8 A No.

9 Q Now, was Lee Harvey Oswald noncommittal or
10 was he outspoken concerning his political
11 views, Mrs. Porter? In other words, did
12 he talk about them or did he not talk
13 about that?

14 A He did not talk about it in the presence of
15 me, not in hearing, not here, not in
16 the United States.

17 Q Did you ever know him to make any public
18 appearances or speeches concerning
19 political views?

20 A One. I recall he made some kind of speech
21 in Mobile, Alabama when he visited his
22 cousin who was in seminary over there,
23 but I don't know what it is all about
24 because I didn't hear the speech.

25 Q I see.

1 A Then he has some kind of interview on the
2 radio here in New Orleans.

3 Q I didn't catch that.

4 A He had some kind of interview on the radio
5 here in New Orleans.

6 Q Here in New Orleans. I see. And that was
7 while you and he were living here
8 together, is that right?

9 A Yes, but I don't know if it was political
10 speech or what, because at that time I
11 didn't speak English and didn't under-
12 stand.

13 Q You say at that time you did not speak any
14 English?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q Now, when you left New Orleans, how did you
17 leave?

18 A With Ruth Paine.

19 Q Now, where did Ruth Paine come from to get
20 you?

21 A She came from Irving, Texas.

22 Q Did you and she leave right after she got here,
23 or did she stay here any length of time
24 before you all left?

25 A She stayed with us for maybe two or three,

1 two days or so, and then --

2 Q Was Ruth Paine alone or did she have someone
3 else with her when she came here?

4 A She had children, two children with her.

5 THE COURT:

6 May I interrupt you a second? Bring it
7 over to Mr. Dymond.

8 (Rifle produced and turned over to Mr. Dymond.)

9 BY MR. DYMOND:

10 Q I can't expect you to be exact on this, Mrs.
11 Porter, but could you tell us approxi-
12 mately what age the two Paine children
13 appeared to be?

14 A Ruth Paine's children?

15 Q Yes.

16 A At that time I think they were four and two.

17 Q Four and two?

18 A Or five and three, something like that.

19 Q Now, what type of automobile did she come
20 from Dallas in?

21 A She had a station wagon.

22 Q A station wagon. Do you recall what color
23 it was?

24 A Some kind of light color.

25 Q A light color?

- 1 A Yes, sir.
- 2 Q Now, when you and Ruth Paine left to go to
3 Dallas, who left with you in this station
4 wagon, that is, who all went in it?
- 5 A It was Ruth and her two children, and me and
6 the baby, June, that is all.
- 7 Q Did you go straight through from New Orleans
8 to Dallas, or did you stop any place?
- 9 A We stopped overnight somewhere on the way to
10 Dallas.
- 11 Q So I would take it you got to Dallas the
12 following day then, is that right?
- 13 A Yes, yes, sir.
- 14 Q Now, upon getting to Dallas with Ruth Paine,
15 where did you go to live?
- 16 A Oh, I stayed with Ruth Paine at her apartment,
17 I mean at her house in Irving, Texas.
- 18 Q In Irving, Texas?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 I want to make correction, sir. Before I
21 said, went to Dallas. We went to Irving,
22 didn't go to Dallas.
- 23 Q Is Irving a suburb of Dallas?
- 24 A Yes, Irving is a suburb of Dallas.
- 25 Q About how far from Dallas, if you know?

- 1 A Don't know. Very close.
- 2 Q About how long does it take to drive from
3 Irving to Dallas, if you know?
- 4 A Fifteen to twenty minutes, something like
5 that.
- 6 Q Fifteen to twenty minutes?
- 7 A (The witness nodded affirmatively.)
- 8 Q Now, when you and Ruth Paine and your children
9 and her two children arrived in Dallas,
10 you say you went to Mrs. Paine's house?
- 11 A Yes, sir.
- 12 Q Did you go there to live at that time?
- 13 A What did you say?
- 14 Q Did you go there to live at that time?
- 15 A Yes, sir, I stayed with her.
- 16 Q And, as I understand it, your husband, Lee
17 Harvey Oswald, was not with you at that
18 time? Is that correct?
- 19 A No, he wasn't when we arrived.
- 20 Q Now, about how long after you got to Ruth
21 Paine's house in Irving, Texas did you --
- 22 A We left; a week or after a week or ten days,
23 he show up.
- 24 Q After a week or ten days he showed up?
- 25 A Yes. He called one morning and said he was

1 there, spent the night YMCA or something
2 like that. I forget now if he come by
3 bus, you know, and Ruth picked him up
4 from the bus station or he took a taxi.
5 I don't remember.

6 Q You don't remember which?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q Now, did he tell you where, if any place, he
9 had been after leaving New Orleans but
10 before getting to Irving, Texas?

11 A He had went to Mexico.

12 Q Did he tell you how long he had been in
13 Mexico?

14 A No, he didn't.

15 Q He did not?

16 A No.

17 Q Do you know how long he had been in Mexico?

18 A No.

19 Q (Exhibiting rifle to witness) Mrs. Porter,
20 I show you a rifle which has been intro-
21 duced in evidence and marked for identi-
22 fication "State-18," and I ask you
23 whether that rifle looks familiar to you
24 or whether you recognize this type of
25 rifle.

1 A Sir, I am not expert in rifles so I couldn't
2 say anything about this rifle. Just a
3 rifle to me.

4 Q You wouldn't know anything about it?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q But you did testify that you knew he had a
7 rifle, is that right?

8 A Yes, that is right.

9 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, with reference to the rifle
10 which you say that you knew that Lee
11 Harvey Oswald had, did you ever see that
12 rifle while you were here in New Orleans?

13 A Not very close to it, you know. I was just
14 passing by when he was cleaning rifle,
15 or sometimes he was sitting on the porch,
16 you know, with the rifle and I didn't
17 bother about it.

18 Q Where was the rifle usually kept?

19 A In the closet.

20 Q In the closet?

21 A -- where he kept his clothes.

22 Q In the closet where he kept his clothes?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q Did you ever see him take that rifle off of
25 the premises there at the Magazine Street

1 address, that is, out of the house and 38
2 out of the yard?
3 A No, sir, I don't remember it, no, sir.
4 Q You don't remember ever having --
5 A No, sir.
6 Q Do you know how the rifle got to Texas if it
7 got there?
8 A Lee was -- I expecting baby, so Lee was packing
9 all the clothes, you know, so I don't
10 know what he packed, you know. So later
11 on after we stayed in Ruth's house -- no,
12 I don't know about the rifle -- anyhow,
13 I think first time I saw rifle was police
14 arrived.
15 Q When the police arrived?
16 A Yes, sir.
17 Q Was that before or after the assassination of
18 President Kennedy?
19 A After.
20 Q After?
21 A Yes.
22 Q Did you ever see the rifle between the time
23 that you saw it in New Orleans and after
24 the assassination when the police arrived?
25 A I don't remember right now, sir. I might

1 have, you know, because I was looking
2 for the guns. I don't remember right
3 now.

4 Q Did you ever see the rifle in Texas, in
5 Irving, Texas, before the police arrived?

6 A I don't remember, sir.

7 Q You don't remember seeing it?

8 A No. I testify for Warren Commission what
9 actually did and when.

10 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, did you ever know Lee Harvey
11 Oswald to have any large sums of money?

12 A No, I don't know about that, sir.

13 Q Did you ever see him with a big roll of bills?

14 A No.

15 Q Did he ever give you much money?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q What is the most that he ever gave you?

18 A Dollar.

19 Q A dollar?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Did you ever see any large sums of money
22 around the house --

23 A I never --

24 Q -- on Magazine Street?

25 A I never was looking, you know, in personal

1 belongings like his wallet or his
2 closet where he kept his things. I
3 don't know about that, sir.

4 Q Who ordinarily did the grocery shopping?

5 A Both of us, but he was -- you know, paid the
6 bills and things like that. He took
7 care of the money in the house anyhow.

8 Q Who paid the rent there on Magazine Street?

9 A He did.

10 Q Was that rent always kept up to date or did
11 it ever get behind?

12 A I don't know, sir. I don't think he paid
13 before we left New Orleans, I think he
14 owed for two weeks or some amount, he
15 didn't pay for two weeks, but later on
16 when all this happened I pay when I
17 find out, after all this happened.

18 Q Then I understand you to say that he didn't
19 pay for the two weeks and you paid that
20 later on?

21 A After all this happened, after assassination.

22 Q In other words, after the assassination, you
23 paid it? Is that correct?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Now, in doing your shopping, Mrs. Porter,

1 were you able to buy everything that
2 you wanted or did you have to be careful
3 about spending money?

4 A I have to be very careful about it.

5 Q To your knowledge, did Lee Harvey Oswald have
6 any bank accounts?

7 A I don't know about that, sir. I don't think
8 he did.

9 Q After his death, did you receive any money
10 from bank accounts which he might have
11 left?

12 A No, sir.

13 Q Did he leave any estate at all?

14 A No, sir.

15 Q Did you get the personal possessions of Lee
16 Harvey Oswald after his death?

17 A No, sir, no.

18 Q Do you know what happened to them?

19 A They have been confiscated. I don't know
20 where they are or what happened with them.

21 Q You did not get them? You say they were
22 confiscated?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, where were you living on
25 November 22, 1963, which was the date

1 of the assassination?

