

Mr. Elgin E. Crull
City Manager
City of Dallas

Sir:

On Friday, November 22, 1963, I was driving the lead car of the Presidential Motorcade. In the car with me were Secret Service Agents Forrest Sorrells and Lyn Lawson, and Sheriff Bill Decker. We had led the motorcade from Love Field on the prescribed route. We turned right on Main Street from Harwood Street. We continued on Main Street west to Houston, where we turned right to proceed to Elm Street. We made the left turn (west) and were proceeding at a speed of approximately 8 to 10 miles per hour. The time was about 12:30 p.m. We proceeded toward the Triple Underpass which is about one block from Houston Street. As I recall, we were about half-way between Houston and the triple underpass when I heard a sharp crack. Someone said, "Is that a firecracker?" After this remark, I remember hearing two other sharp reports. All of these reports were fired fairly close together. There was perhaps a longer pause between the first and second reports than between the second and third. At this time I glanced into my rear view mirror and could see a commotion in the President's car which I believe was about 100 feet behind our car at this time. At this time we could see that the Presidential car was speeding up and someone in the car said, "Let's get out of here." Then a solo motorcycle officer pulled up behind my car and I asked, "What has happened in the Presidential car - has someone been hit?" The officer said, "Yes." I told him to head for Parkland Hospital, which is the nearest hospital from that location.

I immediately went on the air and informed the dispatcher to notify Parkland Hospital to stand by for an emergency. I then broadcast orders to surround the building immediately, meaning the building from which the shots had been fired. We then proceeded out Stemmons Expressway to Industrial Boulevard, to Harry Hines Boulevard to the 5200 block, to the emergency entrance of Parkland Hospital. I alighted from the car and rushed in and told some of the attendants standing by to bring the stretchers out. I spent some time in the hospital then.

While I was at the hospital, I was told that Officer J. D. Tippit had been shot and killed about 1:15 p.m.

Friday, November 22, 1963. After leading the presidential cars to Parkland Hospital, I remained at the hospital for some time (perhaps 45 minutes or an hour). Someone from the Secret Service detail asked Inspector H. J. Putnam and me to have some cars standing by to take President Johnson to Love Field. In a few minutes the President and some Secret Service agents got into my car (I think there were three agents). I believe Mrs. Johnson and some other people got into Inspector Putnam's car.