

~~#~~ 3
Reel 23

Take 94

MRS. TICE

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Source: Wisconsin Historical Society, USMss, 117AN
"Rush to Judgment" Box 60, Folder 1

Q. What did you do on November 22, Mrs. Tice, after you heard that the President had been shot? After you arrived at Parkland Hospital, what did you hear and what did you see? Did you hear this other man address Jack Ruby by name? What did he say? How far away was Jack Ruby from you at that time? How long were you in position to observe Jack Ruby and here his conversation with the other man? Did you tell the Warren Commission precisely what you've just told me about your encounter with Jack Ruby at the Parkland Hospital? Did you have occasion to talk with Eva Grant about what you observed at the Parkland Hospital? What did you tell her? Did you receive any other telephone calls before that? Between the time that you received the letter from the Commission, inviting you to testify, and the time that you received a telephone call later that day, advising you that it would be best for you to remain silent, had you told anyone that you had been invited to testify before the Commission? Did you recognize the voice of the man who called you? To your knowledge, did the Warren Commission ever investigate the telephone calls that you received and the barricading of your door early one morning? When did you receive the letter inviting you to testify before the Warren Commission?

(repeat) When did you receive the letter inviting you to testify

before the Warren Commission, and when did you receive the phone call, advising you to remain silent? Did you have a direct and unobstructed view of Jack Ruby? (Repeat) Did you have a direct and unobstructed view of Jack Ruby for approximately three minutes while he was engaged in a conversation with another man? Did you tell the Warren Commission that you were standing just three feet from Jack Ruby, that you had an unobstructed view of Jack Ruby, and that you observed him involved in a conversation for approximately three minutes? Do you recall what day it was that you received the letter inviting you to testify before the Warren Commission? On about that day, did any unusual occurrences take place about your home? What was the nature of the telephone call? Did you answer the door? What time of the night was that? Was it past midnight? Did you tell Eva Grant that you had seen her brother at the hospital? Did you tell Eva Grant that you saw Jack Ruby at the Parkland Hospital? What did Eva Grant reply? Did you - did you ever have an opportunity to view the clothing that Jack Ruby wore on November 22? Did you see the hat or the coat again? Do you believe that the man you saw at the Parkland Hospital was, in fact, Jack Ruby? Do you know that Seth Kantor, a well-known and respected Scripps-Howard reporter, testified that he knew Jack Ruby over a period of years and that he saw Jack Ruby at the

Parkland Hospital on November 22nd? At approximately what time of the day did you see the gentleman at the Parkland Hospital who you believe was Jack Ruby? How long does it take to drive from the Parkland Hospital to your home? Was your husband at home when you received the telephone call? Who do you think it was that was calling? Mrs. Tice, what time of the night was it when the telephone began to ring, the doorbell began to ring, and you discovered that both the front and back doors were barricaded?

(background conversation)

I'll tell you -

(Mrs. Tice: Hey, /I know what day it was that I saw the coat over at Eva Grant's.

Q. Oh, when was it?

A. It was the day I went before the Warren Commission, after I came back from there.

Q. Ah!

A. Because I got to thinking about it after I left the Warren Commission and I just wanted to.....

Q. All right let's ask that

A. That's when I called - uh - that's when I called her and asked her if I could come over.

Q. O K - we'll do the one last cutaway. Don't answer this question...and then we'll go down. Then the second question you answer. / That was July 24, '64 - the day you testified, or you can just say the day you testified.

A. I don't know what day it was.

Q. O.K.)

Reel 23 Take 95

Q. Mrs. Tice, at the time that you testified before the Commission and told the Commission that you saw Jack Ruby at the hospital, had you known that Seth Kantor, a Scripps Howard reporter, had also told the Commission that he saw Jack Ruby at the hospital?

(background talk - instructions to Mrs. Tice to answer)

Q. Do you recall what day it was when Eva Grant showed you the jacket that you saw Jack Ruby wearing

CUT (background talking)

Q. Mrs. Tice, do you recall what day it was that Mrs. Grant showed you Jack Ruby's jacket?

A. Yes, it was the day that I went before the Warren Commission.

Roll 23 Take 96

Q. Mrs. Tice, do you recall when Eva Grant showed you the jacket that Jack Ruby was wearing on November 22.

A. That was the day that I went to the Warren Commission; and, after I left the Warren Commission, well, that's when I called her and went to her house and she showed me the jacket.

