

Assassin Crouched And Took Deadly Aim

By KENT BIFFLE

The assassin crouched in a dusty corner of the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository Building at 411 Elm

Through a half-open window he watched the Presidential procession through the cross hairs of a telescope scope. Even at a hundred yards the shooting was easy. The scope brought the President up close

As the motorcade passed, the assassin fired. He worked the high-powered rifle bolt and fired again. He took deliberate aim and fired a third time.

"I saw the President's hair fly up . . . I knew he was hit," sobbed Miss Karen Westorok, 19, a stenographer for a publishing firm with offices in the School Book Depository Building.

With other workers from her office, she walked out in front of the building to see the motorcade

The assassin made his way from the death window on the southeast corner of the half-century-old, rust-brick building to a stack of school book boxes on the northwest corner of the floor.

Here he hid the rifle in stacks of boxed basic readers.

"They've shot him . . . they've shot the President," screamed a middle-aged man holding the hand of a small boy. The man was weeping.

Police Patrolman J. M. Smith, 31, ran to the west side of the building throwing open his holster. Several people had fallen on the grass. Others were ducking behind bridge abutments and bushes.

Police Patrolman W. E. Barnett, 31, made for the back door of the building. "There must have been 2,000 people in a one-block area here," he said.

Confusion ruled. Some people were screaming and crying. Smiles were still frozen on the faces of others who had at first assumed this was a prank.

Dozens of people thought the

reports from the killer's muzzle: "This is going to be a black mark on Dallas history forever," in the building but most of them were just firecrackers. A few said somebody. "Dallas? What were you out front at the time the side of the building thinking the Homicide Capt. Will Fritz led Deputy Police Chief George Lumphin used scores of firemen and a fence dividing the street of the building. The sixth floor and policemen in a systematic search of the building.

There were many faces in the textbooks, cobwebs and steam pipes. An officer entered and told the

A few people outside the building. Police found three spent cartridges at the south-east corner. There was a gnawed

old steamfitter, actually got a glimpse of the gunman. An employe of the textbook

"After the first shot, I looked an empty cold drink bottle. . . you're interested in this . . . but

up and saw him. The gun was sticking out the window. I saw him muzzle exposed at either end of where."

fire a second time. "He was a slender guy, a nice-looking guy. He didn't seem to be in no hurry," said Brennan.

"I heard a shot and saw the president sort of slump down in just went blank at first . . . couldn't believe it was happen-

the seat," said Jerry Brosch, 13, of Grand Prairie.

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