

December 6, 1963

For the history of the past I wish
on record than my eyes & heard with
my ears & felt with my body & heart
for future reference for myself &
for future members of the family.

Friday - November 22, 1963

I was out to lunch, on the way to
the office, with Bill Damm, Kenneth
Hoy, Don O'Neil & Bud Adams all
of the West Side Co. As we were leaving
the day's bill in order the cashier
commented "Have you heard (speaking to all
of us) that the President had been shot
this was approx 1:00 P.M. As we walk to the
car generally we all had doubt if it
were true or not. Soon as we entered
the car the radio was turned on &
it was real enough but at the time
the report was not a station long
series the President was on Gov Connally
we were on the yard of the "Old"
Dante Plant when a man from the
single dept said the President Kennedy
was dead. It seems in time or hard
to believe it was in real & it is

sure none of these really grasped the full meaning of that statement!

We return to the New Denton Plant with many degrees of comment from everyone in the car. Soon a we stopped from the car someone said we should have our flag at half-mast. This was done promptly.

After about 2 hrs in the office we went out on the yard of the New Plant and returned to the office approx 2-3 hrs later.

I returned to my desk & worked on some papers for about 15 min. & left my office & walked by to the front desk & into Marie Ellis office & since Providence the receptionist located there also had a portable radio going. I remember that the radio announcer said Lee's name & Mrs Providence said 'Donald' with shock & realization on her face - then the second time Lee's name - then it hit me my statement was "That's my hiel brother! I turned & went to my phone & called Vada & asked her if she had heard she had not. I explained briefly &

told her I would be home shortly.
I received, before leaving the office, a
phone call from "Bill" with "John" about
"more in Fort Worth station" but he
said "your brother has been arrested" &
"I don't know" "I don't know I just
heard". He advised me that my
brother was trying to reach me & gave
me a number to call. I called &
we agreed to meet in the Park Hotel
in Dallas & that a "Tex-Telegram"
report would take her there.

I left the office & came home & on
arrival Vada & I agreed best to call
her father & have them pick up the kids
& herself (at first Vada insisted on going
with me - I am thankful I would not
let her go).

I called the Fort Worth General Office &
asked for Tony Dege but he was on a long
distance call so I called for Bill Davis
& advised him I needed to go to Dallas
& he stated if he had heard something
in the Do what you need to do & don't
worry about the office, also the F.B.I. had
called the office for me.

I called the F.B.I. Fort Worth office

and spoke to Mr. Jennings & informed
him that unless he wanted me to do
something else I was going to Dallas &
he asked that I go to F.B.I. Office
in Dallas soon as possible. I
advised him I would phone him & Dr.
before I arrived.

It was approx 5:15 P.M. as I reached
night hall at the F.B.I. Office.
I don't know but I do not recall the
agent name who interviewed me for
a hour or more on the last time I
was here? Or who was the last time
I made him heard from him? This
was a an interview with no questions
applied to me. His first statement was
I had a right not to answer any questions
my lawyer or I didn't need a lawyer
& he could feel free to ask any
question. On completion of our talk I
asked where was Lee being kept &
he said Dallas City Jail or Police Station.
I walked into the Police Station
around 7:15 P.M. & went up on an
elevator but it was the wrong floor.
I found a Capt. Baker in Traffic
Dinner eating his Dinner & asked

where I could find someone in charge of the case. I then introduced myself. We step out in & tried to call upstairs but all the lines were busy. He said he would take me up. As we stood waiting on the elevator I reached into my left-hand pocket for a handkerchief & apparently a handkerchief fell almost certain that the Capt. thought I was reaching for a gun because he turned to to prepare himself but then he saw it was a handkerchief. We had upstairs and he found that a Capt. Fritter who was in charge of the case was a short dark & he called that I wait in another office. The office I went into was where another was & a Star-Telegram reporter & 2 or 3 F.B.I. agents. Two of the agents were named Brown.

Moller & I talked briefly & after about 30 min. we were taken across the hall to hear Moller & the children were (This was the first I saw of the new baby). A Mr. Chase was also present. We talked a little & shortly Mr. Bain - who are police had

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death. I talked about 20-45 min &
I finally decided I could gain
nothing the night - this night of unforgettable
horror.

I walked to my car about 7 block away
(I was not known to reporter at this time &
was not bothered at all) & I just
started to drive to drive down ^{Highway 80}
& out with & returned to Dallas by
the turnpike the only stop I made was
a mid way for gasoline. I do not
recall my thoughts other than I was
attempting to clear my thoughts & my
fear in my own mind.

