

"ED BARKER INTERVIEWS DETECTIVE HILL-ROLLS # 204 & 205"

VOICE: "Roll #205 , take one; Interview between Mr. Barker and Mr. Hill, Dallas, Texas.

BARKER: "Mr. Hill, at what time did you arrive at the scene of the Tippett shooting?"

HILL: "Eddie it must have been around 1:25 and 1:30 when we arrived. We had to come from Elm & Houston Sts., across the viaduct, and Beckley to 10th and over. I'd say it was 1:25 to 1:30 just rough guessing, I don't recall exactly."

BARKER: "What about at the theatre, what time did you get to the theatre?"

HILL: "All the action in and around the theatre was within a five-minute period, 2:00 to 2:05, to 2:10 somewhere around in there exact times. They were putting out the calls on the radio without designating times on them because there were so many things going on and so many people at so many different locations, I'd say it was an estimation, I think we listed the time of arrest as 2:05."

BARKER: "And you got downtown at. . ."

HILL: "About 2:30."

BARKER: "Will you describe for me the scene at the police station when you came in with Oswald?"

HILL: "Well, actually, at that time the--I'd say there were fifteen or twenty newsmen of various types, photographers, reporters, television cameramen, at the location, and they met us in the basement, and some of them even rode up on the elevator with us when we went up with the prisoner.

"The main body of newsmen were still at the hospital or at various sites trying to play catch-up, and in some cases of trying to keep up with us; we were moving a little bit faster than they were, because we were familiar with the town and a lot of them were not.*

"There was an air of dread, I'd say, around the station in the respect that we had to do what we had to do, but why did we have to do it in the first place. Why did this thing happen? And while we went on about our job and until I got back to the station, I did not know that the President was dead. I had not been officially advised because at the time they said something about him on the police radio, I was out of the car. And I was not informed officially that he had expired, until I was back at the station. Naturally this hit home a little more with me, and made me feel worse, not necessarily worse than if he had just shot the officer, but worse about the whole deal, because this clouded the pictures even more. And I think this was the same general feeling about of all the officers, we would do anything we could to solve these things, but why did it have to us in the first place?"

(CUT)

VOICE: "Roll it."

ANOTHER VOICE: "Roll 205, take two; Interview between Mr. Barker and Mr. Hill."

BARKER: "Well officer Hill, when you got upstairs to the third floor, what did you do with your prisoner?"

HILL: "We immediately went from the elevator on the third floor into the Homicide/Robbery office, which is down the hall to your left, after you leave the elevator. Got in there, and put him in an interrogation Room, seated him behind--in a chair, and left Officer Walker, who was the uniformed officer with us,--left him in the room with him, and left the door open.

"At this time I went over to talk him to the Lieutenant on duty and explained to him what we had, and how the arrest was made and where it was made, and thinking in terms of offense and special reports that were going to have to be written, I was trying to determine whom ~~was~~ was going to make what reports. In other words I knew that one of us was going to have to make a report on the injury to Oswald's abrasion and bruise up beside his lip-- which he received during the tussle in the theatre. I knew we were going to have to write a report on that, because ~~the~~ a prisoner had been injured during an arrest, and I wanted to check and see who was going to make out the arrest report; who was going to make the offense report on Tippett, and so on.

"I was advised at that time, that the only thing we would have to make out would be the arrest report and also the injured prisoner, report, and while we were standing there discussing this, Captain ^F~~X~~ Kurtz (?) and some of the other officers from his Bureau, who had been at the book depository came in and he walked/^{up} to Detective Stowald (?) and Boss and I, who were standing there in a little huddle, discussing the events up to that time, told them to go get a search warrant, and a

warrent of arrest and go out to an address in Irving and arrest a fella named Lee Oswald. And quite naturally I asked why, and they perk-
ed up also at this point, and Capt. Furtz (?) said well, he'd said he was an employee at the book depository and he'd been there prior to and after the shooting, but was not there for a head count of the employees a short time later.

