

Lips Of Assassin Sealed By Pistol Shot



ASSASSIN SHOT — Jack Ruby (right) shoots Lee Harvey Oswald as he was being transferred from city to county jail in Dallas Sunday. Oswald had been charged with the murder of President Kennedy in Dallas. Police

were unable to halt the shooting and Oswald died later in Parkland Hospital from the bullet wound. This dramatic picture was taken by photographer Bob Jackson of the Dallas Times Herald.



SLAYS ASSASSIN — Jack Ruby, who police say shot Lee Harvey Oswald, the man who assassinated President John Kennedy, is led back to jail after being questioned and charged in the Dallas City Hall after the shooting. —UPI Telephoto

Reporter Relates Details Of Slaying

Editors Note: When Lee Harvey Oswald was fatally shot Sunday, United Press International correspondent Terry McGarry was standing five steps from him. This is McGarry's story.

By **TERRY MCGARRY**, United Press International
DALLAS (UPI) — It was 11:21 a.m. CST by my watch when Lee Harvey Oswald was brought through the swinging doors that lead from a small police office in the basement of city hall.

Two detectives preceded him, pushing open the doors. Two plainclothesmen held his arms, and three more followed the suspect. Of the eight men in the group, only Oswald — in slacks, shirt and crew-neck sweater — looked calm. The detectives were grim.

They were taking Oswald, charged with murdering President Kennedy and a Dallas policeman Friday, from City Hall to Dallas County Jail, seven or eight blocks away.

The basement swarmed with police, afraid of an attempt upon Oswald's life. Fearing that the attempt might come on the street, they got an armored car to transfer him, rather than use a paddy wagon or squad car.

The armored car was backed up to the entrance to the garage. The detectives propelled Oswald toward it.

I was behind a railing. As they brought Oswald out, I climbed over the railing. Stepping down, I glimpsed a brown blur — Jack Ruby — crouched and aimed with his pistol. Eight policemen had piled on Ruby. I was directly between the pile of policemen and the officer pointing his gun.

I flattened myself against the wall with my arms straight out from my sides. Then I ran for a telephone.

While I talked to my office, a stretcher on wheels rolled past. Oswald lay on it, his head wobbling back and forth. Oswald's shirt was torn open. Just below his ribs on the left side was a small, blue-ringed hole. There was no blood. He made no sound.

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Wade said he had no idea of Oswald's motives. They died with him. Some of the outrage expressed across the nation at Ruby's vengeance shooting was based on the fact Oswald never will be able to tell what he knew and never can be brought to justice.

The Dallas Morning News reported in a copyright story that agents searching the room Oswald rented under the alias "O. H. Lee" found a map that was Wade's "exhibit A."

The paper said the map was lined with the path of the assassination bullets. The News said this was the "major" evidence uncovered by police but not revealed. Wade did not mention it.

Kennedy had just ridden through the heart of Dallas in a motorcade en route to the Dallas Trade Mart, where he was to speak, when the sniper struck. He was hit in the head and throat. Connally was hit once.

The sniper shot from the sixth floor of the Texas Schoolbook Depository Building in which Oswald worked.

Sunday night, Wade called a news conference. "As far as Oswald is concerned, the case is closed," he said. He added that there was "no concrete" evidence that anyone helped him in the assassination, or that he belonged to any political organizations other than the "Fair Play for Cuba" Committee.

Wade revealed additional evidence that police had gathered against Oswald. He said he was doing so because of calls he had been getting from "Stockholm and all sorts of foreign countries" to clear up questions about evidence.

The assassination rifle was an Italian 6.4 mm Carcano bolt action 5-weapon with a 4-power telescopic sight. It was found with three empty shells in a sixth floor room of the Schoolbook Depository Building, about 100 yards from the spot where Kennedy and Connally were shot.

The rifle was purchased by mail from Klein Sporting Goods Co. in Chicago and traced to Oswald. The mail order was in his handwriting. There was a photograph with the rifle in his hands. And there were Oswald's palm prints on the butt of the gun and on a box in the room

from which the assassin fired, Wade said.

Police already had disclosed that Oswald had written to the Klein Co., using a Dallas Post Office box and the assumed name "A. Hydel" to purchase the gun for \$12.78.

Witnesses saw Oswald in the building before the shooting and saw him leave immediately afterward. He was stopped by a policeman, but was told "be all right" because he worked in the building, and was allowed to leave.

Laughed at Shooting
Wade said police got on his trail because of the report of a woman who told of a man who laughed because Kennedy had been shot.

Oswald boarded a bus to go to his 88-a-week rented room about 12 blocks from the building where he worked.

It was about this time that a woman said that a passenger told her that the President had been shot. She didn't believe it, and asked the passenger where he had heard it. He pointed to a man, presumably Oswald, in the rear.

She went back and asked the man. "Yes, the President is shot," the man said. He laughed, she said, and shocked her.