I arrived back in Dallas approx 10:30 PM
& checked into the Statler-Hilton Hotel
which is located across the street from
Dallas Police Station. After checking
in I went to my room & then decided
to eat something which I did in
the coffee shop I had a ham sand-
wich.

After eating I decided to go back
to the Police Station this was approx 11:15 PM
maybe 11:30 PM anyway I asked to see
Capt. Smith again and was taken to
his office but again he was busy.

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men and I stood outside of his office
on F. B. I. a guard who named I do not
recall asked if he could not speak
with me and of course I said yes. We
went in a small office & another F. B. I.
agent came in & we started & covered
me in less than one hour covered by the
original interview with the exception of
one thing the man ^{never} had come to
my home in Ft Worth while I was there
the was Mr. Peter Gregory (I later became
to know him, at least a little bit, and find
him to be a fine guy). At approx 11:55
one agent left and returned and said

11-7

Robert you might as well know now they
are charging your brother with the President's
death (he had all ready been charged
with Governor Tippitt's death) I looked
at my watch it was a few minutes
after 12 midnight.

I left the Police Station a few
minutes later & as I walked to the
Hotel agent & back away my body suddenly
began to shake all over - however I
regained control by the time I reached
the entrance to the hotel. This young
body of mine had then started to re-

act to this unbelievable day & during the next 7 days especially my young body mind & soul was aged a great deal.

I went to bed the Friday night of November 22, 1963 but I know I never really went to sleep.

Saturday November 23, 1963

I started moving about 7 AM took a shower & because I didn't have a comb, razor or anything I went to the drug store & purchased a comb & hair oil returned to my room combed my hair & left for a shave in the hotel barber shop.

The barber who shaved me & the barber with the next chair had a discussion on the past day's happenings. I listened intently & when now (much later) I cannot recall what one part of that was made by the barber who shaved me. The point was even the crime he was charged with he discussed like anyone else a just a hair trial. I never commented to any part of the discussion but I did leave my barber a 50¢ tip.

I went, without breakfast & the

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Police station and after hanging around
for 30-40 min I thought that since
charges had already been made that the
District Attorney's office might be the
place to contact. I called from the first
floor of the Police Station & was advised
by an Asst. D.A. that the D.A. was out
in out of reach shot by & for me to come
to his office.

12-11-63

When I arrived the D.A. Mr. H. Wade
was there & I was shown right in & also
met Asst. D.A. Jim Bowie. We talked
for about 1 hour on a so mostly general thing.
About when & where the trial would be
held & would it be a Federal case or
not. The answer was no & Federal case
since it was not against Federal law & kill
a President. All of our conversation was
pleasant & not in friction on either side.

I received a call from Mother while I
was at the D.A.'s office & she advised
that she was at the Palm Hotel (Delaware) &
was with Life magazine reporters. She
stated the Capt. ~~Paul~~ Party had agreed
to not see her around 12 noon. I left
the D.A.'s office at approx 11 AM & went to
the hotel. I remembered I walked there

I believe it was 6 or 7 o'clock.

When I came to the hotel room
2 life men were there one F.B.I. Agent
by the name of Edson & an interpreter
(she was a mess just to see this interpreter). Maria
apparently did not want to talk to the
F.B.I. at this time so we made ready to
go to the jail to see Lee.

We arrived approx. 12 noon & were asked
to wait for a little bit before we could go up.
As we were waiting a man asked if he could
talk with me. This was Mike Howard of the
United States Secret Service. Mr. Howard stated
that he would like certain facts about Lee &
myself. I indicated I would be more than
willing to answer any & all questions to the best
I could. We had an interview that lasted
perhaps 1 hour or so, with my deepest sympathy in the
matter. He mentioned that Mr. Kennedy was
interested in our background etc. at the very first
part of the interview. Later as we talk I
mentioned to him that perhaps when the direct
man I could express my deepest sympathy on
the death of the President my voice broke & I
could not finish. Mr. Howard stated he saw
what I was trying to say.

Mother & Maria & the children went

up to see Lee & I was told I would go later.
About this time a Mr. Kelley came into
the office where Mr. Howard & I were talk-
ing. Later I found out the was Inspector Tom
Kelley of United States Secret Service. He talked
for a few minutes off & on as we were having
a few interruptions again.