"At that time I said, well, Cap you don't have to go to Irving, ~~shrinkshrinkshrink~~ to get him, there he sits. And with this Fritz took the prisoner into custody, --the prisoner--and that's the last time I saw Oswald."

~~XXXXXX~~

BARKER: "Did Captain Fritz (?) ask you how you happened to have Oswald there?"

HILL: "We took towed him in; it was out of the arrest in the theatre, involving the shooting of Tippett, that he was also a suspect in this; then I went back to the personnel office and started writing up the report on the injury to the prisoner, and ^{of} the heading of it at that time was 'Injury to the Prisoner, during his arrest for the murder of officer J.D. Tippett, and then later in the afternoon, prior to the time that we actually got to the point of typing the report, I was instructed to change the heading on the report to 'Arrest of the suspect in the ^{assassination} ~~assassination~~ of President Kennedy, and murder of Officer Tippett,' and that's the final heading that was on the report."

BARKER: "Officer Hill, you refer to this abrasion that Oswald suffered as a result of the scuffle in the theatre. Did at any time, Oswald say that he wanted to see a doctor, or that his head hurt, or

that this was bothering him, or did he refer to it in any way?"

HILL: "Not during the time he was in my custody. I can't say what happened at another location at another time, but during the time that he was in my custody, he never did mention this. He didn't. As I recall the incident, continued to refer to police brutality and police tactics and this kind of thing, but he never actually mentioned the injury, the entire time he was in my presence."

① [BARKER: "Would you describe for me, Officer Hill, what happened when you arrived at the depository building?"]

② HILL: "--I went down with an officer named Valintine and had met a reporter in the basement as we were going to his car, and he was just coming on duty and I yelled at him that there was a report that the President had been shot and he said could he go, and we put him in the car with us and by then they had called for numerous units to go to that location, the downtown area was clogged with traffic, because of the parade and all, and we had to manipulate and backtrack and detour to get to the depository, and [when we arrived, I went up to Inspector Sawyer, who was in charge at the scene, and asked him was the building secure, did he have enough men to seal off the outside of the building, and he said that at that time he thought he did, and we then decided that the best way to search the building would be from bottom to top and from top down, so that if we had anybody in the building we could probably catch them in the middle, if they were moving from floor to floor on us. So two deputy sheriffs, -Deputy Muncy and another deputy and I, and Roy Westfall, who is a detective with the Dallas Police Department, and a uniformed officer, that we would start at the top of the building and

work down.

"And another team, headed by Capt. Fritz and his men, and a bunch of uniformed officers started on the first floor and began to work up. We went to the top of the building. We--they had a freight elevator, we rode part of the way and then we had to use stairs to get to the top floor, and had worked our way through the top floor, and had moved down one floor, leaving the uniformed officer on the top floor in the event of a double-back. And we were checking out this floor, when Muney and the ^{other} deputy hollered from their ^{the} part they were searching, this floor, and said they had found the spot. At this time Westfall and I went over there and we saw a barricade a sort of three-sided barricade of boxes that would have shielded anyone between the boxes and the window from general view from the rest of the floor, and then immediately under the window, that we later determined to be the actual spot that the shots were fired from, there were three riflebullet hulls right against the baseboard of the building where the floor and the wall come together."

BANKER: "Who picked up these shells?"

HILL: "They were left, at that time--they were left in that exact position and Westfall and Muney and the other deputy stayed on that floor and we were hampered by communication in the building and I told them if they'd stay up there and protect the scene, and see that nobody touched anything, I'd go down and get the crime lab or the technicians up there to take their pictures and to gather the evidence and so on. I went back to the street and was--told inspector Sawyer what I had found, and got the Crime Lab on the way, and told them where on the floor that they would find the shells and the other officers that

were waiting up there for them, and while I was still talking to Inspector Sawyer, then the call came out on Tippet, and I went to Oak Cliff, and never did go back in the depository.