It was at this point that police started trailing Oswald. They said he left the bus, took a cab to his rented room, changed clothes, and rushed back out.

Shot Policeman
Within minutes, Patrolman J. D. Tippitt stopped him, Wade indicated, and was shot and killed with two bullets. Witnesses saw Oswald reload his pistol and flee on foot.

He was captured and subdued in a movie theater five blocks from the site of Tippitt's slaying.

DALLAS (UPI)—Police closed the books today on Lee Harvey Oswald and the world will never know what was in his mind. He was shot to death as President Kennedy's assassin by a self-appointed executioner before a nationwide television audience.

While the martyred President was being buried in Arlington National Cemetery, mourned by the world, the Communist-Castro sympathizer accused of slaying him lay on a cold marble slab in a morgue, disgraced.

He died with his lips sealed. He took to the grave with him the reason Kennedy was killed it, as police are convinced without doubt, he was the assassin.

The 24-year-old pro-Castro Marxist was being transferred in handcuffs from city jail to a maximum security cell at the county jail house when Jack Ruby, a one-time Chicago street brawler and owner of a Dallas striptease night club, leaped from a crowd of newsmen and policemen with a curse, jammed a snub-nosed .38 caliber pistol into Oswald's side and fired one shot.

Oswald jerked back. So did the police bodyguards flanking him. But there was nothing they could do to stop Ruby.

Dallas policeman P. T. Dean said Ruby told him he shot Oswald out of concern for Mrs. Kennedy. Dean said Ruby did not want Mrs. Kennedy to "go through the ordeal of returning to Dallas" and testifying at Oswald's trial.

He said Ruby decided to "obviate" the legal process by executing Oswald himself.

Oswald was quickly rushed to Parkland Hospital's emergency ward where President Kennedy died Friday. At 1 p.m. (2 p.m. EST), 48 hours to the minute from the official time of Kennedy's death, Oswald's heart stopped beating. Open heart massage failed. He was pronounced dead at 1:07 p.m.

Henry Wade, Dallas County district attorney, filed murder charges against Ruby and said he would ask for the death penalty.

Seeks Death Penalty
"A second assassination doesn't help (justify) the first one," he said. "I will seek the death penalty for Ruby even if he pleads guilty because shooting a handcuffed man deserves the death penalty."

Oswald died without speaking a word. There was no chance for a death-bed confession. He had steadfastly maintained that he had nothing to do with the assassination of Kennedy, the wounding of Gov. John Connally, who was riding with Kennedy, and later the slaying of

Dallas police officer J. D. Tippitt.

Wade said, however, that there was more than enough evidence to send Oswald to the electric chair.

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Oswald's Russian wife, Marina, who lived with their two children in suburban Irving, told authorities that her husband had a rifle similar to the one that killed the President. It was missing.

Oswald usually spent the

weekend in Irving with his family. On Monday mornings, he drove back into Dallas with a neighbor.

This time, the neighbor gave him a ride Friday morning. He said Oswald had a package with him and told him it was window shades. Wade said it was the rifle.

Tippitt was being buried in Dallas today three hours after Kennedy's funeral. He leaves a widow and three children.

When Oswald was shot it was the second time in three days that a killer made a mockery of extra heavy Dallas police security precautions.

Chief of Police Jess Curry was sharply criticized for deciding to transfer Oswald during the daytime. He noted that he could have moved the assas-

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Dallas Police Certain Oswald Shot President

DALLAS (UPI) — Dallas police are absolutely sure they got President Kennedy's assassin.

"I have sent men to the electric chair on less evidence than we have now," said Dallas County District Attorney Henry Wade.

But Lee Harvey Oswald, 24, maintained he was innocent. He denied he shot Kennedy fatally, wounded Gov. John B. Connally, and later killed policeman J. D. Tippitt.

With absolute finality, any chance of getting at the truth was wiped out Sunday when Oswald was shot to death.

But what was the evidence that police had making them so certain they had the right man?

The Dallas News reported in a copyright article that it had learned of the most damning piece of evidence of all against Oswald—a map found in his room showing the path of the bullets that killed Kennedy and wounded Connally.

The News said this was the "major evidence" that police held and would have become Wade's "exhibit A" if he had gone to trial.

Before Wade called his news conference, this much was known:

—Paraffin tests for gunpowder on both hands were "positive" indicating he had fired a gun.

—Photographs had been found at his home showing Oswald posing with a rifle in his hands similar to the 6.5 Italian Carcano weapon which killed Kennedy and with a pistol strapped to his waist similar to the one that killed Tippitt.

—Oswald's Russian wife said he owned such a rifle. It was missing Oswald admitted owning the pistol.

—The gun was purchased from a Chicago sporting goods house. It was purchased under the name "A. Hydel" but the order was in Oswald's handwriting.

—He was an expert marksman while in the Marine Corps.

—He was employed in the building from which Kennedy was shot.

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