Mike Howard, Mr. Kelley & myself talked
about whether or not Lee upon seeing me would
say anything to me because I did not at
any time admit to any part of the whole
unbelievable mess. I stated I would do my
best. (Do not misunderstand him my whole
intention then is now was to find out the truth
& nothing else).

Approx 3:15 PM I went up to see Lee & as
we came face to face then the glass he
mentioned for me to pick-up the telephone which
we were to talk thru. His first statement to me
was "How are you" I replied "I don't know if I'm O.K."
(He did have cuts & bruises on his face) He stated
that he was O.K. & that they were "kreatin me
well". I do not recall anything he say
I did try to put out to him that the evidence
was over whelmin that he did kill the Chief of Police
Tappin & possible the President. To this he
replied do not form any opinion on the

no called evidence. All the time we were talking I searched his eyes for any sign of guilt or what ever you call it. There was nothing there - no guilt no shame no nothing. I finally came up of my looking into his eyes he stated "you will not find anything there" I tried to talk about his family (Marie & the babies) he said "How about the little one I want a boy but you know how that goes". He asked that I not come every day to see him but he did want me to come through & visit with him. He talked about the babies & his friends & that they would take care of Marie & children & stated who he considered to be his friend was not necessary since I did this to try to get them to him, to me his answer was mechanical & I was not talking to Lee I knew. A police officer finally tap Lee on the shoulder & Lee said that was all & his last words were "See you". There were to be the last word I would ever hear from him.

Mr. Tom Kelly & Mike Howard were waiting outside the door for me & as we went to the elevator & the door closed I said "He did not say anything because (I forgot this up above) the first thing Lee said was that the line is tagged. Mr. Kelly said if it was he would not be asking me

what we say.

We discussed briefly what we said & we all agreed that maybe if we had been allowed to enter into a room & get our telephone things might have been different but we also agree this was now out of the question since (later) would feel everything is tagged or wired.

I left the Police Station & went to the hotel & mother & Maria & babies had been moved to another motel by the FBI agents. This was the Executive Inn. I called them & told mother I was going to the farm & would see them in the A.M.

When I arrived at the farm Mike Howard had called & left word for me to call back when finally I reached him he stated he would let me know where mother & Maria were & I gave him the room number & telephone number at the Executive Inn.

Sunday November 24, 1963

Around 8:45 A.M. Mike Howard called again and advised mother had call Mr. Dragoy & was upset over reports showing up and bothering her & Maria. I advised him I would meet them there
(Executive)
around 10:30 A.M.

When leaving I decided to go thru Fort Worth rather than to Denton & then to Dallas as I had advised Mike Howard. I stop at a place south of and entered Fort Worth & called Mike Howard & we agreed to meet at the Howard Johnson on the Turnpike.

I arrived first & they that I make Howard, Charles Kunkel & Mr. Gregory. We had a cup of coffee but before sitting down I was introduced to Wm. Vanderquiff of Arlington also some others (about 2 men) who I do not remember. (Believe these were police officers of Arlington).

After coffee Mr. Gregory rode with me & the 2 agents rode together, we followed there car to the Execution Room. On arrival Mr. Gregory & myself went to the room & no regulars were visible anywhere. After a few minutes in the room I left to pay the bill & prepare to leave.

Out front where we gathered Lee car Mike Howard stood waiting & he informed me that they just heard of the radio that Lee was shot. He advised that it had not been serious though & not to worry. I decided not to say anything to Marie & mother but rather that they should

go to the farm. This I spoke to Mike Hoover about also that I would go to find out about Lee.

I went to Oakland Hospital (I heard that this was where they were taken Lee) and arrived but had to identify myself to a police officer in order to get into the entrance road. The police officer instructed me to wait to be called a policeman (the first one was a Sgt.) to park my car in front of a patrol car & wait with me.

Shortly in about 20 min or less 2 Secret Service Agents came out to the car & we talked for a few minutes & then left to go into the Hospital. Royce Wain was one of the 2 Agents & I do not recall the other one name but later on he took the tape recording to Washington.

As we entered a side door of the hospital Agent Wain gave me a fast shake down for any weapons. This I did not mind since he did not know me at all.

We went into a room on the first floor & one Agent stayed with me (Wain & I believe I first) and then a new one came in (I later saw him at the motel also but cannot recall his name). We were there

Approx 30 min when the telephone rang (2 or 3 other calls had come in) Oh, yes I forgot an Agent came in after about 20 min & advised it was not serious & Lee was doing fine. Now approx 10 min later the phone rang, as I mentioned above & the Agent in the room with me requested that the party on the other end repeat what was being said. The Agent rose & I look at him & he stated "Robert I am sorry but Lee is dead". I broke down and cried for I did not know how long & I was not aware of anything going on around me at this time. Someone finally said there was a minister here in the hospital & asked if I wanted to speak to him & nodded yes.