"At the time I left the floor where the shooting occurred, the rifle had not been found. It was found some time later, in a further search of that same floor."

(CUT)

VOICE: "Roll 205, take three, Interview between Mr. Barker, and Mr. Hill."

BARKER: "Officer Hill, if you would, describe for us--I'll ask it again. -- What happened after here, when you took your prisoner, Lee Harvey Oswald, to the third floor?"

HILL: "Well we got off the elevator, and some of the press had ridden up on the elevator with us, they ran down the hall ahead of us to set up to take some shots of us moving in.

"We carried the prisoner down the hall to the Homicide and Robbery Office, and through that office to an interrogation room, about half-way through the office. There we set Oswald in a chair and left Officer --hold it, I forgot his name--"

(CUT)

VOICE: "Roll 205 , take four, Interview between Barker and Mr. Hill."

BARKER: "Officer Hill, what happened when you took Oswald up to the third floor?"

HILL: "Well, Eddie, when we got off the elevator, we were met by some reporters in the hall, some had ridden up with us and ~~run~~ ran ahead of us to set up so they could take some shots of us. Then we walked

down the hall into the Homicide and Robbery Office, and went toward the back of this office to an interrogation room, and here we put Oswald in a chair and left Officer Walker, who was the uniformed officer with us in there with him, and then I came back out of the interrogation room and left the door open so that if Walker needed anything he could let us know, and then went over to the Lieutenant who was on duty, to discuss what reports ~~xxxx~~ we were going to have, what we had, the circumstances of the arrest, and ^{I knew that} we were going to have to write a report on Oswald being slightly injured while we were making the arrest and verifying who was going to make the offense reports, who was assigned to write up the arrest sheets, and so on.

"It was determined that I was going to write the report, and the uniformed officer Poe (?) would make the offense report on Tippett, and I was standing there relating some of the events of the arrest to Detectives Rose and Detective Stewall.

"Just outside the interrogation room, where we had Oswald when Captain Fritts (?) came in and walked up to these two officers, or walked up to us and told them, as they were assigned to his bureau, 'Go get a warrant of arrest and a search warrant, and go to an address in Irving, and arrest a man named Lee Oswald.' When we asked him what the connection was in this event, he made a statement that he was an employee at the book depository and had been at the location prior to and immediately after the shooting of the President, but had not been there for a head count of employees, later.

"At this time, I told Captain Fritts, I said, 'Well I'll save us a trip to Irving, because there he sits.' And with that Captain Fritz

VOICE: "Just take a little longer . . ."

BARKER: "How would you describe Oswald. Was he excited, or calm, or just how did he react?"

"How ~~dk~~ would you describe Oswald in the theatre? Was he a tough prisoner to apprehend?"

(VOICES)

VOICE: "Roll 205, take six, Interview between Mr. Hill and Mr. Barker."

VOICE: (UNINTELLIGIBLE)

BARKER: "UM HMM."

"Well, tell us about that injury that Oswald suffered in the ~~xxx~~ scuffle."

"Officer Hill, did you see Oswald after this?"

"If you will, tell me what happened when you arrived at the ~~sigh~~ site of the Tippett shooting."

"Officer Hill, who actually picked up those shells?"

"These shells that officer Poe (?) had, what caliber shells were they?"

"Did you mark them?"

"In the Texas Theatre, there, Officer Hill, how did you come into possession of Oswald's gun?"

"Did you frisk Oswald?"

"Explain a fast frisk, if you will, Officer."

"At what time did you put your mark on his gun?"

"How did you mark the gun, Officer Hill?"

"Was there anything said on the ride downtown?"

"

"Well after you got Oswald into the squad car, did he offer you any more resistance?"

"(UNINTELLIGIBLE)"

VOICE: "What about--(UNINTELLIGIBLE)"

BARKER: "OK."

[TAPE CUT]

VOICE: "Roll 205, take eight, Interview between Mr. Barker and Mr. Hill, in Dallas, Texas."

"ACTION"

BARKER: "Officer Hill, if you would, describe for me what happened when you arrived at the depository building."