Q. Did the Commission show you the jacket when you testified before them?

I - if
A. No, /I don't know ~~xx~~ they - did they know anything about the jacket?

Q. Did the Commission ask you what clothing Jack Ruby was wearing on November 22?

A. Mmm - I don't remember.

Q. Didshe tell you that also?

A. No, she asked me what he was wearing, what this man that I saw was wearing, and I tried to describe to her what it was. But -

Q. And what did she say?

A. Well, she asked me if I saw the coat, could I identify it, and I said, ~~what I knew~~ what I knew what kind, you know, what kind of material and all

what it

looked like. And of course it was - what kind of coat, I mean was it a sport jacket....

Q. Did she show it to you at any time?

you see

A. Well, /I went over there because, by myself, I wanted to see it .

Q. And did you see it?

A. And she told me that I could see it. And so I called a cab and I went over there and I did see it.

Q. And?

Well

A./And it's just like the one I saw.

(background conversation)

Q. Someone took a picture at Parkland Hospital - just at the scene and there's a man in there. I'm going to ask you if you saw that man out there.

A. Well - will it cause trouble if you ask me that? Interrogator's answer. No. First of all the Warren Commission - it's in the Warren - it's in the 26

volumes. Secondly, the - there is no more Warren Commission, the whole investigation is over. Third - as far as the Ruby trial, there may be some others at Parkland Hospital --

A. I know but the police department are angry too, you know.

I mean
this kinda looks that way to me, but/I can't be certain, and when I was looking at Ruby, he was looking this way.

Q. Yeah

And when

A. I was. standing here, this man hit him on the shoulder

Q. Did he have on that kind of a hat on?

A. He had a gray hat on, this man --

Q. How about a coat, a jacket-

A. This coat is a (XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX)

he's got one like it. Jack Ruby's got a coat like the one I saw that man had on up there.

Q. Was it like this one, or not like -

A. It's a sport coat, you know, just a - it looked kind of olive green, like a brown green ... tweedy

Q. And what color socks?

A. I don't know.

Q. Do you think that's Ruby? That's just a picture someone took at Parkland Hospital to no purpose.

A. I don't know.

Q. I won't ask you that question. All right, when we do get to the question - when we do get to that point - that threaten.... you don't remember when that call was - when they said (xxxxx) was that after you had heard - after Sunday when you got your letter from the Commission ?

A. I don't remember - because they were calling quite a bit, and -

Q. And hanging up -

A. And Jimmy was further aggravated, and I don't know ...I don't remember.

Q. But it was about that time....why don't you just say "At about that time"...It was about the time I take it. Why don't you just add that at about that time there was a phone call. All right, now, we're ready.

Roll 21 Take 89

Q. Mrs. Tice, what did you do on November 22nd, after you had heard that the President had been shot?

A. I got in the car and I went over to Parkland Hospital and - then you want me to tell you what?

Q. And then, after you arrived at Parkland Hospital, what did you see, what did you hear?

A. While I was at Parkland Hospital all the people

WERE were milling around, and at this time I saw this man that I believed was Jack Ruby. He was standing there - uh - looking toward the Parkland entrance and I walked down closer - I was about three feet away from him, and there was a man that came along and got behind Jack, this Jack that was out here and slapped him on the shoulder/^{and}ask(ed) him how he was doing, and then he turned around and started talking to this man and that's how I - that's when I saw Jack Ruby, the one and - well I don't know how to tell you this about the - uh - when I heard that he had, when I heard that he had shot - uh - Oswald, I couldn't understand why that he was out at Parkland Hospital and he was wanting - he told this other man when they ask him what was wrong with Connally, well, they said that he had been shot in the kidney or something, and - uh - Jack said "Can't they give him another kidney? or "Can't anybody do anything about it?" and this man said something about givin' him a kidney but Jack said - er - this man asked Jack, "Well, who in the hell is going to give him a kidney?" and Jack said, "Well, I will". And the other man went on, and Jack went on toward the front of the emergency ~~xxxx~~ entrance, and I looked at my watch and that's when I knew that I had to go home be-

cause my children were going to be gettin' home from school.

