Statements of Witnesses - Secret Service Agent PAUL E. LANDIS, JR.,

Vol. 18, pp.751-7, undated.

Not until the 4th page does he get to the assassination/scene. Here he describes a brief surveillance of the Depository Building, of which he said, "None of the windows were open". He places the time of the first bullet at when "the President's car and the Follow-up car had just completed their turns and both were straightening out." Note that this is in advance of the time decided upon by the Commission but in conformity with my reconstruction. He described the report as that of a "high-powered rifle from behind me" and "there was no question in my mind what it was." He said the second shot came in a second or two, and that "I looked at the right front tire of the President's car and saw it was all right." This shows that the followup car was then to the right of the President's car, or that the President's car was turned to its right. He decided against running to the President's car "because of the speed at which we were traveling". He saw "the President's head split open with a muffled exploding sound. I can best describe the sound as I heard it, as the sound you would get by shooting a high powered bullet into a five gallon can of water or shooting into a mellon. I saw pieces of flesh and blood flying through the air and the President slumped out of sight towards Mrs. Kennedy." He then says, while uncertain of the source, "my reaction at this time was that the shot came from somewhere towards the front, right-hand side of the road." He also said, "I did not notice anyone on the overpass," which apparently is in considerable error. He also saw a Negro in light green slacks and a beige-colored shirt running from his left to the right up the slope across the grassy section along the sidewalk toward some steps in what appeared to be a low stone wall. This again indicates the shots were well in advance of the point at which the Commission located them. See my reconstruction under "Photographs". He says he got Mrs. Kennedy's purse, hat and cigarette lighter from the back seat but makes no reference to any other objects there. He also places the time of arrival of the body

at Bethesda at 6:55.

On pp.758-9, Landis has a supplementary ststement dated Novembef 27. It is largely repetitious, including the closed windows, the identification of the high-powered rifle, and his view of the right front tire of the Presidential car. In talking about the first shot and the overpass, he gives a slightly different version which makes more sense. "My reaction at this time was that the shot came from somewhere towards the front, but I did not see anyone on the overpass, and looked along the right-hand side of the road."

qContinued:

Statement of Secret Service Agent Paul Landis, Vol. XVIII, p.759: "My reaction at this time was that the shot came from somewhere towards the front, but I did not see anyone on the overpass, and looked along the right-hand side of the road." I take this to mean that he saw no one on the overpass who might have fired a shot.