VOICE: "Try it again Eddie, and. . ."

(CUT)

VOICE: "Roll 205, take eight, Interview between Mr. Barker and Mr. Hill. Second stitch."

"ACTION" BARKER: "Officer Hill, you were at all of the places of interest at the time of the ~~numerous~~ assassination, were you not?"

"I you would, describe what happened when you arrived at the schoolbook depository building."

"Where did you get this description of the Presidential assassin, Officer Hill?"

"What happened when you arrived at the scene of the Tippett shooting?"

"Now, these cartridges, who had them when you first saw them?"

"These cartridges, Officer Hill, who had them when you first saw them?"

"Were they in this cigarette package then?"

"Did you put your mark on those cartridges?"

"Well now, inside the theatre, when did you. . ."

VOICE: "(UNINTELLIGIBLE)"

BARKER: "At the Texas Theatre, Officer Hill, when did you first come in. . .?--I;m sorry."

"At the theatre, Officer Hill, how did you first come into possession of Oswald's gun?"

"Did you put your identifying mark on the gun?"

"If you would, tell me what happened on the ride downtown."

"At the theatre, Officer Hill, what sort of a . . .well I want to ask that again, I messed up."

"Well why do you think people were saying 'Lynch him' and remarks like this? What prompted them to say it?"

"What sort of a prisoner was Oswald to subdue?"

"Well now, after you got him in the car, and started downtown, did he give you any more trouble?"

"Officer Hill, if you would, explain what happened when you got up to the third floor of the police station."

VOICE: " Did you get close-ups...?"

BARKER: "Did you frisk Oswald?"

"Explain to me what is a 'fast frisk'?"

"Officer Hill, will you describe the scene at the Police Station, when you got there with your prisoner?"

"Any others, I guess that's it."

"He tells that pretty well, you know don't have a long tape there."

"Well now, you refer to these abrasions on Oswald, on his forehead,

around his eyebrow. How did this happen?"

"Did Oswald complain at all of his injury or did he ask to see a doctor, or did he say anything about it as you were coming downtown?"

VOICE: "Alright Jerry, we'll make this--yeah just go ahead Jim, this will be close-ups on you, and the questions again."

BARKER: "All of them?"

VOICE: "From the top."

BARKER: "If you would, Officer Hill, describe for me the scene at the schoolbook depository when you arrived there."

"You say this was the second floor that you searched, would you explain that?"

VOICE: "Chin up just a little bit."

BARKER: "This description that you heard about the Presidential assassin, where did you get this?"

"How long did it take you to get out to the scene of the Tippett shooting?"

"What was going on at the site of the Tippett shooting when you arrived there, Officer Hill?"

"These shells that you say Officer Poe (?) had, were they in his possession when you first saw them?"

"Were they in that cigarette when you saw them in Officer Poe's (?) hands?"

"If you would, Officer Hill, describe the scene at the Texas Theatre, when you went inside?"

"Was Oswald a difficult man to subdue?"

VOICE: "(UNINTELLIGIBLE)"

VOICE: "Roll 209, take nine,--Roll 205,take nine, Interview between Mr. Barker and Mr. Hill, in Dallas."

VOICE: "(UNINTELLIGIBLE)!"

VOICE: "Just say something to him Jerry."

JERRY: "Anything. (UNTELLIGIBLE)"

BARKER: "So am I." "So am I."

(VOICES UNINTELLIGIBLY)

BARKER: "Officer Hill, when you first saw these shells, there at the ^{site} of the Tippett shooting, who had them?"

"Well now, were they in this cigarette package when you first saw them?"

"On the way downtown, what did Oswald say, or what did the officers in the car say to him?"

"Describe for me if you will, what happened when you got off the elevator there at the third floor of the police station."

"What about the struggle in the theatre to subdue Oswald; was he a difficult man to arrest?"

VOICE: (Unintelligible)

(VOICES UNINTELLIGIBLY)