

## *A MISSING LEFT TURN*

By Milicent Cranor

Lyndal Shaneyfelt, photo expert for the FBI, described in detail, under oath before the Hearings, something in the Zapruder film of the Kennedy assassination that we do not see:

". . . [Connally] turns as they go behind the signboard, he turns this way and he is turning a little bit this way and as he comes out of the signboard he is facing slightly to the right, comes around straight on and then he turns to his left straight on, and then he turns to his right, continues to turn around and falls over in Mrs. Connally's lap." [1] [Emphasis added.]

In the version of the Zapruder film available to the public, Connally does not turn to his left at all. Notice that Shaneyfelt says the left turn comes after Connally faces the front "straight on." If he had been twisted around to his right, and then turned left, that left turn would just bring him around to the front. But this left turn originates from the front. Also notice the expression "left straight on." He appears to be describing a body turn, not a little turn of the head. And it is completely gone from the Zapruder film.

### **Left Turn Also Missing from Newsreel of Connally's Interview:**

Governor Connally, bedside interview, November 27, 1963:

". . . We heard a shot. I turned to my left -- I was sitting in the jumpseat -- I turned to my left to look in the back seat. The President had slumped. He had said nothing. Almost simultaneously, as I turned I was hit . . ." [Underscored are the words later removed. The camera stayed on Connally.] [Emphasis added.] [2]

Fourteen words, lasting only 3.5 seconds, were removed from this historical statement, and the jump in facial movements and hand gestures was covered with fragments of other films spliced in. This is how it appeared on NOVA:

". . . We heard a shot. I turned [*camera cuts to scene of men taking notes*] to look in the [*camera on Connally again*] back seat. The President had slumped. He had said nothing. Almost simultaneously, as I turned I was hit. . . ." [3]

Fortunately, the left turn was preserved in Martin Agronsky's report of the interview in The New York Times:

". . . We heard a shot. I turned to my left and the President had slumped. He had said nothing. Almost simultaneously, as I turned I was hit . . ." [4]

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Afterward, Connally changed his story significantly to accommodate the claim that the first shot missed, and the second shot got both men:

1. He took out the full left turn, leaving in only the full right turn [5];
2. Instead of saying he saw Kennedy "slumped," he said he saw "nothing unusual" when he turned around to his right. [5]

### CORROBORATION

In a taped interview with Mark Lane, witness S.M. Holland said that after the first bullet was fired,

"... the President slumped over, and Governor Connally made his turn to the right and then back to the left and that's when the second shot was fired." [7]

And a taped press conference shows an unidentified man, probably a hospital spokesman, standing with Dr. Shaw, telling how both Connally's agreed the Governor turned to his left, and that, had he not done so, the bullet would have struck him in the heart. [2]

Why Cut the Left Turn from the Film and from Testimony? Any Additional frames showing that Kennedy has been hit while Connally appears normal are not good for the conspiracy -- especially when combined with Connally's later-dismissed memory of having seen Kennedy "slumped" at a time he, Connally, had not been hit.) But there was a more powerful reason to cut out that turn: If Connally had twisted around to his left, his back would have been exposed to the grassy knoll.

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## REFERENCES

1. 5H156
2. Video: "The Two Kennedy's," an Italian film re-released by M.P.I., Maljack Productions, Inc.; archive unclear]
3. NOVA: Who Shot President Kennedy? 1988
4. The New York Times, November 28, 1963
5. 4H133
6. 4H134
7. Video: Mark Lane, 1966.