2 A I was living with Ruth Paine in Irving.

3 Q And where were you, if you know, at the time

4 of the assassination?

5 A I was in the house.

6 Q At that time were you able to speak English?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q How did you find out that the President had

9 been assassinated?

10 A Ruth Paine told me.

11 Q Where was she at that time?

12 A She was watching television, sir. Part of

13 the morning she was gone, she had appoint-

14 ment with her daughter, some kind, and

15 then came home maybe around 10:00 o'clock

16 or 11:00 o'clock or something like that.

17 Q You say you and she were watching television?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q Do you know where Ruth Paine's automobile was

20 at the time of the assassination?

21 A At home.

22 Q At home?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q Did she leave the house any time shortly

25 after the assassination?

- 1 A No, sir.
- 2 Q Did the automobile leave the house any time
3 shortly after the assassination?
- 4 A No. We have been called to -- I mean shortly
5 after that the police came, but after
6 this I don't remember what happened, who
7 go where, you know.
- 8 Q You say shortly after the assassination the
9 police came?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, after Lee Harvey Oswald got
12 to Dallas, that is, after he left New
13 Orleans, did he live in Ruth Paine's
14 house with you?
- 15 A After he left New Orleans?
- 16 Q Yes.
- 17 A Yes, sir, he came to visit us on weekends.
- 18 Q Do you know where he was living during the
19 week?
- 20 A He was renting place somewhere in Oak Cliff.
- 21 Q Is Oak Cliff a portion of Dallas?
- 22 A Yes, sir.
- 23 Q Did you see the place that he was renting at
24 Oak Cliff?
- 25 A No.

1 Q You have never been there?

2 A No, sir.

3 MR. DYMOND:

4 We tender the witness.

5 MR. ALCOCK:

6 Your Honor, would you like me to begin
7 cross-examination at this time, or
8 would the Court like to take a short
9 recess?

10 THE COURT:

11 The Captain tells me we have some hot
12 coffee now, so we will take a break
13 at this time for fifteen minutes.

14 (Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.)

15 AFTER THE RECESS:

16 THE COURT:

17 Mr. Alcock, Mr. Dymond asked me during
18 the recess if he could ask at least
19 one or two more questions, and I
20 told him yes.

21 You may proceed, Mr. Dymond.

22 BY MR. DYMOND:

23 Q Mrs. Porter, did you desire to make any
24 correction in connection with the date
25 on which you left New Orleans?

- 1 A Yes, sir, I have to correct myself. I left
2 New Orleans in September, September 20
3 or 23, or 21, one of those days, not in
4 August.
- 5 Q That would be 1963?
- 6 A Yes, sir.
- 7 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, did you ever see this Defen-
8 dant Shaw at the home on Magazine Street
9 where you lived?
- 10 A No, sir. Today was the first time I saw him
11 in person.
- 12 Q You say today was the first time that you ever
13 saw him in person?
- 14 A Yes, sir.
- 15 Q Did any mail ever arrive at the Magazine Street
16 address, to your knowledge, with a return
17 address either "Clay Shaw" or "Clem
18 Bertrand" or "Clay Bertrand"?
- 19 A No, sir. I just recall one incident: Once
20 some men came, you know, and Lee went to
21 the door, and he said it was men but he
22 never saw them before or afterwards,
23 probably, said, cover up FBI or some
24 reporter, but that is all he said, but
25 I didn't see him (sic).

1 Q To your knowledge, was any telegram ever
2 received at the house from a Clay Shaw
3 or Clem Bertrand or Clay Bertrand?

4 A No, sir.

5 Q Did you all have a telephone there at the
6 house?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q You did not?

9 MR. DYMOND:

10 We tender the witness.

11 CROSS-EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. ALCOCK:

13 Q Mrs. Porter, can you tell us what refreshed
14 your memory about the date that you left
15 New Orleans, during this recess?

16 A I don't understand your question, sir.

17 Q Would you tell us why all of a sudden that
18 you remembered you left New Orleans on
19 September 25 rather than August 25, 1963?

20 A Because I was expecting baby and I knew it
21 was short time enough. She was born
22 shortly, she was born in October, so it
23 is longer period between August and
24 October than between September.

25 Q And this is the reason that you changed your

1 testimony?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Did you talk to anybody during the recess

4 about that testimony?

5 A What do you say, sir?

6 Q Did you talk to anybody during the recess

7 about that testimony?

8 A Yes, this lawyer, Mr. Shaw, asked me if this

9 was the correct date.

10 MR. DYMOND:

11 Not Mr. Shaw. You mean me.

12 BY MR. ALCOCK:

13 Q You spoke to Mr. Dymond? Is that correct?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q And did he correct you?

16 A He just remind me. After I gave testimony

17 I remember myself --

18 Q I see.

19 A -- I make mistake.

20 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, did you have occasion to

21 see Lee the night before the assassination?

22 A I saw him, sir, when he was in jail. I think

23 it was next day after he was arrested.

24 Q Did you see him the night before the

25 assassination? That would be a Thursday

1 night at Mrs. Paine's house.

48

2 A At Mrs. Paine's house?

3 Q Yes.

4 A No, sir.

5 Q You didn't see him the night before the
6 assassination?

7 A Oh, yes -- I am sorry -- I meant to say after.
8 Before, yes, sir, he was at the house.

9 Q Do you recall what time he arrived that night?

10 A No, I don't remember, sir, but it was right
11 after his job, after work.

12 Q I see. Was it usual that he came home on a
13 Thursday night?

14 A No, sir. I didn't expect him until weekend.

15 Q Was that the only Thursday night that he ever
16 came home on when he was living at Oak
17 Cliff and you were living in Irving?

18 A As far as I remember, sir.

19 Q Do you recall whether or not he went out that
20 night?

21 A No, he spend all evening at home.

22 Q Do you recall what he did?

23 A No, sir.

24 Q You don't recall what he did?

25 A No.

1 Q Now, had you purchased any curtain rods for
2 him?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q Had he asked you to purchase any curtain rods
5 for him?

6 A No, sir.

7 Q Did he mention that he had come home to get
8 any curtain rods? -

9 A No.

10 Q Did you ever see any curtain rods in his
11 possession on that night?

12 A No.

13 Q Did he ever mention to you that he was decor-
14 ating his apartment in Dallas?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q To your knowledge, did Mrs. Paine give him any
17 curtain rods on that night?

18 A No, sir.

19 Q Mrs. Porter, where was Lee's gun kept at the
20 Paine home?

21 A In the garage with all -- where all our
22 belongings were.

23 Q Was it wrapped in anything, or do you know?

24 A I don't remember now, sir.

25 Q Had you seen it at any time between the time

1 that you returned to Dallas and the
2 night that we are now talking about,
3 that is, November 21, 1963?

4 A I don't remember it now, sir.

5 Q You don't remember whether you saw it or not?

6 A I don't remember right now.

7 Q All right. Do you recall what time Lee went
8 to bed that night?

9 A No.

10 Q Do you know whether it was before everyone
11 else or after everyone else?

12 A After everyone else.

13 Q After everyone else?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Were you awake in the morning when Lee left
16 for work on November 22, 1963?

17 A I was awake but I didn't get up from the bed.
18 He told me just to stay there and go back
19 to sleep, he just do in the kitchen what-
20 ever he have to do, and that is all.

21 Q At that time did he ask you for any curtain
22 rods?

23 A No, sir.

24 Q Did he mention any curtain rods?

25 A No, sir.

1 Q Did you give him any curtain rods?

2 A No, sir.

3 Q To your knowledge, at that time did Mrs. Paine
4 give him any curtain rods?

5 A I don't -- no, sir.

6 Q In your presence, did he ever ask Mrs. Paine
7 for any curtain rods?

8 A No.

9 Q Do you know how he got to work that morning?

10 A No, sir, I don't know because I didn't see
11 him leaving.

12 Q Do you know approximately what time he left?

13 A No. Might have been 8:00 o'clock or 7:30,
14 I don't know.

15 THE COURT:
16 Did you hear the rest of that answer?

17 MR. ALCOCK:
18 No.

19 THE COURT:
20 Repeat it. Did you say 7:30?

21 A I don't remember.

22 THE COURT:
23 O.K.

24 BY MR. ALCOCK:
25 Q At any time the night before, did you see him

1 with any package about two or three feet
2 long and about six inches wide?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q Did you ever see any wrapping paper around
5 the Paine home?

6 A No, sir. Whatever Ruth had in garage, could
7 have been brown paper, I don't know. I
8 didn't look at it, it wasn't mine.

