

"IT IS A MISQUOTE, IF I DONE IT" - WILLIAM GREER

According to the Warren Report, during the assassination of President Kennedy, the actions of Special Agent In Charge Roy Kellerman, of the Secret Service, who was riding in the right front seat of the Presidential limousine are described as follows:

Kellerman heard the President say, "My god, I am hit," and saw both of the President's hands move up toward his neck. As he told the driver, "Let's get out of here; we are hit," Kellerman grabbed his microphone and radioed ahead to the lead car, "We are hit, get us to the hospital immediately." (W.R.:63;NYT EDITION)

The lead car - a Dallas police vehicle - was approximately 4 or 5 lengths ahead of the limousine at the time of the shooting. Occupants of this lead car and their respective positions, according to testimony and exhibits, were as follows:

Driver - Dallas Police Chief Jesse Curry
 Right front - Winston Lawson, Special Agent, Secret Service
 Rear left - Dallas Sheriff Bill Decker
 Rear right - Forrest Sorrels, Special Agent, Secret Service

DID ANY OF THESE MEN IN THE LEAD CAR HEAR KELLERMAN'S RADIO ALARM?

Chief Curry testifies;

"... a motorcycle officer ran up aside of me and I asked him what had happened and he said shots had been fired and I said, "Has the President been hit or has the President's party been hit?" And he said, "I am sure they have." I said, "Take us to the hospital immediately." and I got on the radio and I told them to notify Parkland Hospital to stand by for an emergency..." (4:161)

It is clear from the Chief's testimony that he first hears of the shooting from a motorcycle officer. Curry says, "I believe it was Motorcycle Officer Chaney rode up beside of me". (4:161) He makes no mention of hearing Kellerman over the Secret Service radio that was in the front seat of the car next to the Chief.

Secret Service man Sorrels testifies that he was riding in the right rear seat (7:342), he heard a shot and:

"...within about 3 seconds, there were two more similar reports. And I said, "Let's get out of here" ... and in the meantime, a motorcycle officer had run up to the right hand side (Note: Curry was sitting on the left hand side) and the Chief yelled to him, "Anybody hurt?" He said, "Yes." He (Curry) said, "Lead us to the hospital." (7:345)

As with Curry, Sorrels does not mention hearing Kellerman's alarm but rather is informed by a motorcycle policeman of the injuries in the limousine.

Sheriff Decker testifies, but is not asked to describe the events relating to the assassination. (Volume 12)

Next we have Winston Lawson, who is asked his position in the car:
 Mr. Stern: And you were on the right-hand side in the front?
 Mr. Lawson: The right hand side, yes, sir. (4:353)

In an affidavit dated November 23, 1963, Lawson declares, "I heard a report over a radio (either the police or our own network) that we should proceed to a hospital." (17:628, 629)

Lawson testifies to hearing three shots and "I recall seeing Agent Hill on the rear of the President's car receiving a radio message that we should proceed to the nearest hospital." (4:353)

Lawson seems to say that Hill receives a radio message. Hill says he yelled ahead to the lead car, "to the hospital, to the hospital!" (18:742) Lawson could be talking about the verbal relay of a radio message. Lawson had the Secret Service radio with him and he says he received ~~this~~ a radio message, although as this reads it is not clear that he received this message. Lawson says the events "are a little bit jumbled." Lawson also testifies:

"I recall noting a police officer pulled up in a motorcycle alongside of us, and mentioned that the President had been hit." (4:353)

And on December 1, 1963, in another affidavit Lawson recounts, "I heard a report over the two-way radio that we should proceed to the nearest hospital." (17:632) He doesn't know which radio or who gave this report.

It is still not clear whether Lawson actually hears Roy Kellerman radio from the stricken Presidential limousine, "We are hit. Get us to the hospital immediately." Lawson knows Kellerman, Kellerman is his boss.

WHAT ABOUT THE PRESIDENTIAL FOLLOW-UP CAR

Since Kellerman allegedly broadcast this alarm over the Secret Service "Charlie" radio network, surely the agents in the Presidential follow-up car who were tuned in to this frequency must have heard it. William Manchester disputes Kellerman's account and the Warren Report. Manchester, who interviewed Kellerman, doubts that he got on the radio at this point:

"Moreover, had he alerted Lawson, the agents in Half-back -- Kinney among them, would have heard him over their Charlie set." (DOAP:160)

Agent Kinney, Presidential follow-up car, says in his report that, "The lead car (ahead of the Presidential car) and motorcycles were told to go to the nearest hospital." (18:731, 11/29/63) He doesn't say how they were told.

Agent Sam Kinney, driver of Half-back, also wrote another revealing report on November 22nd covering this subject. Kinney wrote:
 "Pulling up parallel to the lead car I notified them we were heading for this hospital..." (18:732)

Kinney then changed this account and in handwriting corrected this typewritten report thus:

"Pulling up parallel to the lead car, they were notified we were heading for the hospital..." (18:732)

These Kinney corrections are important as we shall see.

