

MEMO: Oswald's Prior Knowledge of Motorcade Route, follow-up

by : Howard Roffman, 12/7/76

On 4/26/76 I wrote a memo about an FBI report I had obtained from the Archives, in CD 329, which was Hosty's report of a 1/13/64 interview with Roy Truly. The important thing about the interview was Truly's impression that nobody at the TSHD knew that the motorcade would pass in front of the building until after 10:30 am, 11/21 when the route was prominently displayed on the front page of the Dallas Times Herald. This was significant because LHO asked Frazier for a ride home prior to 10:00 am that morning. Also, when Belin questioned Truly, Truly said he couldn't remember any discussion about JFK coming by, which seems to conflict with what he earlier told Hosty.

To check Hosty's account, I got a copy of the front page of the DTH for 11/21/63. Hosty represents Truly as having told him that this paper "display(ed) a schedule of the President's route prominently in the middle of the first page" and that this "schedule" generated considerable excitement among TSHD employees.

Sure enough, there was a map of the motorcade route just where Truly described, in the middle of the front page. And the route shown here does include a turn-off onto Elm Street. This differs from the map in the Morning News of 11/22/63, which didn't indicate the turn off (that map is printed in WWI). The Commission published neither map. It also did not print the report of Hosty's interview with Truly, although there was some questioning about it during Hosty's testimony.

The significance of this, of course, is that LHO may have asked for a ride home on Thursday before he knew about the motorcade route. The WC was aware of this information, including the apparent conflict in Truly's story, but did not investigate it and suppressed much of the relevant information.