9 Q Did you see Lee at any time the night of the
10 21st go into the Paine garage?

11 A Yes, he went a few times.

12 Q You saw him actually go into the garage?

13 A Yes.

14 Q How was entrance gained to the garage, by
15 going outside or through the house?

16 A Through the house.

17 Q And what door would lead to the garage from
18 the house?

19 A What did you say?

20 Q What door would lead from the house into the
21 garage?

22 A I think one door from the outside and one
23 from the den.

24 Q From the den?

25 A Yes, sir.

- 1 Q What door did Lee use when you saw him going
2 into the garage?
- 3 A From the den.
- 4 Q From the den. Did you go into the garage with
5 him at any time that night?
- 6 A No, sir.
- 7 Q Can you approximate for us how long he stayed
8 in the garage on those occasions?
- 9 A Two, three minutes maybe. I have been busy
10 with the baby so I don't know the time.
- 11 Q Did he ever bring anything from the garage
12 into the house?
- 13 A No, sir.
- 14 Q Now, you have testified that after the
15 assassination you saw Lee's rifle again?
16 Is that your testimony? I think on direct
17 examination you told Mr. Dymond that you
18 saw Lee's rifle again after the assassin-
19 ation when the police arrived. Is that
20 correct or not correct?
- 21 A No, it is not correct.
- 22 Q It is not correct?
- 23 A Yes, sir. I made mistake. I was confused,
24 I misunderstand the question.
- 25 Q I see. When did you next see the rifle?

1 A I don't recall, sir. Maybe they show me
2 during all this testimony for the Warren
3 Commission or something like that.

4 Q Did you ever see it around the Paine home
5 again?

6 A No, sir.

7 Q Did you have occasion, Mrs. Porter, after the
8 police arrived on the date of the assassin-
9 ation, to go into the garage?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q And what did you do in the garage?

12 A The police asked me if Lee -- if my husband --
13 MR. DYMOND:

14 Your Honor, we object to conversation by
15 the police, that is, what they said.

16 THE COURT:

17 She was testifying to what Lee had told
18 her.

19 MR. ALCOCK:

20 No, the police.

21 BY MR. ALCOCK:

22 Q Mrs. Porter, you can't say what the police
23 told you, you can only say what you did
24 or they did in your presence.

25 A Anyhow, they have been looking for a rifle

1 in the garage, and I showed them where
2 all our things were, and they went over
3 there and didn't find the rifle.

4 Q They didn't find the rifle?

5 A No, sir.

6 Q Had you seen the rifle at all in the garage?

7 A That day?

8 Q No, prior to that day, after coming from New
9 Orleans.

10 A I don't remember, sir.

11 Q You don't remember?

12 A No.

13 Q Did you see any package --

14 A Yes.

15 Q -- that resembled a rifle in the garage?

16 A Big packages, sir, because our things from --
17 the baby bed was wrapped like this and
18 maybe other things.

19 Q Approximately how many packages were there?

20 A Maybe two or three. I didn't pack our belong-
21 ings so I don't know what things were
22 there.

23 Q Now, when you went to the garage with the
24 police on that morning, did you unwrap
25 the long packages?

- 1 A I think they did, did what they were supposed
2 to do. I didn't do any.
- 3 Q Did you notice any long packages missing?
- 4 A No, sir. I know Lee was supposed to have a
5 rifle, and they looked for it and they
6 didn't find it.
- 7 Q Had you packed any curtain rods?
- 8 A No, sir.
- 9 Q Now, did you have occasion to speak to Lee
10 in the police station in Dallas?
- 11 A Yes, sir.
- 12 Q How many times did you speak to him?
- 13 A Once.
- 14 Q Just one time?
- 15 A Yes, sir.
- 16 Q And approximately how long did you talk to
17 him?
- 18 A Approximately five, ten minutes. I don't
19 remember that.
- 20 Q Were you alone or with other --
- 21 A I was with my mother -- my mother-in-law.
- 22 Q Marguerite Oswald?
- 23 A Yes, sir.
- 24 Q What did Lee tell you at this time?
- 25 A It was a very casual conversation.

1 Q Well, what did he say?

2 A He told me not to worry about anything,

3 everything be all right.

4 Q Did he say everything would be all right?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q Did he explain that statement?

7 A I don't remember right now, sir, what he said.

8 Q Can you recall anything else he said?

9 A No, I don't remember now.

10 Q Did he admit to you that he shot the President
11 of the United States?

12 A No, he never did. I never asked him.

13 Q Did he ever ask you anything about a lawyer?

14 THE COURT:

15 Did you hear her answer? You were about
16 to ask a question and she said --

17 THE WITNESS:

18 I didn't ask him about it.

19 BY MR. ALCOCK:

20 Q All right. And I take it he didn't volunteer?

21 Is that correct?

22 A No.

23 Q Did he ask you anything about getting him an
24 attorney?

25 A No, sir.

1 Q After your conversation with Lee at the police
2 station, did you see him again alive?
3 A No, sir.
4 Q Where did you go after that?
5 A I don't remember, sir.
6 Q You don't remember where you went?
7 A No, I don't remember with whom I stayed or who
8 was around me. I met some people there.
9 I wouldn't remember right now.
10 Q Did you go back to Mrs. Paine's home?
11 A This evening I was at Ruth Paine's house, but
12 the day I visit Lee in jail --
13 Q You went back to Mrs. Paine's?
14 A Yes. No. I don't know, sir. Can you scratch
15 this answer? I don't remember whether I
16 went back to Mrs. Paine's.
17 Q I realize it is a long time ago. I am not
18 trying to pressure you.
19 A I know.
20 Q I am asking if you recall going back to Ruth
21 Paine's home or not.
22 A I don't think so, sir, because I remember
23 staying some kind of hotel with some
24 strange people around, so I don't know
25 when it was.

1 Q Six Flags?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Is that in Dallas, Texas?

4 A Yes, sir, it is a part of Dallas.

5 Q And who took you there, do you recall?

6 A I think it was Secret Service.

7 Q Secret Service?

8 A Yes.

9 Q To your knowledge, was the FBI there?

10 A What did you say?

11 Q To your knowledge, was the FBI also there?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q While at the Six Flags, were you questioned
14 by the FBI?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Approximately how long?

17 A Oh, very many people came every day, I don't
18 know who, which was of FBI, which was
19 Secret Service, I gave so much testimony
20 each day so many hours.

21 Q Were you ever told by the FBI that you would
22 have to co-operate with them in order to
23 remain in America?

24 MR. DYMOND:

25 Your Honor, we object to that. It is

1 hearsay in the first place.

2 THE COURT:

3 I will sustain the objection.

4 MR. ALCOCK:

5 All right.

6 BY MR. ALCOCK:

7 Q Mrs. Porter, did the FBI ask you about Lee's
8 trip to Mexico?

9 MR. DYMOND:

10 Object again, Your Honor. That is hear-
11 say.

12 THE COURT:

13 I think she can answer it. Well, rephrase
14 your question. I will allow it.

15 BY MR. ALCOCK:

16 Q Did you personally discuss with the FBI Lee's
17 trip to Mexico?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q Did you tell the FBI at that time when you
20 first were aware of the fact that he was
21 going to Mexico?

22 A I don't remember what I say to the FBI and
23 when and how.

24 MR. EDWARD WEGMANN:

25 Mrs. Porter, speak a little louder.

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MR. ALCOCK:

I couldn't hear her answer.

THE COURT:

Repeat the answer.

THE WITNESS:

Would you repeat the question, please?

BY MR. ALCOCK:

Q The question is, do you recall telling the FBI when you first learned of Lee's intention to go to Mexico?

A When they asked me the fact about if Lee was in Mexico, I told them yes, but when, I told them I don't know.

Q When did you find out when he first intended to go to Mexico?

A When I find out? Before I left New Orleans.

Q Approximately how long before you left New Orleans?

A Maybe two weeks or a month, I don't know.

Q Now, Mrs. Porter, I think you testified that you never went to Lee's apartment in Oak Cliff? Is that correct?

A Yes, sir.

Q Did you ever have occasion to attempt to contact him at Oak Cliff?

Reference copy, JFK Collection: HSCA (RG 233)

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q Were you successful?

3 A No.

4 Q How did you attempt to contact him?

5 A He left a telephone number where he could be
6 reached, and I called by this number and
7 asked for him, but landlady or whoever
8 answered the phone said nobody by this
9 name lived there.

10 Q Did you ever have a conversation with Lee as
11 to why he could not be reached at that
12 number?

13 A Yes, sir, we had argument over that.

14 Q What did he say?

15 A I asked him, "Why did you give me the telephone
16 number if you couldn't be reached by it?"
17 And he told me he used another name.

18 Q He had used an alias?

19 A What?

20 Q He had used another name? Is that your testi-
21 mony?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q Do you recall what that name was?