Q. Did you hear this other man address Jack Ruby by name?

A. As "Jack".

Q. What did he say to him?

A. He says, "How are you doing, Jack?"

Q. How far were you from Jack Ruby when the man said "How are you doing, Jack?" to him?

A. I was three feet from him.

Q. Did you look directly at Jack Ruby at that time?

A. Yes I looked directly at - Jack Ruby was facing me whenever this man tapped him on the shoulder and said "Hello, Jack". This man that I believed that

/ was Jack Ruby was facing me.

Q. How long were you in (A) position to observe Jack Ruby at the Parkland Hospital - or the man you believe was Jack Ruby?

A. You mean while I was being nosey and listening to their conversation ?

Q. Yes.

A. Well, I think about - I guess - approximately three minutes.

Q. Did you tell the Warren Commission, when you testified before the attorney for the Commission, precisely what you have told me this evening?

A. As much as I can remember, I mean.

Q. Did you have an opportunity to speak with Jack Ruby's sister, Eva Grant regarding Ruby's presence at the Parkland Hospital.

A. Yes, I did.

Q. And would you tell us - uh - how that came about, and what you said to Eva Grant and what she said to you.

A. You mean how it came that I - talked with Eva Grant to begin with?

Q. Yes, please.

A. Uh - well I didn't know her. But I had called them with a sympathy call - more or less a sympathy call because I thought it was just terrible the way that they were doing uh - Eileen and Eva because of what Jack had did and they didn't have anything to do with what he did, I mean they couldn't help it but still they were - well, I just felt sorry for 'em. But, in the first place, I thought they already knew that Jack was out at the hospital or I wouldn't have said anything at all.

Q. Did you mention to Eva Grant that you had seen her brother at the Parkland Hospital?

A. Yes, I did mention it to her. I said that I couldn't understand why - that he had been out

to the hospital and was willing to give a kidney
then would
to save one man's life and ~~smackback~~ turn around
and - and ~~smack~~ kill another man. It just didn't
make sense.

Q. And what did Eva Grant say to that?

A. Well she just said that he was just all tore
up and he was - he was just sick, sick, sick.

Q. Did you have an opportunity to describe to Eva
Grant the clothing that you observed Ruby wearing
on November 22nd?

A. Yes - uh - she ask(ed) me what - uh - what Jack
had on, and I said "Well, the man that I thought
was Jack" and what he had on - I tried to describe
to her the coat which was a sport coat - or seemed
to be a sport coat as well as I remember, and it
was - a - olive green or greenish -brown, like -
tweedy-lookin' coat, and she said would I know
that coat if I seen that coat again, and I said
" Well, yes, I think I would because - uh -" and
she said, "Well, did the man have on a hat?" and I
said, "Well, the man I saw had on a gray hat, I be-
lieve it was a gray hat - grayish." And she asked
me would I know the coat or would I know the hat
again if I saw it, and I said yes/I would, so --

Q. Did you see the hat or coat again?

A. Yes, I did because, for my own benefit, I want-
ed to know if - if that really was Jack, or if this

~~To this~~ this, if this coat and this hat - if this coat that she showed me - I didn't see the hat again, but-uh-she showed me this coat ~~that~~ I went over to her house, and she said - uh - does this look anything like the coat that you saw - and, right away, ^{I mean} /it looked identical.

Q. Do you believe you saw Jack Ruby at the Parkland Hospital on November 22nd?

A. Well, yes, I believe ~~that~~ I did see him, but I ^{- uh -} don't know ~~but~~ I mean I could be mistaken because ~~xxxxxx~~, if he was out there, I don't know why he would say he wasn't ^{out} /there, but, I still say if that wasn't him, it must have been his twin brother and I can't help from believe it.

Q. His twin brother named Jack?

A. Well, no, I mean - uh - if that wasn't - if this, if this guy named Jack that this man spoke to out at the Parkland Hospital - if that wasn't Jack Ruby, well then it must have been, well, his twin brother I guess named Jack.

Q. Did you know that Seth Kantor - a Scripps Howard reporter, testified before the Commission that he had known Ruby for some years, and that he encountered Ruby at the Parkland Hospital on November 22nd, and that he had a conversation with him?

A. No. I didn't know anything about this at all, I

mean I don't know this man, and I don't and I didn't know that he had said this. I had heard something about it - uh - once or twice. In fact, just the other day I heard that something about it. Well, when your lady was talking to me - and uh - well I just didn't know him, didn't know anything about it.

Q. At what time of the day, would you say, that you saw this gentleman whom you ~~think~~^{believe} was Jack Ruby?

A. I have no idea what time it was, except that I know that I was there at one o'clock, and I know that I was back at my house ^{on} ~~at~~ Lakemount Drive at three o'clock.