Before the minister arrived Mr. Tom Kelly came in (I wasn't aware when) but suddenly he stated "violence breeds violence" I replied "does this justify anything or all of this" I do not recall if he answered that or not.

Dr. Pagan talked to me & we grazed together & then Agent said I could go & see Lee. We walked slowly down the hall & went to the back or basement of the hospital I do not remember which. They put me in a room & said it would be a few minutes.

About this time Maria, mother & the two children
came in. They had already seen her so
we waited for a while. Then someone came
in & said that they had already started
the autopsy & that it would be impossible
for me to see her until it was completed.
They advised it would be 4-5 hours. I
decided not to wait so plans were made
to go.

The secret Service apparently had re-
ceived orders for the local level to stay
with us until further notice.

We left in two cars I was in the
first car with 2 agents & Maria, kids
& mother & Mr. Druey was in the last car.
Only one car with newspaper reporter tried
to follow us as we headed for the Inn
at the Big Falls, Arlington, Texas. We were
driving down the highway & the car was
still following us. Additional help was
called for over the radio & before long
police cars were stopping the car that was
following us on speeding or something.

We arrived at the Inn where the
agents had set up 4 different rooms.
We stayed in Room 424 & 423.

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Mania that the children in room 423 (actually the rooms were together & we could walk thru without going outside). I do not remember much of what went on the first afternoon (I guess it was around 4:00 when we arrived there) I do recall that Arlington Police were now helping the Secret Service Agents out. I will mention two of those Police officers now. Bob Parson & Jesse Darr (I do not know what their ranks were but both were around from the day forward until we left the scene).

Later in the night Police Chief of Arlington Chief Perry by name came in. I stayed mostly in the main room 424 & everyone that came in was introduced to me. Also I got some water in the night the following night by Sheriff Lon Evans & F. L. Wott came in & I remember having a cup of coffee with him & talk in about different things & he told me anything he could to help to combat on him.

We made supper that night & all I had was a milk shake (I found out on the day I left that the town usually didn't serve milk shake & that they had to find a machine somewhere).

During the general. The person
But Person went to Dallas Parkland Hospital
& "Stole" my car. He hid it at
Culley's Police Station & they put a guard
on it.

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After Maria had eaten they (the Secret Service Agent) stated in interview with Maria & Mr. Droney & the integrity. I was present during this entire interview which was on a tape recorder & Maria answered all questions to the best of her ability - of this I am sure of. Maria never did mind talking to the Secret Service Agent Clark Kinkel was the interviewer. Mike Howard controlled the tape recorder for a while & then I believe they found it did not need any further adjustment.

A telephone call started in which we it making a decision on what arrangement was to be made for the body of the. I talked with Mike Howard & decided that Miller's funeral home in Ft. Worth would be my preference. Agent Howard called & talked with the funeral home Director Mr. Brody.

Much later I would say around 10 or 11 PM Mike received a call from the hospital wanting to confirm that Miller funeral home was to pick-up the body.

I was to call & ask for Malcolm & they would identify me & O.K. removal by Miller's.

After this I believe the interview was

Complete with mania.

Agent ^{Charlie} Kunkel was in really dead on his feet stretched out on the sofa & went to sleep. Port Brown was outside walking around (Creyon more or less affected the F.B.I. by time now) with a carbine in case someone should show up. As I went to bed someone usually anyone was knocking on the door) rattled the door down & Charlie Kunkel came along & I knew by sheer reflex will draw pistol but Jesse Barron had reached the door now & it was Port Brown waiting in.

* After mania interview I was interviewed by Mike Howard perhaps for 20 or 30 minutes also they had Marion Longford take a picture of mania and me of me.

Monday November 25, 1963

Somewhere around 6:30 AM I got up. I do believe I ^{never} really went to sleep. Also around 8:30 either the Funeral Home called or we called them that I do not remember very well make funeral arrangements over the phone.

Around 11 AM the first great shelly of the day was to hit me - One Cemetery (Lancel had in Ft. Worth what not a copy the body) also they were having a hard time locating

a minister to give the service. The funeral director
was going to continue until he found some-
thing out for sure. We had planned the
funeral for around 4 P.M.