24 A No, I don't recall right now, but I was very
25 upset for him hiding his real name.

- 1 Q Could that name have been O. H. Lee?
- 2 A I don't know, sir.
- 3 Q Do you recall when he first rented that
- 4 apartment?
- 5 A No.
- 6 Q Did he live at Mrs. Paine's home very long
- 7 when he returned to Dallas from Mexico
- 8 and New Orleans or wherever he had come
- 9 from? How long did he live in Mrs.
- 10 Paine's home?
- 11 A I don't remember, sir.
- 12 Q Do you know whether or not he lived in one
- 13 apartment, or two apartments in Dallas?
- 14 A I don't know this, sir, I don't know how many
- 15 apartments he live in.
- 16 Q Did Lee ever tell you much of what he was
- 17 doing?
- 18 A Yes, he told me.
- 19 Q He didn't tell you he was using the name
- 20 O. H. Lee? Is that correct?
- 21 A No, he didn't. I don't remember right now
- 22 what name he told me then he used.
- 23 Q Now, did you ever have an address of the
- 24 apartment in Dallas?
- 25 A I think so, sir.

1 Q Did you ever attempt to go to that apartment? 6
2 A No.
3 Q Did you ever attempt to contact Lee at that
4 apartment after you were unsuccessful
5 because of his giving you a false name --
6 I mean giving the landlady a false name?
7 A No. It was only once I called.
8 Q Did the FBI ever visit you in Irving, Texas?
9 A Yes, sir.
10 Q On how many occasions?
11 A I don't remember right now how many times it
12 was -- once or twice.
13 Q Once or twice?
14 A Yes.
15 Q Did you ever have occasion on one of these
16 visits by the FBI to take down a license
17 number?
18 A Yes, I did.
19 Q What did you do with the license number?
20 A I wrote it down in a notebook or piece of
21 paper.
22 Q Did you give it to Lee?
23 A Yes, sir.
24 Q Do you know whether or not, of your own
25 knowledge, Lee ever contacted this FBI

1 agent, of your own knowledge?

2 A He said he did.

3 Q Would it be a fair statement, Mrs. Porter, to
4 say that while at Six Flags you were
5 questioned quite often --

6 A Yes.

7 Q -- by the Secret Service and the FBI?

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q Do you recall making the statement in your
10 testimony before the Warren Commission,
11 Mrs. Porter, to the effect that -- and
12 this is a quote -- "I think that they,
13 the FBI agents, should not count on my
14 practically becoming their agent if I
15 desire to stay and live in the United
16 States." Do you recall making that
17 statement?

18 A Whatever I told the Warren Commission, it
19 was the truth.

20 Q Well, do you recall making that statement?

21 A I can't remember exact words, but I testified
22 I was under the impression they told me,
23 not in exact words but if I wanted to
24 stay here I should help this country, if
25 I want to be citizen and things like that.

1 Q In other words, essentially that statement
2 you would not quarrel with? Is that
3 right? You don't recall exact words
4 but essentially you have no quarrel
5 with that statement, is that right?

6 A They told me it would be nice for me to co-
7 operate. They didn't -- I didn't have
8 any threats.

9 Q I didn't hear your last --

10 A It wasn't made kind of with threats, if I
11 don't do, they will do something about.
12 I don't know.

13 Q Did you ever see Lee with a pistol?

14 A I don't remember now, sir.

15 Q You don't remember seeing him with a pistol?

16 A No.

17 Q Is it a fact you took a picture of him with
18 a pistol and a rifle?

19 A Yes, sir, I recall right now.

20 Q When did you first see the pistol?

21 A The thing was, sir, when I took the picture
22 I didn't know how to take a picture --
23 even right now don't know -- I just took
24 the picture, and later on in the picture
25 I saw that.

- 1 Q You didn't see the pistol when you were
2 taking the picture?
- 3 A No. I mean it happened to be there, but I
4 didn't. I can't recall exactly when I
5 saw the pistol.
- 6 Q How many times did you see the rifle in New
7 Orleans?
- 8 A I don't know how many times.
- 9 Q Would it be more than once?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q More than twice?
- 12 A Yes. Three, four, five times.
- 13 Q Three, four, five times?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q Did you ever see Lee with the rifle in his
16 hands?
- 17 A Yes, he have been cleaning his rifle in the
18 house.
- 19 Q How many times did you see him cleaning the
20 rifle?
- 21 A Maybe three times.
- 22 Q Did you ever see any ammunition for the rifle?
- 23 A What you call ammunition?
- 24 Q Bullets for the rifle.
- 25 A Not that I remember.

1 Q Do you know what a bullet looks like, Mrs.
2 Porter?
3 A Yes, sir.
4 Q You don't recall seeing any? Is that correct?
5 A No.
6 Q Do you recall, Mrs. Porter, the date on which
7 you attempted to contact Lee at the
8 boarding house but were unsuccessful
9 because of his using a false name? Do
10 you remember that date approximately?
11 A It was pretty close to the time of the
12 assassination.
13 Q Would you say it was a week or two weeks
14 before the assassination?
15 A Could have been approximately ten days or
16 one week, I don't remember. I remember --
17 Q I am sorry. Excuse me.
18 A -- we had an argument over this in the fall --
19 he supposed to come one week and he didn't
20 come, so I decided he was mad. Then he
21 came on Thursday before this happened.
22 Q You had an argument? What do you mean you
23 had an argument?
24 A I was upset, I was mad at him because he
25 didn't use his real name.

1 Q I see. Were you expecting a baby at that
2 time?
3 A Yes, sir.
4 Q Approximately how long after that call did
5 you actually have your baby?
6 A Oh, baby was arrive on the 20th of October.
7 Q October 20th?
8 A Yes, sir.
9 Q You feel this call was prior to the arrival
10 of your baby or --
11 A I don't remember, sir.
12 Q Did you think it strange that he did not
13 give you -- or did not register under
14 his own name?
15 A Yes, it was.
16 Q You testified to your knowledge Lee used at
17 least one other alias, and that would
18 be Hydell?
19 A Yes, sir.
20 Q You don't know of any other aliases he may
21 have used?
22 A No, sir.
23 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, when you were living in New
24 Orleans in the summer of 1963 and the
25 early fall of 1963, did you speak English?

- 1 A No.
- 2 Q Did you speak any other language but Russian?
- 3 A No, sir.
- 4 Q Could Lee speak Russian?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q Were you expecting a child when you were down
7 here in New Orleans in the summer of '63?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q Did you go very many places here in New Orleans?
- 10 A Not very many.
- 11 Q Did you ever attempt to go to the coffee
12 company where you thought Lee was working?
- 13 A Yes, I did once.
- 14 Q And did you find him there?
- 15 A No.
- 16 Q Do you know whether or not you went to the
17 right coffee company?
- 18 A Maybe I didn't.
- 19 Q Did he tell you what coffee company he was
20 working at?
- 21 A No.
- 22 Q He didn't tell you what coffee company he was
23 working at?
- 24 A No.
- 25 Q Did he give you a telephone number where he

1 could be reached at the coffee company?

2 A No.

3 Q Do you know when Lee actually lost his job

4 at the coffee company?

5 A No, I don't know, sir.

6 Q When did he tell you he lost his job at the

7 coffee company?

8 A Probably a week after he actually lost maybe,

9 or three days after he lost the job, but

10 I don't recall the date or the month.

11 Q Do you recall testifying before the Grand Jury

12 here in New Orleans?

13 A What did you say, sir?

14 Q Do you recall testifying before the Grand Jury

15 here in New Orleans?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Do you recall telling the Grand Jury that you

18 thought he lost his job sometime in

19 August?

20 A If I said so, I remembered then -- then.

21 Q I see.

22 A I can't recall right now.

23 Q And if I told you he lost his job on July 19 --

24 MR. DYMOND:

25 I object, Your Honor. That is not in

1 evidence.

2 THE COURT:

3 He has got a right -- under cross-
4 examination, he has a right to attack
5 credibility.

6 MR. DYMOND:

7 Yes, I understand that, sir, but the form
8 of the question I object to, "If I
9 told you he lost his job in August."
10 That is not in evidence, that he lost
11 his job in August.

12 MR. ALCOCK:

13 I didn't say August.

14 THE COURT:

15 July.

16 MR. ALCOCK:

17 July 19.

18 MR. DYMOND:

19 It is not in evidence (that) he lost
20 his job on July 19.

21 THE COURT:

22 I will overrule the objection. It is
23 proper cross-examination.

24 MR. DYMOND:

25 To which ruling Counsel reserves a bill

1 of exception, making the question,
2 answer, the objection and reason for
3 the objection, and the ruling and
4 the entire records parts of the bill.

5 BY MR. ALCOCK:

6 Q Now, Mrs. Porter, if I told you he lost his
7 job on July 19, 1963, would you consider
8 that a fair estimate as to the date he
9 lost his job?

10 A No, I say it wouldn't be.

11 Q It would not be?

12 A No, I think it was closer to the time we left
13 New Orleans.

14 Q Oh, I see. Well, how much closer, Mrs. Porter?

15 A For example, if we left in September, if I
16 left September 23, it could be approxi-
17 mately a month before we left.