AGENT ROBERTS -- SECOND IN COMMAND UNDER KELLETTMAN

Agent Emory Roberts really confuses the issue in his trip report. Roberts was sitting in the right front seat of Half-back -- the Presidential follow-up car, next to Driver Kinney. Agent Robert's declares: "Just after the third shot was fired, I picked up the car radio and said, 'Half-back to Lawson, the President has been hit, escort us to the nearest hospital, fast but at a safe speed.'" I repeated the message, requesting to be cautious, meaning the speed!" (18:733, 11/29/63)

On the day of the assassination Roberts wrote another report in which he said, "Upon seeing the President shot, I radioed Lawson to escort us to the nearest hospital fast but at a safe speed." (18:739, 11/22/63)

Agent William McIntyre riding with Emory Roberts also recalls "By that time (third shot) Mr. Roberts had used the radio in our car to direct the vehicles to a hospital." (18:747)

Agent Jerry D. Kivett, of the Vice-Presidential detail, who was riding three cars behind the Presidential limousine recalls hearing a radio message from Emory Roberts:

"ATSAIC Roberts said over the radio, and this is not a direct quote but to the best of my recollection -- to the hospital -- to the hospital, as fast as possible -- Lawson, are we going to the ~~main~~ hospital? -- hurry, he's hit..." (18:788, 11/29/63)

It seems perfectly clear from Robert's report that it was he and not Kellerman who radioed the alarm to Lawson in the lead car.

There is a photograph, taken midway during the shooting, that clearly shows both Roy Kellerman and Emory Roberts. The famous photo by Ike Altgen's of Associated Press (Altgen's #6), taken at the same time as Spruder frame #255, approximately 3 seconds after the first shot.

You can see Emory Roberts with his hand to his mouth apparently on a mike. Mr. Kellerman, on the other hand, has his hands below the level of the top of the doors and is looking toward the left front of the Presidential car. This is further support for Roberts story that it was he who radioed the alarm.

Agent Clint Hill, who ran to the limousine to assist, remembers hearing Kellerman call Lawson on the two-way radio and say, "To the nearest hospital quick". Then Hill said he shouted as loud as he could to the lead car "to the hospital, to the hospital." (18:742)

Hill remembers that he was already on the back of the limousine when he hears Kellerman talking on the radio. This would be some seconds after the shooting based on the films of the event.

ON THE RADIO DURING THE SHOOTING

Kellerman, however, tells the Commission that he radios his alarm during the shooting itself:

"They (shots) came in, Mr. Spector, while I am delivering that radio message (to Lawson)" (P:75)

The Zapruder film is not clear as to what Kellerman has in his hand at this point as only the heads of the occupants on the right side of the car are visible in the film printed in Volume 18.

GREER'S CAFE

There is another reason to doubt Kellerman's testimony. When FBI Agents Siebert and O'Neill interview the driver, William Greer, he told them that he glanced around and noticed that the President had evidently been hit. He thereafter got on the radio and communicated with the other vehicles stating that they desired to get to the hospital immediately. (GD7:4)

According to this, may we believe that Greer, the driver, radioed the alarm to the other cars? Apparently not, for during Greer's testimony before the Commission on March 9, 1964 he flatly contradicts this FBI report by Siebert and O'Neill:

"I didn't go on the radio. It was Mr. Kellerman who done the radio talking. I didn't. It is a misquote if I done it. I didn't get on the radio. Mr. Kellerman did."

(2:131)

Well, if Greer didn't get on the radio, and nobody heard Kellerman on the radio, how did the agents in the Presidential limousine communicate with the lead car that they had injured people and for the lead car to take them to the nearest hospital?

Greer testifies that "I came up alongside one or two motorcycle men and I called to them "Get to th a hospital fast", you know, I called to them "hospital". (2:121)

WHAT DO THE FILMS SHOW?

The films deny Greer's testimony here. In a film taken by amateur photographer Mark Bell one can see this whole event from just after the last shot until the procession clears the triple underpass. No motorcycles ride up past the Presidential limousine to alert Curry. There are no motorcycles between the rear fender of the Presidential limousine and the lead car at this time.

Motorcycle Officer's Chaney and Hargis support Curry's contention. Chaney allegedly riding right rear of the limousine said:

"...when I seen that he was hit, well, I went on up there and told Chief Curry's group there that he had been hit there. And, uh, we took him on to the hospital from there."

(The Fateful Hours, recording made by Dallas radio station KLIF)

Motorcycle Officer Billy Hargis, who was riding at the left rear of the limousine testifies:

"...and I remember seeing Officer Chaney. Chaney put his motorcycle in first gear and accelerated up to the front to tell them to get everything out of the way..." (6:294)

There is good reason both from the film and testimony that these two officers are either mistaken or lying - but this subject will be covered later.

In the Bell film the limousine itself can be seen gaining rapidly on the lead car until both the limousine and the lead car are side by side under the triple underpass. The limousine on the right, the lead car on the left.

At this point it would be an easy matter for Driver Greer to yell across to the lead car - to Lawson who said that he was on the right hand side of the front seat in the lead car -- and say "Get to a hospital fast."

When Chief Curry said, "A motorcycle officer ran up along side" he must have been mistaken -- it was the Presidential limousine that "ran up along side" and told him of the shooting.

The reason Curry doesn't mention this in his testimony is for the obvious reason, that, since his car was supposed to lead the President's limousine, it would be hard to explain why they had to drive up and yell over to him during this national crisis. However, this is just what happened!

WHY IS ALL THIS IMPORTANT?

It is important because the agents in the front seat of the Presidential limousine are describing the actions they took to protect the President -- actions that not only failed to protect JFK, but more importantly they are both telling conflicting stories that cannot be corroborated.

It is also important as it has to do with the non-reaction of the White House detail of the Secret Service. A very serious question arises here, both obvious and at the same time ominous. Why does Greer, the driver, feel it necessary to communicate with the lead car by driving up beside it and transmitting a crucial message verbally? Don't they (Kellerman and Greer) have a radio? Is not a radio the best way to communicate rather than yelling over the sounds of racing engines and screaming spectators? Did the limousine radio malfunction?

One of them (Kellerman) is allegedly broadcasting an alarm that no one else on the network hears. This is very suspicious when it is taken together with other evidence that these two men were not busy protecting the President of the United States. The very opposite may be true.