

After the area was secured and cleared only officers, reserves, and accredited news press were permitted to re-enter. Identification of the news personnel was made by their press credentials. All civilian employees of the Department were cleared from the basement lobby and instructed to remain at their desk.

Officer R. C. Nelson and a reserve officer were stationed in the hall leading to the jail service windows. The door from the jail to the lobby remained locked and the public used the first window, set at an angle, to conduct jail business.

Detective Beaty and Lowery remained with the officers during most of the period the parking and prisoner area was closed off. Everyone conducting business at the jail was scrutinized and if they did not appear to have legitimate business, they were conducted from the basement.

There was little traffic on Main and no one loitering. A large crowd was gathering on Commerce. I had everyone removed from the City Hall side (north) of Commerce to the south side. Sergeant Steele and Reserve Harrison checked the buildings opposite the basement drive for possible snipers.

The information received from the FBI by Captain Frazier was: two calls from males stated "one hundred of us will kill Oswald before he gets to the County Jail". Due to this and the crowds formation I built up my personnel on the Commerce Street side.

I called Homicide and told Detective Beck of the parking area check and asked if Captain Fritz wanted uniformed officers to proceed and follow the transfer vehicle. He said Captain Fritz was with the prisoner and they would let me know. I prepared three plain and three marked cars to use either type Homicide desired.

I was contacted by Chief Stevenson and Chief Lumpkin regarding an armored car. It was to back into the drive as far as possible from Commerce. When it arrived two more officers were stationed at the bottom of the Commerce Street ramp with instructions that no one was to pass up or down the ramp after the prisoner passed them. Due to its height, the armored car could only be backed in a short distance.

Before the arrival of the Armored Car, Chief Lumpkin, Chief Stevenson, and I discussed the route and traffic obstructions. They were reportedly six hundred (600) people around the County Jail. I instructed Sergeant Steele to place a regular officer at each traffic light with his squad car close by. The lead car would flash its lights as they approached and the officer would cut all opposing traffic. After the vehicle passed they were to enter their cars and follow to the County Jail to assist with any trouble. The entire traffic detail was in the County Jail Area.