18 Q About a month before you left you think he
19 lost his job?

20 A Yes.

21 Q That would be approximately the middle --
22 August 23 then?

23 A Sir, it is very hard for me to remember the
24 month, it is too much time passed by.
25 You can find this information probably

- 1 at the place where he used to work.
- 2 Q That is what I am suggesting. You are suggest-
- 3 ing that you felt that he lost his job
- 4 at most a month before you left New
- 5 Orleans, is that correct?
- 6 A Yes, sir, because seemed like it was -- he
- 7 was looking for a while, he was looking
- 8 for a job, trying to find another job,
- 9 and it was quite a while, maybe two
- 10 weeks or so.
- 11 Q Well, would you say then, Mrs. Porter, from
- 12 July 19 to August 23 that he would leave
- 13 the house in the morning as if going to
- 14 work?
- 15 A I can't tell, sir. When he lost his job he
- 16 pretend for a few days that he is going
- 17 to work. Then later on he said he hadn't
- 18 been working but he tried to find another
- 19 job, and after he admit he didn't have a
- 20 job, then he was looking through the
- 21 newspaper in the house and, you know,
- 22 cut the addresses and then go contact
- 23 the people by the phone or go see them
- 24 for an interview.
- 25 Q I see. In other words, he admitted pretending

- 1 to you that he was still working when
2 he wasn't? Is that correct?
- 3 A Yes, sir.
- 4 Q It is your recollection -- I am sorry -- go
5 ahead.
- 6 A In the beginning.
- 7 Q In the beginning?
- 8 A After he lost his job.
- 9 Q And it is your recollection that sometime
10 around the 23rd of August he officially
11 lost his job? Is that correct?
- 12 A Sir, I cannot testify the exact date right
13 now.
- 14 Q I see. Well, can you say this much, Mrs.
15 Porter -- I am not trying to attack your
16 memory, but can you say this much: Until
17 approximately the 23rd of August he left
18 the house every morning about the same
19 time?
- 20 A Until what time?
- 21 Q At about the same time he left when he went
22 to work?
- 23 A Yes, sir, it is possible.
- 24 Q You say that would be possible?
- 25 A I told you before he could leave the house

1 early in the morning like going to work,
2 and come back at the time he was supposed
3 to come back from work.

4 Q I see.

5 A Maybe he didn't work at all as far as that.

6 Q You didn't know? Is that right?

7 A No.

8 Q In fact, you never even knew what company he
9 worked for?

10 A Maybe he wasn't even working in New Orleans.
11 How was I to know?

12 Q I didn't hear that.

13 A I never followed him to work so I couldn't
14 testify exactly he had been working. I
15 have to have another proof.

16 Q I see. Did he tell you much about what he
17 was doing here in New Orleans?

18 A No, sir.

19 Q As a matter of fact, he rarely told you about
20 what he was doing at any time, isn't that
21 correct?

22 A What?

23 Q As a matter of fact, he rarely told you at
24 any time what he was doing. Isn't that
25 correct?

- 1 A That is correct.
- 2 Q Did Lee read much?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Did he talk to you very much?
- 5 A No.
- 6 Q Did he teach you English?
- 7 A No.
- 8 Q Did you ask him to teach you English?
- 9 A No.
- 10 Q Did you want to learn English when you were
11 down here?
- 12 A Yes, I wanted, but I was busy with the baby
13 and housework. I wished to but I didn't
14 have time very much.
- 15 Q Now, I think you have testified that you still
16 do not know how to drive a car? Is that
17 correct?
- 18 A That is correct, sir.
- 19 Q And, to your knowledge, Lee never drove a car
20 here in New Orleans? Is that also
21 correct?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q Did you ever see Mrs. Paine attempt to teach
24 him how to drive a car?
- 25 A Yes, she showed him once from the house, her

1 home, a little bit.

2 Q Would that be after you returned to New Orleans

3 or before you came down to New Orleans?

4 A I think after New Orleans.

5 Q Did you know what job he held prior to coming

6 down to New Orleans?

7 A I didn't hear you, sir.

8 Q The job, did you know what job he held just

9 before coming to New Orleans?

10 A No.

11 Q You didn't know that job either?

12 A No.

13 Q Do you know the type of work he was doing?

14 A No.

15 Q Did you have a telephone number of his place

16 of employment?

17 A No, sir.

18 Q You didn't know the place of employment?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q Did you know any of his friends from work?

21 A No, sir.

22 Q Did you know of any friends he may have had

23 down here?

24 A No, I didn't know. Seemed like he didn't

25 have very many friends. He didn't make

1 any telephone calls and didn't go any-
2 where.

3 Q Did you have a telephone?

4 A No. I mean usually, he had to make a tele-
5 phone call about a job or something, he
6 would go to the pay phone, so --

7 Q Did you know he was handing out these FAIR
8 PLAY FOR CUBA pamphlets down here?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Do you know how many times he handed them out?

11 A I don't know.

12 Q You don't know?

13 A No.

14 Q Did you ever see him handing any out?

15 A No.

16 Q Do you know whether or not he belonged to any
17 FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA committee down here?

18 A That is what he said to me.

19 Q I didn't hear you.

20 A That is what he told me, he belongs to it.

21 Q Did he ever tell you who the members of the
22 committee were?

23 A No.

24 Q Did he ever say how many there were?

25 A No, sir.

1 Q Did he ever say where the committee met?

2 A No. Seemed to me that he just made up the
3 story, really it wasn't any committee
4 or organization or anything at all.

5 Q Did you sign anything for him down here?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q What did you sign?

8 A Some kind of paper about something, but I
9 don't remember what it was.

10 Q Would you recall --

11 A The name Hydel.

12 Q Hydel?

13 A Yes.

14 Q You signed the name, Hydel?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q And what was your purpose of doing that?

17 A He asked me to do it and I refused, and then
18 he forced me to do it.

19 Q What do you mean, forced you?

20 A He threatened me if I wouldn't do it he use,
21 you know -- how shall I say?

22 Q Physical threats?

23 A Physical threats, yes, sir.

24 Q Do you recall going to Mobile with Lee when
25 he made the speech?

1 A Where?

2 Q Do you recall going with Lee to Mobile when
3 he made the speech?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q Did you hear the speech?

6 A No.

7 Q Did you have occasion to have a conversation
8 with a Jesuit priest at that time who
9 also spoke Russian?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q And was this done while the speech was going
12 on, were you having a conversation while
13 Lee was making the speech?

14 A I don't remember right now, sir, whether it
15 was afterwards or before.

16 Q Do you recall telling the priest that you
17 didn't know who Lee's friends (were) or
18 what he did down in New Orleans at all?

19 A I don't remember right now, sir.

20 Q Do you know as a matter of your own knowledge
21 what Lee was doing when he was pretending
22 to be working?

23 A No. I couldn't know, sir, that.

24 Q I take it then he wasn't home?

25 A What did you say?

1 Q I take it he wasn't home if he was pretend-
2 ing to be working, is that correct?

3 A I guess so.

4 Q Now, approximately what time did Lee return
5 home from work?

6 A Five-thirty.

7 Q Five-thirty?

8 A Five o'clock or five-thirty.

9 Q Five o'clock or five-thirty. Was it light
10 or dark then?

11 A It was quite light.

12 Q What?

13 A Light.

14 Q Light. Did he come home every night at the
15 same time?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Every night?

18 A Well, when he was working.

19 Q What about when he was pretending to work?

20 A O.K., sir. I can recall, for example, he
21 told me -- when he told me he lose his
22 job, and he told me it wasn't very long,
23 so right now I can't say exact days and
24 everything when he lost and when he --

25 Q I understand when he was pretending --

1 A But it haven't been for very many days,
2 because he just can't pretend any longer
3 so he told me.
4 Q You were aware of the fact that he was arrested
5 for the distribution of this FAIR PLAY
6 FOR CUBA literature here in New Orleans?
7 A Yes, sir.
8 Q Did he come home that night?
9 A No, he didn't.
10 Q Did you see him the next morning?
11 A Yes, he came next morning.
12 Q Did he tell you about it the next morning?
13 A Yes.
14 Q When was the first time that you saw these --
15 if you did see them -- these FAIR PLAY
16 FOR CUBA committee leaflets around the
17 apartment?
18 A I don't recall the time, but he brought them
19 home.
20 Q He brought them home?
21 A One day. I don't remember when.
22 Q Now, did Lee get much mail at home?
23 A No, he didn't, no.
24 Q Did he have a post office box?
25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q Did you ever go to his post office box?

2 A No.

3 Q Did you know where it was located?

4 A No.

5 Q Did you have a key to it?

6 A No.

7 Q I take it then you don't know what Lee
8 received at the post office box? Is
9 that correct?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q Did Lee give you instructions never to go
12 into his personal things?

13 A What did you say?

14 Q Did Lee give you instructions never to go
15 into his personal things?

16 A It was since we were married, he was always
17 this way. I was brought up in the same
18 way, I don't like to touch somebody's
19 wallet or go look for some personal
20 things, package and things like that.

