Highlight Notes from Nelson's LBJ

Source: Chapter 7

P. 373 Notes that LBJ wanted Jackie to ride with him . . .

My Dallas Trip notes should contain something about the Miami threat. . .(Milteer business). . . . Check it out. . .PN quotes Sheshol on p. 373 about LBJ's rage about being blamed for insisting that JFK come to Texas. . .(source: Mutual Contempt, p. 138.

According to Evelyn Lincoln (Kennedy & Johnson), pp. 198-99 Notes that Kenendy people warned about the hate climate in Dallas. . . Momentarily Dallas was removed from the cities he would visit. . . advance man warned not to follow the route laid out---onto Houston and then Elm St. . . but he was overruled., . .

- P. 375 Johnson's role in insisting on the Trade Mart and . . . allowing the motorcade to take that dogleg from Main to Houston and then onto Elm Street where the limo slowed down to 8 miles per hour. . . (check on speed here) Notes on same page that Gerald Behn special agent in charge of the WH Secret Service detail opposed the Trade Mart, etc. . . 375-376 notes that Jerry Bruno, JFK"s political advance man, was set on the Women's Building. . . . Behn did testify before the HSCA .
- P. 378 He lists a series of decisions by LBJ pointing to his directorship of this Dallas assassination. One point was that LBJ determined that the autopsy would be at Bethesda Hosp. . . . carried out by military under orders. . . . not by skilled forensic doctors. . . *** Might be useful w/ support from AF-1 tapes. . .
- P. 379 Speaks of the stripping away of Sheriff officers and Dallas PD officers from presence at the area where the motorcade left Main onto Houston (high buildings) and then from Houston onto Elm . . . allegedly SS was to take over here. . .There were no SS officers at that location . . .Same with Decker and his sheriff department. . . .where Decker ordered his deputies (about 100 individuals) to simply watch the motorcade . . .and take no part in security. . .[cite sources for this on p. 379 and 378.

P. 380 He cites Sorrels comment when he was doing a dry run of the proposed presidential motorcade when he got to the dog leg the whole tour when he told Curry and Lawson that "Hell, we'd be sitting ducks. . . . "

He notes on p. 380 LBJ's efforts to get Jackie to ride with him. . .JFK quickly rebuffed this. . . .

P. 381 Notes that bike jockey Martin that SS notified the motorcycle cops that they were not to ride behind the rear wheels of the Queen Mary (w. prexy). It ended according to SS orders to only 2 bike jockeys on either side of the limo and not 4 as was the usual configuration. What was the situation in the other Texas cities??? (Source here: Fetzer/Weldon, Murder in Dealey Plaza. 155)

No. 21 Clint Murchison's House and the gathering. . . He cites Madeline Brown's account and give it credence citing supporting authors. . . Pp. 383-384

Start here: the stripping away of JFK's protection begins at Love Field pp. 386ff

- @ He notes the business of SS agents on night of 11/21-11/22 partying at Ft Worth Club called The Cellar. He cites Ab Bolden to Douglass that some agents would step aside and let Kennedy take a bullet.
- @ Stripping away of bike jockeys from riding around the presidential limo from the usual 6 (as was the situation in Houston the day before) and this was increased to 12 bikes to each side (24 in all) when the parade reached the downtown area of Houston; only 2 and to the rear of the limo . . . (p. 387). This really blows apart the response that JFK ordered this stripping off of protection at Love Field. . . . (he was more interested in the adulation of the crowd than he was about his and his wife's security. . . (I can use this knock down argument). Phil quotes bike jockey Hill that it was LBJ who ordered them to only 2 motorcycle cops to rear of the limo. . . (cite Hill, p. 113. Not clear but it must be a reference to above cite WCH vol 20, 113. Will need to check****

PP. that it was LBJ who ordered them to only 2 motorcycle cops to rear of the limo. . .(cite Hill, p. 113. Not clear but it must be a reference to above cite WCH vol 20, 113. Will need to check****PP. 387-388 a host of other last minute changes in the protection scheme of the president. . .

Putting all those bike jockies to the rear of the limo made a shot from the rear more difficult but made a frontal shot from grassy knoll a piece of cake. . . P. 388 he cites WC testimony of Lawson (mention his service in military intelligence??) who argued that it was JFK who ordered these changes for the Dallas visit. . .See WCH vol 21, p. 571. P. 389 Phil raises the obvious rejoiner to the official lie. . . .That JFK would order the stripping away of security (Houston model) in the City Of Hate. . . The one city he was truly concerned about in the Texas trip which itself was a matter of deep concern to him . . .Makes no sense. It should have been discarded as poppycock by the WC. . . . ***

p. 390 he cites B.J. Martin (bike jockey) who noted that the changes in the motorcade positioning was made by what he thought were "Secret Service And I knew they were with Johnson , because when they got through telling us what to do, they went back to his car." Source P. 390 quoted by Nelson . .

P. 392 He notes Emory Roberts ordering SS agents Henry Rybka to stay off the back of the Limo and another agent (name unknown) because he was not visible in the film . . . He cites this stripping of agents that was online in note 51.

PP 392ff on removal of the bubble top. . . Who ordered it. . . .Because the bubble top, while not bullet proof it was shaped so that it transformed the limo into a car with a very small rear window making it nearly impossible for a sniper to see the occupants as sitting ducks. . . .See Commission Exhibit 345. . .makes this clear. . .The top would have made it very difficult or impossible to have had a good shot at JFK. . . .

**** Here is my favorite issue. P. 395. The alternative route to the Trade Mart instead of the dog leg (w/ few spectators) down Elm Street. . . Would have been to

stay on Main Street and pass through Dealey Plaza moving at speeds of 40 miles an hour and then over a plank to allow the motorcade to clear a 4 inch curb and continue to the Trade Mart. . . no fuss. . .The Main Street to the Stemmons Freeway route had been published in the morning Dallas Morning Paper . . . accounting for the thin crowd lining Elm Street. . .(only one professional photographer –Altgens. . .

Elm Steet—the killing zone. . . . Buildings 6 stories high that were not cleared by the SS or the Dallas PD or the sheriff's Office personnel. . . Nelson using Mantik posits 8 shots. . . using Mantik. He posits 7/8 shots. . . . One from the County Records Bldg and one from Dal-Tex bldg . . . two from the Triple Underpass—one from the north end and one from the South end. . . P. 398

- p. 398 Note that w/ news of JFK's death LBJ was automatically president of the nation . . . no need for a swearing in, etc. . . and leaving AF-1 standing on the tarmac at Dallas w/ possibility of a Soviet attack, etc. . . How did LBJ know that the ambush in Dallas was only the first act in a massive nuclear attack on the US. . .
- P. 404 kidnapping of JFK's body. . . He cites the works of Manchester and Summers PP. 410-411 his dismissal of Oswald as shooter of Tippit. . .
- PP. 412-419 LBJ and taking over AF-1... See p. 419 for Hancock (Someone Would Have Talked)... that LBJ kept AF-1 on the ground for more than an hour and a half...(90 minutes)
- P. 429 Nelson notes sources that make case that LBJ was not the least concerned about a possible nuclear war. . .