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Date 4/1/64

Mrs. PEOPY JOYCE HAWKINS, 2719 Cumberland Street, Mesquite, Texas, advised that on November 22, 1963, she made plans to meet her husband, JOHN HAWKINS, at the Texas School Book Depository (TSBD) Building where he is employed in order to watch the Presidential motorcade. Mrs. HAWKINS said that she left home at approximately 11:15 AM and arrived at the TSBD Building at around 12:00 Noon. She said that she went to the offices of the Allyn and Bacon Company on the third floor of the building where she met other employees of this company and then proceeded to the sidewalk in front of the building on Elm Street in order to watch the parade. Mrs. HAWKINS said that the car containing the Presidential party had just passed in front of the building shortly after noon when she heard two or three shots fired in the near vicinity. She said she immediately recognized them as firearm shots and not as fireworks and had the impression that they came from the direction of the railroad yards adjacent to the TSBD Building. Mrs. HAWKINS stated that she did not see where the shots came from nor did she see any individual firing a rifle or any other weapon at this time. She said that she was looking at the President's car at the time and saw the President straighten up in the back seat and then slump over on his side. She stated she was aware that the President had been shot and was concerned for her own safety and that of her small child who was with her. She estimated that the President's car was less than fifty feet away from her when he was shot, that the car slowed down almost coming to a full stop and then started off again. Mrs. HAWKINS said that she automatically took several steps toward the President's car, then realized that there might be further shots and took her small child behind the retaining wall in front of the TSBD Building for shelter. She said she did not realize at any time that the shots had come from the TSBD and saw no one at the windows of the building.

She stated she stayed behind the retaining wall until she realized there would be no more shots and then walked back to the front of the TSBD Building. She said that a motorcycle police officer was in front of the building at this time and that she heard over his radio some remarks about the railroad yards near the building.

897/25

On 3/26/64 at MESQUITE, TEXAS File # DL 100-10461
 by SA J. HALE MC MENAMIN & SA RAYMOND J. FOX/les 35 Date dictated 3/31/64

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Mrs. HAWKINS said that she then re-entered the FSB Building by the front door and went upstairs to the third floor by elevator. She said that during this time she was excited and quite shaken by the events and cannot recall who she saw on her way back into the building and up to the third floor. She said that she believed that sufficient time had elapsed after the shots and her re-entry into the building for many persons to have left the building. Mrs. HAWKINS stated that she did not know LEE HARVEY OSWALD and cannot recall having seen him in the vicinity of the FSB Building at the time of the shooting. Mrs. HAWKINS advised that she was born September 6, 1934, at Scottsville, Arkansas, and that she resides at Mesquite, Texas with her husband, JOHN HAWKINS, and one small child.

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