21 Q And may I take it you never did this? Is
22 that correct?

23 A Anyhow I tried not to.

24 Q What did you say? You were afraid to?

25 A No, I say I try not to.

1 Q You try not to. Do you know how long he had
2 his post office box?
3 A No.
4 Q Do you know when he first got it?
5 A No.
6 Q Do you know the number of the post office box?
7 A No, sir.
8 Q Did you know whether or not Lee collected
9 Unemployment Compensation down here in
10 New Orleans in the summer of 1963?
11 A I think he did.
12 Q You are not sure of that?
13 A No, I am not sure right now.
14 Q Did Lee pay his rent by cash or by check?
15 A I don't know, sir, how he paid his rent.
16 Q Did you know of any checking account?
17 A No.
18 Q I think you told Mr. Dymond you never received
19 any money from any account he might have
20 had? Is that correct?
21 A Yes.
22 Q Did you ever see him write a check?
23 A Once we went to the grocery store and he had
24 to, I think, cash his check.
25 Q Cashier's check?

1 A I don't know what kind of check it was
2 because I couldn't read English.

3 Q I am sorry. You mean cash a check?

4 A Yes, sir. I mean for his employer.

5 Q His employer. That would be his pay check?
6 Is that correct?

7 A I guess so, but I don't know what kind of
8 check it was.

9 Q Did he ever tell you he was going down to
10 the Unemployment Office?

11 A I don't recall right now.

12 Q Did he ever tell you the name of anybody he
13 knew down here?

14 A No. I was quite upset we didn't have any
15 friends here at all. I was quite lost.

16 Q Well, did he tell you the name of anybody he
17 worked with?

18 A No.

19 Q Did you tell you the places that he went to
20 in an attempt to get a job after he lost
21 his job?

22 A No, sir. He was -- Lee was the kind of person,
23 he never had very many friends and he
24 wasn't very friendly.

25 Q He wasn't a friendly type person?

1 A No. He liked to be alone and left alone.

2 Q He liked to be left alone?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q You said he read a lot. Is that correct?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q Did you ever go to the library with him here
7 in New Orleans?

8 A Yes.

9 Q You did go to the library with him here in
10 New Orleans?

11 A Yes.

12 Q How many times?

13 A Maybe twice.

14 Q Twice?

15 A Maybe three times.

16 Q Did you take the baby with you?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Do you recall where that library was located?

19 A It was very close to our home, I think on
20 Magazine Street.

21 Q Magazine Street?

22 A Seemed to me it was on Magazine Street.

23 Q Do you recall ever going to the main library
24 with him?

25 A I don't remember, sir.

1 Q I think you testified that he had two dress
2 shirts, is that correct, to the best of
3 your knowledge?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q Did he have any T-shirts?

6 A Maybe half a dozen.

7 Q Half a dozen?

8 A Or four.

9 Q Four. Did he have any other sport shirt?

10 A What you call "sport shirts"?

11 Q I am sorry. I didn't hear you.

12 A What you call "sport shirts"?

13 Q Not a dress shirt or a white shirt.

14 A Not a -- would you wear over slacks?

15 Q Right, right.

16 A I think so.

17 Q You don't recall whether he had any or not?

18 A I don't remember, sir, what kind of clothes
19 he had, you know, go inside or outside.

20 Q Where would Lee spend most of his time when
21 he was at the apartment on Magazine
22 Street?

23 A At home.

24 Q I say, where would he spend most of his time
25 in the apartment?

1 A Where in the apartment he spend time?

2 Q Correct.

3 A It wasn't a very big apartment. Play cards
4 in the kitchen or read in the bedroom
5 or the den.

6 Q Was there a porch, did you have a porch?

7 A Yes, we had a porch.

8 Q Did he spend much time on the porch to your
9 knowledge?

10 A He liked to sit with the rifle at night on
11 the porch.

12 Q He liked to sit with the rifle at night?

13 A Yes.

14 Q What was he doing with the rifle when he was
15 sitting with it?

16 A I don't know.

17 Q You saw him holding it?

18 A It was dark over there, I could hardly see
19 him, and he told me not to bother him.

20 Q (Exhibiting rifle to witness) Mrs. Porter,
21 do you remember whether or not the rifle
22 that you saw or the rifle that Lee owned
23 had a sight like this?

24 A I don't remember.

25 Q You don't remember that? Do you remember

1 what color it was?

2 A No.

3 Q Do you remember how long it was?

4 A No, I am sorry but I don't remember; to me all

5 the rifles look quite the same as long as

6 it is a rifle. Some may be longer.

7 Q Did you consider Lee a Communist?

8 A No, sir.

9 Q Mrs. Porter, did any FBI agents come to your

10 apartment here in New Orleans when Lee

11 was here in New Orleans?

12 A I don't remember, sir.

13 Q Did anyone come to the apartment that you can

14 recall?

15 A No.

16 Q No one at all?

17 A Except the people I told you about, the Murats

18 and this lady, that is all. Not any men

19 visit us.

20 Q Did Mrs. Kloepher come to the apartment? Do

21 you remember her?

22 A Who is she?

23 Q Ruth Kloepher, K-l-o-e-p-h-e-r.

24 A Who is she, sir?

25 Q I am asking you. Do you recall her coming to

1 the apartment with her two grown
2 daughters?

3 A Oh, I don't remember her name.

4 Q That is what I mean.

5 A Some lady --

6 Q That would be someone who came to the apart-
7 ment, is that right?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Did Lee ever tell you he shot a General
10 Walker?

11 A Yes, he told me.

12 Q Do you remember when he told you that?

13 A After he came home late at night.

14 Q Late at night?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Do you remember when that was?

17 A I don't remember the date.

18 Q Did he have his rifle with him?

19 A I don't remember.

20 Q You don't remember?

21 A Oh, no, he didn't have the rifle with him.

22 MR. DYMOND:

23 Just a moment. We object to this on the
24 ground it is completely irrelevant
25 to this case, a matter concerning

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General Walker.

MR. ALCOCK:

Your Honor, I am testing this witness's
credibility.

THE WITNESS:

You are testing what?

(Laughter in the courtroom.)

THE COURT:

Just a minute. I think it is a proper
subject of cross-examination. Over-
rule the objection.

MR. DYMOND:

To which ruling we reserve a bill, making
the line of questioning, the answers,
given by the witness, the objection,
the reasons for it, and the Court's
ruling and the entire record and
testimony up until now, parts of
the bill.

THE COURT:

Let me interrupt you a second.

Mrs. Porter, if you do not understand
the question or any word that Mr.
Alcock may use in the question,
before you answer, you may say,

1 would you explain.

2 THE WITNESS:

3 Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT:

5 Maybe he will put it in a different way
6 and make it clearer to you.

7 THE WITNESS:

8 O.K.

9 BY MR. ALCOCK:

10 Q Now, did you see the rifle when he returned
11 on the night you say he said he had shot
12 at General Walker?

13 A No, sir, I didn't.

14 Q Did you see the rifle after that?

15 A Seemed like he went to pick it up later, the
16 following day or the following something.

17 Q Do you know where he picked it up from?

18 A I don't know.

19 Q Did you report this incident to anybody before
20 the assassination?

21 A No.

22 Q Did you see the rifle after this night that
23 you said he came back?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Do you know whether or not you and Mrs. Paine

brought the rifle to New Orleans?

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A What did you say?

Q Do you know whether or not you and Mrs. Paine brought the rifle to New Orleans?

A Seemed like we did.

Q I didn't hear your reply.

A I mean, I don't know, sir.

Q You don't know?

A No.

Q Did Lee pack the belongings that you brought here to New Orleans?

A Yes, sir.

Q You didn't come down here with Lee, did you?

A No.

Q Approximately how long was it after Lee left Dallas that you came down to New Orleans?

A After Lee left Dallas? You mean the first time? About a week, I guess.

Q About a week?

A I don't remember, sir. I am sorry.

Q After the incident that you have related about Lee telling you he shot at General Walker, did you see him burning a notebook a couple of days later?

A I don't remember right now, sir.

1 Q You don't remember that now?

2 A No. If I said in Warren Commission testimony,
3 he did, because I told everything the
4 truth then, but I can't remember now.

5 Q Do you know whether or not Lee ever kept a
6 notebook locked in his room anywhere?

7 A He kept all his things in the closet in Dallas
8 or in New Orleans.

9 Q Was it locked?

10 A No. The door was shut.

11 Q The door was shut?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Did you open the door to clean?

14 A Cleaned himself.

15 Q He cleaned it?

16 A Once in a while I cleaned the floor.

17 Q I take it then you didn't know what was in
18 the closet? Right?

19 A I never checked on it.

20 Q Do you know whether or not, of your own
21 knowledge, Mrs. Porter, Lee Oswald gave
22 any information to the FBI?

23 A I don't know about it.

24 Q To your knowledge, did you ever see him
25 talking with the FBI or an FBI agent?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q I didn't hear your answer.

3 A Yes.

4 Q When was this?

5 A When we first came and lived in Fort Worth,

6 FBI came to see us.

7 Q Other than that occasion, did you see him,

8 to your knowledge, talking to an FBI

9 agent?

10 A I don't remember now.

11 Q When the agent came to you, that is, the FBI

12 agent came to you in Dallas, did you give

13 that agent the address where Lee was

14 staying?