Q. And how long does it take to drive to your home from the Parkland Hospital?

A. Well, it took me fifteen minutes that day because I knew that I got home in - that I got home at three o'clock and my children get there at ten after three.

Q. So you saw Jack Ruby - or his twin brother between one pm and 2:45 pm on November 22nd?

A. That's about right.

Q. And you had a direct view of him from a distance of three feet, and you observed him involved in con-

versation for approximately three minutes?

A. That's right.

Q. Well, under those circumstances, can you explain this reference in the Warren Commission Report to your testimony: "The only other person besides Kantor who recalled seeing Ruby at the hospital did not make known her observations until April 1964, had never seen Ruby before, allegedly saw him only briefly then, had an obstructed view and was uncertain of the time?"

A. Well I didn't have an obstructed view, I don't know - um - I guess I was nervous - uh - I know I was upset by having to go up to the Warren Commission, and - uh - well, I don't know why they thought that, because they had me to draw 'em a picture .

(background technical talk)

-that I had told anyone that I had seen Ruby at the hospital - when I talked to Eva Grant....

Q. Which was when?

A. When I called her and - and - you know, the sympathy that was call .../the first time I had said anything about it.

Q. When was that(background talk) ... do you recall when that was?

A. No, I don't remember.

Q. Was that before the trial - Ruby trial?

A. Oh, let's see. It was after I went - no - I called and told her

Q. It was before

(simultaneous talk in here)

A.-the Warren Commission....

Q. Was it before your automobile accident?

A. No, no, it was after.

Q. It was after, let's see, your accident was in January . . .

A. January the 23rd.

Q. Uh huh. And was it at the time when you were at home?

A. It was in April, wasn't it, when I called her?

Q. Was it O.K.

A. I think it was April.

Q. And she's the first person you saw - you told - you didn't tell your husband -

A. Yes. No, I didn't tell my husband.

Q. Your children?

A. No.

Q. And your friends?

A. No. I didn't discuss it with my children or - nobody knows. Well the only time, the first time my husband knew was when the FBI came to St. Louis to talk to me.

Q. Uh huh.

Roll 22 Take 90

Q. Mrs. Tice, did you tell the Commission that you were standing just three feet from Jack Ruby and looking directly at him for a period of about three minutes on November 22?

A. I don't recall if I told them exactly three feet. I tried to draw a picture for 'em, they kept tellin' me to draw a pic-

ture, so I tried to draw a picture of 'em and show 'em exactly where I was standing.

Roll 22 Take 91

Q. Mrs. Tice, when you testified before the Warren Commission, did you tell them that you were standing about three feet from Jack Ruby, that you were looking directly at him, and that you overheard a conversation in which he was involved for about three minutes?

A. Yes, I did.

Q. Do you recall on which day you received a letter from the Commission inviting you to testify?

A. I received a letter on a Sunday.

Q. And on or about that day, did any unusual occurrences take place in your home.

A. That day, no. It was that night that I received the telephone calls and - uh - somebody was tampering around the house - uh - pulling the latch on the front door and ringing the telephone and putting a ladder up against my back door, and we had quite a bit of commotion over that.

Q. What was the nature of the telephone calls?

A. The telephone call that I received that night was - uh - well they just hung up. And the doorbell rang right away after the telephone rang.

Q. Did you answer the door?

A. I went to the door - and I - and I said "Yes?" and nobody

answered, so I turned on the porch light and looked through the lattice-screen, and I saw no one there, so I started to open the door and look out, but the latch was turned on the other side. That's when I went to the other - well I was just walking the floor wondering what to do. I was rather upset about this because I didn't know what was takin' place, and I turned on my back porch light - the ladder was up against the door in the back. And so I called my husband home from work and right away he called the police.

Q. What time of the night or day was that?

A. I don't remember really but it was late - late at night. I don't - I don't really remember.

Q. Was it past midnight?

A. It seems like - uh - well I had been in bed; I had been asleep already -

Q. Uh huh.

A. So I don't remember now if it was around twelve or one or two .

Q. Did you receive any other telephone calls during that period?

A. Before that I received these telephone calls telling me - uh - to keep my mouth shut if I knew what was good for me - to keep my mouth shut. No, I received this call after I got my letter from the Warren Commission.

