

Oswald Death Unbelievable?

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WASHINGTON (UPI) — They were there to mourn . . . not to be vengeful.

Most people waiting for the procession taking the body of late President John F. Kennedy from the White House to the Capitol were aghast at news that his accused assassin had been shot.

"Outrageous," said Mrs. Samuel Leidman of Wheaton, Md. "We may never really know the truth now. I don't understand the sloppy protection given him."

Criticism of the security arrangements was general among the mourners.

"How stupid can the police in Dallas get?" asked a retired police officer who refused to give his name. "They knew there might be trouble, that's why they provided an armored guard. But why didn't they take him out secretly at 3 o'clock in the morning instead of giving the killer a timetable."

"If this is true," said Foster Terrell, Washington banker, "it is a very tragic thing. A tragedy on a tragedy."

Mrs. Gertrude Goodwin of Washington said she didn't think this could happen in America.

Mrs. Margaret Bryan, of Washington, hoped that "Oswald would recover so he could die at the hands of the law."

Claude Stratton, an Alexandria, Va., salesman, said, "It seems to me he should have had better protection. I would have liked to have seen him tried. I don't approve of violence."

Miss A. Vondale Patterson Morgan State College, Baltimore, student, said she thought "it was terrible. He hadn't been tried yet. I think he should have a trial and be punished only if convicted."

"I think the man should have been tried," said Eugene A. Neal, a government electronics worker. "It's almost unbelievable that he was shot, and not better protected."

An anonymous gray-haired woman said, "I'd like him to suffer a bit; this way is too easy on him."

Mrs. Tom Mallette of Annandale, Va., said, "No one has the right to take the law in his own hands. May God have mercy on his soul."

And Paul Hoilman, Washington laboratory worker, said, "He might not be the one. We can't know without a trial. If he isn't the one, we'd be hurting."