15 A Ruth Paine gave it.

16 Q In your presence?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Were you present then?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Can you recall, Mrs. Porter, Lee receiving

21 any mail at the 4907 address on Magazine

22 Street?

23 A We had some mail.

24 Q You had some mail?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Do you recall who the mail was from?

2 A I received letter from my girl friend.

3 Q Do you recall whether Lee received any mail?

4 A I think he did, but I don't know where they
5 come from, who they were from.

6 Q You don't know who they were from?

7 A No.

8 Q Did you ever read it? -

9 A No, I didn't read it. I read English but --
10 I could read English but I didn't under-
11 stand it.

12 Q So I take it then that you did not read any
13 mail he may have received on Magazine
14 Street? Is that correct?

15 A That is correct, sir.

16 Q Do you know whether or not he received these
17 leaflets by mail?

18 A I think so, sir.

19 Q What makes you think so?

20 A I don't know.

21 Q Did you see them come in the mail?

22 A They were in a package. No, I didn't see them.
23 I couldn't really testify to this, you
24 know, because I don't remember how it was.

25 Q Did Lee tell you much about his activities in

1 connection with the distribution of the
2 literature or this FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA
3 pamphlet?

4 A Oh, he was quite excited about. He always
5 liked to show how brave he was and how
6 smart he was and things like that.

7 Q I see.

8 A I don't know how much truth there was in it.

9 Q Did you actually see some pamphlets? Is that
10 correct?

11 A I have seen them around the house, yes.

12 Q Do you remember what color they were?

13 A I think it was yellow, could have been.

14 Q (Exhibiting document to witness) Now, Mrs.
15 Porter, I am going to show you what has
16 been marked for identification "S-5,"
17 and ask you if you can recognize this
18 particular pamphlet or if you have seen
19 a similar pamphlet at any time.

20 A Yes, sir, and I remember --

21 MR. DYMOND:

22 We can't hear her.

23 A (Continuing) I recognize this paper.

24 BY MR. ALCOCK:

25 Q Do you recognize it?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q How do you recognize it?

3 A I remember the color and I remember the "HANDS
4 OFF CUBA."

5 Q Do you remember anything else on the pamphlets?

6 A (Indicating) And I remember this stamped thing
7 with the name and address. Lee did this,
8 I remember he was stamping them, whatever
9 it was.

10 Q Do you recall Lee actually stamping on these
11 this "A. J. Hydell, Post Office Box 300016,
12 New Orleans, Louisiana"?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Is that the same name that you signed for Lee
15 down here in New Orleans?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Mrs. Porter, do you recall, while you were
18 here in New Orleans did Lee tell you
19 what his duties were, his job, what he
20 did?

21 A No, sir.

22 Q Did you know how much he was making a week
23 or a month?

24 A No, did not. I knew at the time it was \$55.00
25 or something, \$70.00, \$60.00.

1 Q And he never told you what his duties were

2 or what he did at work?

3 A No.

4 Q Did he ever discuss with you what he did at

5 work?

6 A Very little.

7 Q I take it that when you had conversations it

8 would necessarily have to be in Russian,

9 would that be correct, here in New

10 Orleans?

11 A All conversations were in Russian at home.

12 Q Do you recall any more, Mrs. Porter, about

13 the men that came to the door when you

14 were on Magazine Street?

15 MR. DYMOND:

16 Object, Your Honor. I don't think there

17 is any testimony that men came to

18 the door. There was one man she

19 testified to.

20 THE COURT:

21 Would you rephrase your question.

22 BY MR. ALCOCK:

23 Q Do you recall anything about when a man or

24 men came to the door on Magazine Street?

25 A It was -- seemed like it was weekend, Saturday

Reference copy, JFK collection: HSCA (RG 233)

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or Sunday.

Q Did you see the man or men?

A No, I didn't see man.

Q Did you hear the man or men?

A I heard the -- how you call it? -- the door-

bell or whatever it was, and it was very

early in the morning, so Lee went out

there, and after a few minutes came back,

said, "Somebody probably checking on me,"

or something like this, said it was

nonsense conversation, that is all. And

he wasn't very long at all.

Q He said somebody checking on him?

A I asked him who it was. (said) probably FBI,

maybe it is a reporter, and that is all.

Said he didn't know who the man was.

Q Well, to your knowledge, would the FBI usually

check on him?

A Yes. Anyhow this was my impression, what Lee

told me.

Q (Exhibiting photograph to witness) Mrs. Porter,

I am going to show you a picture which

has been marked for identification as

"State-6," and I ask you if you recognize

anyone in the picture.

A (Indicating) That is my husband, late, right

here.

Q Do you recognize anyone else?

A Nobody else. I don't know anybody else in

that picture.

Q (Exhibiting document to witness) Now, I am

going to show you what I have marked for

purposes of identification as "State-9,"

and ask you if you recognize this

particular pamphlet.

A No, I don't recognize it, never seen it before.

Q (Exhibiting document to witness) Now, I show

you what I have marked for purposes of

identification as "State-4," and I ask

you if you recognize it.

A Yes, sir.

Q Where have you seen that one or a similar one

at any time?

A I don't connect the whole thing, but this

thing is familiar to me (indicating),

the stamp.

Q Where have you seen that before?

A Because Lee had one of these. The stamp was

on the yellow paper.

Q What kind of stamp was it that he used, do

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Reference copy, JFK Collection: HSCA (Rg 233)

1 Q Do you a man by the name of Carlos Bringuer?
 2 A No.
 3 Q Carlos Bringuer?
 4 A No.
 5 Q Now, when you left New Orleans to go back to
 6 Dallas, did Lee remain here in New
 7 Orleans, to your knowledge?
 8 A Yes.
 9 Q Do you recall on what day of the week you
 10 left New Orleans to go back to Irving,
 11 Texas with Mrs. Paine?
 12 A No, sir, I don't recall.
 13 Q Do you recall what time or part of the day
 14 that you left New Orleans?
 15 A In the morning.
 16 Q In the morning?
 17 A Yes.
 18 Q Do you recall how much of Lee's belongings
 19 that you left behind when you left New
 20 Orleans?
 21 A I don't remember, sir.
 22 Q Did you have occasion at any time during that
 23 morning to look into Lee's closet?
 24 A No.
 25 Q Did he give you any money on that occasion?

1 A I don't remember, sir.

2 Q Do you know whether he had any money when you
3 left?

4 A I guess he had; he saved some money.

5 Q He saved some money?

6 A Yes, from his pay check. Whatever, it wouldn't
7 be a very big amount, I assume.

8 Q I see. Did he say why he was going to Mexico?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Why?

11 A He want to go to Cuba, and he tried through
12 the Mexican Embassy, you know, somehow
13 to go to Cuba.

14 Q Were you supposed to go to Cuba with him?

15 A He said he will let me know what to do, you
16 know, what steps to take.

17 Q Do you know whether or not, Mrs. Porter, when
18 Lee was down here in New Orleans he
19 attempted to or did contact an attorney
20 about his discharge from the Service?

21 A I don't remember this right now, sir.

22 Q Do you recall his talking about his discharge
23 at all, from the Service?

24 A He wrote letter to somebody about that, but
25 I don't recall whom.

1 Q You don't know of your own knowledge whether
2 he went to a local attorney here in an
3 attempt to get some work done on his
4 discharge?

5 A I don't know about that, sir.

6 Q Do you know whether or not during the day he
7 may have gone to some surrounding town
8 in an attempt to look for a job?

9 A No.

10 Q I think you said he did not drive. Is that
11 correct?

12 A No.

13 Q Have you ever heard of the name, or did he
14 ever mention the name of Dean Andrews
15 to you?

16 A No.

17 Q When Lee came back from looking for a job as
18 he told you, did he ever tell you what
19 he had done that day in an attempt to
20 get a job?

21 A He said -- I just asked him if he get it or
22 not, and he said no. Didn't like to be
23 bothered with the questions.

24 Q He didn't want to be bothered with the
25 questions?

1 A Yes, you know, about the job, who he see or
2 what kind of place it was.

3 Q Well, did he ever talk to you about what he
4 was doing down here when he was away
5 from your house?

6 A Yes. He go to the library, you know, to pick
7 up some books, or go look for the job.
8 He wasn't gone very long.

9 MR. DYMOND:

10 If the Court please, we object on the
11 ground of this being repetitious.
12 We have been over this material
13 before, and we ask that the Court
14 exercise its discretion.

15 THE COURT:

16 I would appreciate it if you would explore
17 a new avenue.

18 MR. ALCOCK:

19 Very well, Your Honor.

20 BY MR. ALCOCK:

21 Q Do you recall testifying before the Warren
22 Commission? Is that correct, Mrs. Porter?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q Did you tell the Warren Commission that you
25 had lied to the FBI about Oswald's trip

1 to Mexico?

2 A Yes, I told -- before I testified for the

3 Warren Commission I had so many questions

4 from FBI and everybody, so I actually

5 didn't, I just didn't tell them, you

6 know, anything at all.