Q. Telling you that you should keep your mouth shut?

A. Yes - if I knew what was good for me, to keep my mouth shut.

Q. Did you discuss with anyone the letter that you had received from the Commission inviting you to testify?

A. Uh - I had - no I didn't talk to anybody about this letter except when I talked to Eva because - uh - and then when I talked to her I thought she already knew - or, if this was Jack, I thought she knew he was out there and I thought the police and everybody knew, because I thought they knew where he was and every place he had been.

Q. Between the time that you received the letter from the Warren Commission on a Sunday inviting you to testify and the time that you received the telephone call advising you that it would pay you to keep quiet, had you told anyone that you had been invited to testify before the Commission?

A. Let me think. No - uh - well I don't. Say that again.

Q. From the time that you received the letter inviting you to testify before the Commission and from the time that you received the phone calls advising you it would be best for you to remain silent, had you told anyone that you had been invited to testify?

A. Well, I hadn't talked to anybody about this at all ex-

cept when I talked to Eva. And then, when I went to St. Louis, the FBI came up there and talked with me - uh - I was at my mother's home and right away I came back to Dallas and - uh - then when this took place that night with the police and the - uh - everybody that came out to the house - reporters and - that's all.

Q. Did you recognize the voice of the man who told you to remain silent?

A. No, I had never heard this voice before. If I had - I never - I just didn't remember.

Q. How would you say the episode that Sunday evening and the telephone calls affected you when you testified before the Commission, if at all?

A. Well - how it affected me? The phone call and this tampering around the doors and things ?

Q. Yes.

A. Well - it was upsetting and made me nervous, because I couldn't figure out what was goin' on, because I didn't think that I knew anything that could hurt anybody as far as this Warren Report was... I just didn't know. Because I thought the police already knew everything that anybody else did or anything that I knew anyway.

Q. To your knowledge did the Warren Commission ever investigate the telephone calls to your home or the tampering with your door?

A. No, not that I know of. The Warren Commission didn't

even come out and talk to me, I mean other than when I testified up there.

Roll 22 Take 92

Q. Mrs. Tice, when did you receive the letter from the Warren Commission inviting you to testify as a witness, and when did you receive the telephone call advising you to remain silent?

A. I received the letter from the Warren Commission Sunday about noon, and Sunday afternoon - it must have been about two and a half hours or three hours later when I got the phone call - uh - advising me to keep my mouth shut if I knew what was good for me, or something ~~like~~ ^{to} that effect.

Q. And, between noon when you received the letter and 2:30, or approximately 2:30, when you received the phone call advising you to remain silent, had you told anyone that you had been invited to testify before the Commission?

A. Nobody knew that I had been invited except my husband came in when I got the letter, and he was right there with me all the time - uh - when I got the letter, my husband came home with the children from Sunday school and - he was right there in the house. So nobody knew/^{- nobody -} I hadn't talked to nobody at all.

Q. Was your husband in the house when you received the

phone call?

A. Yes.

Q. Who do you think called you?

A. I have no idea. I can't figure it out - I mean, that's - that's the one thing that's made me nervous because I mean I couldn't figure out why. (background technical conversation) Then I had somebody else to answer the phone, because it just - why I'd go to answer the phone and then hang up. And then I'd go ^{to start} /to do something else, and the phone would ring and I'd say, "Well, answer it," and they'd answer - nobody at all.

(background technical talk)

Oh - I'd say four or five times I guess....they just ... that I know of - that I paid any attention to, really.

Q. And then it was later that same evening when the door the same evening you received the phone call?

A. That was late, though.

Q. About what time do you think it was?

A. That was late at night. I don't know - uh - I was trying to think. My husband goes to work at - uh - ten, and - uh - we went to bed after he went to work... Well, it must have been about two o'clock - one or two o'clock in the morning.

Q. One or two o'clock in the morning is what you told the police, as a matter of fact.

(both talking)

A. It must have been - because I was asleep. ^

Q. Yes, the police report said it was one or two o'clock

because that's about the time your husband came back from the job - when you called.

A. Well, I guess that's right.

Q. Well, I'll ask you that again you can answer that later .

Reel 22 Take 93

Q. Mrs. Tice, what time of the night was it when your telephone rang, you discovered the front and back doors barricaded, and the front door bell ringing?

A. It was about one or two o'clock in the morning, when my husband came home and called the police .

(technical conversation - long blank)