

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

ORIGIN Field	OFFICE Dallas	FILE NO. CO-2-34,030
TYPE OF CASE Protective Research	STATUS Continued	TITLE OR CAPTION Assassination of President Kennedy, Dallas, Texas
INVESTIGATION MADE AT Dallas, Texas	PERIOD COVERED December 9, 1963	
INVESTIGATION MADE BY SA Elmer W. Moore		

DETAILS

SYNOPSIS

Robert H. Jackson, press photographer, saw rifle barrel on sixth floor window of Texas School Book Depository Building.

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

Reference is made to previous reports. *Boyd 1934-35*

On December 9, 1963, **Robert Hill Jackson**, age 29, employed as a press photographer for The Dallas Times Herald Newspaper, was interviewed in the Photography Department of that paper.

Mr. Jackson stated that on November 22, 1963, he was assigned to the Presidential Motorcade for the purpose of obtaining news photographs and was in a car approximately eight cars back of the President's car with five other news photographers and a driver. As his car turned the corner at Main and Houston he threw a roll of film to James Featherston, a Times Herald reporter who was waiting at that point by prearrangement to pick up film from Jackson. Jackson stated that at this point he and the other photographers were more or less relaxed as they assumed they would not be taking many more pictures since the motorcade would be picking up speed from this point on enroute to the Trade Mart. The film which he threw to Featherston was caught by the wind and was rolled into the street and all the photographers were laughing at Featherston as he ran along the street recovering the film.

It was in this relaxed mood when the first shot was heard. Some one said "What's that, a firecracker?" Before the unknown speaker finished talking two more shots were heard. It was Jackson's impression that the car was probably in the middle of the block on Houston Street between Main and *105*

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Elm at this time. Jackson said that it was obvious to him the shots were rifle shots and he began to look about. Almost immediately after the last shot he looked ahead and up to the Texas School Book Depository Building and saw two colored men leaning out of the corner window on the fifth floor. It appeared that they were looking up towards the sixth floor. Jackson then looked at the sixth floor and saw a rifle barrel and part of a stock being withdrawn into the window over what appeared to be a cardboard carton. He did not see a telescopic sight on the rifle but only perhaps 10" or 12" of the muzzle end. Jackson called to the other photographers, "There is the rifle" but before the others could look up, the rifle had been withdrawn. At no time did Jackson see anyone at the sixth floor window. He does not recall seeing the two colored men in the fifth floor window again as he had by that time looked ahead towards the front of the motorcade. By this time the car in which he was riding had rounded the corner of Houston into Elm Street. Further ahead he saw the lead cars gathering speed and going under the overpass. He is not certain that he could see the President's car at this point. He has a general impression of people scattering and falling to the ground. He distinctly recalls seeing a motorcycle policeman stop his motor cycle and fall to the ground, also a Negro couple covering a child on the ground. Some of the photographers had left the car by this time. Jackson requested the driver of the car to slow up so he could dismount from the car, however, before it slowed down sufficiently he had reached the curve into Stemmons Freeway.

After getting out of the car he ran back to the general area where the President had been shot and from there ran up to the parking area west of the Texas School Book Depository Building. It was his impression when first arriving there that the police had captured whoever had done the shooting, but after some minutes learned that no arrests had been made there. He then left with a television photographer from Channel 8 and hitch-hiked a ride out to Stemmons Freeway. They were stopped by a road block and after identifying themselves as press photographers were allowed to go on. He then joined Frank Cancellare of the White House Photographers and hitch-hiked another ride to Parkland Memorial Hospital where he took some general pictures.

Mr. Jackson stated that he did not take any photographs of the Texas School Book Depository Building from the motorcade as he did not have time and as the one camera with the telescopic lens contained no film.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

Continued.

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