7 Q Oh, I see.

8 A When they ask me question if he have been in

9 Mexico, I didn't tell no. I didn't lie.

10 Q How many times did you appear before the

11 Warren Commission?

12 A Three times.

13 Q Three or four times?

14 A Three times.

15 Q Three times. On your first appearance, did

16 the Warren Commission ask you whether

17 or not you knew Lee was going to Mexico

18 when you left New Orleans?

19 A I don't remember.

20 MR. DYMOND:

21 Your Honor --

22 THE WITNESS:

23 I don't remember first time or second

24 time.

25 MR. DYMOND:

1 Object first of all on the ground that
2 it is hearsay, and, secondly,
3 repetitious.

4 THE COURT:

5 Well, I will permit the question under
6 the guise of cross-examination
7 attacking the credibility of the
8 witness. I will permit it. I will
9 overrule the objection.

10 Please read the question back.

11 (Whereupon, the pending question was
12 read back by the reporter.)

13 A Sir, I couldn't remember what questions asked
14 me first time or second time or third
15 time.

16 Q Well, do you recall admitting to them on
17 one of your early appearances you had
18 lied when you said you did not?

19 A I don't remember that, sir.

20 Q You don't remember that?

21 A I don't remember that now. Can I make a
22 statement? I just told them everything
23 I know, and everything was true so I
24 didn't have anything else to lie about,
25 hide or lie about.

1 Q Do you recall telling Mr. Rankin of the
2 Warren Commission that most of these
3 questions -- this is quote allegedly
4 from you -- Mr. Rankin asked you this:
5 "When you were asked before about the trip to
6 Mexico --

7 MR. DYMOND:

8 Your Honor, we object on the ground this
9 is hearsay, it is something that
10 someone else said or asked outside
11 of the Defendant's presence.

12 MR. ALCOCK:

13 I have a right to impeach the witness.

14 She didn't deny it.

15 MR. COURT:

16 I think it is the same situation we came
17 up with in Perry Raymond Russo,
18 impeaching a prior contradictory
19 statement. Isn't that the theory
20 on which you are proceeding?

21 MR. ALCOCK:

22 Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT:

24 I will overrule your objection.

25 MR. DYMOND:

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If the Court please, we are going to ask at this time that her entire testimony before the Warren Commission be introduced in evidence.

THE COURT:

No, sir. I will rule on each question myself. I don't know what the Warren Commission ruled on, what they let in, whether they let inadmissible evidence in, I don't know. I will rule myself on each question.

MR. DYMOND:

If the Court please, I think the State has opened the door here by giving specific quotes or alleged quotes from the Warren Commission report, and I think the best evidence of what happened before the Commission is certainly the transcript of what happened.

THE COURT:

Well, if I recall correctly, Mr. Dymond, you used Perry Raymond Russo's testimony before the preliminary

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hearing and quoted direct quotes,
and I wouldn't let you or the State
introduce the preliminary hearing
testimony, and that is the same
situation. I therefore overrule
your objection.

MR. DYMOND:

To which ruling Counsel objects and
reserves a bill of exception, making
the State's question, the Defense
objection and the reasons therefor,
the ruling of the Court, the entire
testimony and record up until this
time, parts of the bill.

THE COURT:

You may proceed, Mr. Alcock.

BY MR. ALCOCK:

Q Now, Mrs. Porter, do you recall this question
being asked of you by the Warren
Commission; the question reads as follows:
"Q. When you were asked before about the trip
to Mexico, you did not say that you knew
anything about it. Do you want to
explain to the Commission how that
happened?"

1 And your response was as follows:

2 "Most of these questions were put to me by
3 the FBI. I did not like them too much.
4 I didn't want to be too sincere with
5 them. Though I was quite sincere and
6 answered most of their questions, they
7 questioned me a great deal and I was
8 very tired of them and I thought that,
9 well, whether I knew or didn't know
10 about it didn't change matters at all,
11 it didn't help anything, because the
12 fact that Lee had been there was already
13 known and whether or not I knew about it
14 didn't make any difference."

15 Do you recall making that answer?

16 A Whatever it was written, they asked that.

17 Q Then when they questioned you about it earlier
18 you said you had no knowledge of it? Is
19 that correct?

20 A No knowledge about what? I told you I knew
21 about Lee being in Mexico.

22 Q Well, when the Warren Commission questioned
23 you about it earlier, you said you had
24 no knowledge of it, and then you changed
25 it? Is that correct?

1 A Possibly.

2 Q You were under oath the first time, weren't

3 you?

4 A Sir, I testified first time and second time --

5 I couldn't -- when I give testimony to

6 FBI, I wasn't under oath.

7 Q You were under oath with the Warren Commission

8 though, weren't you?

9 A Yes, but I didn't lie to them.

10 Q What?

11 A I didn't lie to them.

12 Q You didn't lie to them?

13 A No.

14 Q Did you tell the truth to a person you liked

15 and --

16 MR. EDWARD WEGMANN:

17 She didn't say that.

18 THE WITNESS:

19 I said I didn't lie to the Warren

20 Commission first time or second

21 time or third time.

22 THE COURT:

23 Lie, l-i-e.

24 BY MR. ALCOCK:

25 Q You didn't lie to them?

1 A I did not.

2 Q Do you have any quarrel with that quote? Did
3 that quote seem accurate to you, or do
4 you recall that?

5 A I was tired. It was for a long time. I
6 couldn't dislike FBI man or something,
7 quarrel with him not to give the infor-
8 mation he wanted this day or second day
9 or something like that.

10 Q All right.

11 MR. ALCOCK:

12 I have no further questions.

13 MR. DYMOND:

14 If the Court please, at this time in
15 connection with the testimony of
16 this witness, I would like to offer,
17 file and produce in evidence the
18 exhibit which has been marked for
19 identification "D-20" and identified
20 by the witness.

21 THE COURT:

22 Any objection?

23 MR. ALCOCK:

24 No objection.

25 THE COURT:

1 Let it be received in evidence.

2 MR. DYMOND:

3 Your Honor, at this time I would ask
4 that the Jury be permitted to view
5 this photograph.

6 THE COURT:

7 You may exhibit it to the Jury.

8 (Photograph exhibited to the Jury.)

9 THE COURT:

10 Mr. Dymond, do you intend to ask any
11 questions on redirect?

12 MR. DYMOND:

13 Only four or five questions.

14 THE COURT:

15 I was going to say if you have plenty of
16 redirect --

17 MR. DYMOND:

18 No, I don't.

19 THE COURT:

20 It is five minutes of twelve. If you
21 only have a few questions, you may
22 proceed.

23 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. DYMOND:

25 Q Mrs. Porter, when Lee Oswald told you about

1 having shot at General Walker, was that
2 before or after you and he lived on
3 Magazine Street here in New Orleans?

4 A It was before we lived on Magazine Street.

5 Q Where were you living then?

6 A I don't remember now the name of the street.

7 Q I mean, in what city?

8 A In Dallas.

9 Q In Dallas?

10 A (The witness nodded affirmatively.)

11 Q Did he take any active interest of which you
12 knew, in the Civil Rights movement, that
13 is, the integration of schools, Negro
14 voting rights, and so forth?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q You never knew him to take any such interest?

17 A No.

18 Q Now, with respect to his telling you that he
19 was going to Cuba from Mexico, what did
20 he tell you about your going to Cuba, if
21 anything?

22 A What did he tell me about what?

23 Q About your going to Cuba.

24 A He told me he will let me know later where I
25 supposed to go, you know.

1 Q Now, was this supposed to be on a temporary
2 basis or was it supposed to be on a
3 permanent basis that you all were moving
4 to Cuba?

5 A I don't know.

6 Q You don't know?

7 A He didn't make any plans because he didn't
8 know.

9 Q Do you know whether or not he planned to live
10 there?

11 A When I left with Ruth Paine, I don't know if
12 I see Lee again.

13 Q I didn't understand you.

14 A When I left with Ruth Paine to come to Dallas
15 from New Orleans and he supposed to go
16 to Mexico, I don't know if I see him
17 again. Maybe he could take off and go
18 to Cuba and like that.

19 MR. DYMOND:

20 That is all.

21 MR. ALCOCK:

22 No questions.

23 THE COURT:

24 You may stand down, Mrs. Porter.

25 Do you have any further need to have

Reference copy, JFK Collection: HSCA (RG 233)

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Mrs. Porter under the legal obligation of the subpoena?

MR. ALCOCK:

The State has none.

MR. DYMOND:

No, we don't have any further need.

THE COURT:

Mrs. Porter, if you wish to leave, you may leave.

MR. DYMOND:

May I ask that the witnesses be ordered to return at 1:30, not Mrs. Porter but the others?

THE COURT:

Sheriff, will you go out in the corridor and announce that all Defense witnesses are ordered by the Court to be back here for 1:30, excluding Mrs. Porter.

Gentlemen of the Jury, we are going to recess for lunch at this time. Do not discuss the case amongst yourselves or with any other person.

Mr. Shaw, you are released under your same bond.

We stand recessed for lunch until 1:30.

....Thereupon, at 12:00 o'clock noon,
a recess was taken until 1:30 o'clock
p.m.

Reference copy, JFK Collection: HSCA (RG 233)

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