Someone came in & said that a
Lutheran minister was here & did we want to
talk with him. I replied yes. They
had been talking ^{regarding} a minister but it was
shy because I was so badly shook-up over
so called Christian people not even visiting
I don't see.

The above mentioned minister (we
never do remember & perhaps never forget) I
will not quit - he has my deepest sym-
pathy because he is the honest of all in
my book. He was so afraid for his
personal reputation that he would avoid
even possible questions he could do. He at one
point said he would perform the service but
when he left we never saw him again.

Later we learned (around 1 P.M. & 2 P.M.) that
every time you ready or would be ready for 4 P.M.
It was necessary to purchase a dress for mine
and a few other odds & ends for the funeral, given
to the staff of the industry & the
Secret Service was understood.

See, he always loved his children ^{mine} too, Dad

said she ^{she} needed new shoes, she had
been wearing a pair of canvas top shoes for
children, early this morn'g Nov. 25, 1963 Maria
was driving home & she said in her broken
English "You need shoes" I looked to see what
size as I turned I could not control myself
and broke once again. I called Agent
Charlie Kunkel over and with tears falling down
my cheeks I said "I realize this is foolish
and explained briefly about the shoes. He
his reply was as he put his hand on my
shoulder in soothing like "She will have shoes".
I said I would of course pay for them &
be sent money back for the.

On return Maria was again asked to go
out & find the necessary apparel for Maria
she he did @ Sears in Arlington. Also
a dress for June Lee was purchased (I had
stated from the beginning that I would pay
for all the items. I mention she again because
late the week & early the following week Maria
informed that the government was paying for all
this - they never indicated at any time they
would because I had from the beginning
said I would).

We left for the funeral in two
cars Roger Warner, Port Parson & a man

for the Sheriff department was driving the
car in in. Men & the children and mother
were in the other car driven by Mike Howard
with Charlie Tucker also.

Also on a night it slow down under
the constant pressure all of us were under on
the way, on in the back car, a car can be
taken in & the 2nd car the driver asked
Pat Bauer's to turn around (He & I were in
the back seat. Pat carry a M-1 (cabin) and
Pat Bauer's turned and then said it was
all only two old maid one carrying a brief
case. Every one laugh I believe it was the
first time I had laugh in over 2 days.

As we arrived at the gate to Rose Hill the
F.P. Police made all Dept & Police
officer identify themselves they were taking
no chances. We pulled up to the "Chapel" and
sat in on the inside and register with
Carroll started gathering around I felt again as
if I was literally torn apart because I had
loped for a few minute alone before the
burial but the also could not be as fast my
walked to see again a cavern particularly
but his came up to my face and I al-
most lost control because I believe if
I had to take a couple more steps to the

car I would have knocked in down, the
I am sure would have been exactly what they
hope for. So I sat down in the back of the car
again. But Pass, who had orders to stay in-
side with the Carlina, said "But, hang on you
are doing fine". We drove down to burial place
and the funeral began conducted by the Rev
Sander. I do not remember much but there
was someone right in front, one speaking Russian
a Maria. I finally asked Mike Howard
the picture in Life magazine showing ~~the~~ aged
looking over me in Mike Howard and I was
asked him to see if all the negatives could
not be moved back so that we may have
a few quiet minutes with the casket open.
This was done & also a half-dose across
policemen in plain clothes formed a semi-
circle around the head of the casket for further
protection in of no pictures while the casket was
open. Maria bowed her & slipped (with the
funeral director helped her) her ring on
Lee's finger. Mother kissed her and so did
I & said a prayer as I laid over him.
After the funeral was over we went back
to the motel.

Sunday
Jan 17, 1964

Jim advised that Maria told him that she wanted to ----- NHR also but Maria locked her in the bath room all day. This was confirmed later the day by Maria on the way to the cemetery.

Sunday Jan 19, 1964

Maria & the mother had gone to Katy Ford house in Richardson in a car and at the mother's home around 2 PM they return about 4:45 PM.

On the way to quarry Jim said the K. B. I. had asked Maria during the week ~~if~~ if she knew had tried to commit suicide while in Russia prior to their marriage. She did not and it was the first she knew about it. Maria asked later earlier than all said that she had ^{asked} her 2 or 3 times what was the cut on his wrist pointing to the cut on his left wrist. She would have been very much and told her nothing. The K. B. I. read the in the "book". Understood he had a date with another girl around 8 PM (He is in Moscow) the night before she was due to arrive he cut his wrist. Maria said she was "shocked" when the K. B. I. told her the story.

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