

John Clifford, Dealley Plaza eyewitness

3/24/70

Clifford is a photographer. At the time of the assassination he was married, on vacation, in Dealley Plaza, but without camera. He was then employed by Charlotte, N.C. TV Station WSOC. On his return he talked freely with fellow employees, including Al Munn, manager, about what he saw.

After this lapse of time, Munn recalls Clifford saying he was on the north side of Elm and was looking at LBJ when he heard the first shot that he also described as sounding like a backfire. He wheeled to look at JFK and saw the fatal shot and saw the President go backward. He has no doubt the shot was from the front. He saw Jackie get out onto the trunk of the car, etc.

Clifford left WSOC. He went to work for the Walter Klein advertising agency, in Charlotte, where an effort is now being made to trace him. After leaving WSOC he made a trip to N.C., and with Klein he went to S.F. to make a movie in Haight-Asbury. There he seems to have been taken by the hippie way of life, spoke favorably of it on his return, by which time his hair was already long.

After his return he separated from his wife and in about 1968 he left Charlotte, presumably for either N.C. or, what is more likely, S.F.

Munn is to be shown Altgens, Betzner, Willie and Zapruder to see if he can identify Clifford in any of these pictures. My presumption is he was between the corner and a line at right angles to Zapruder, for it appears JFK had passed his position and he had turned his gaze back toward the corner to see LBJ. If the account of his having to wheel to see JFK is correct, then he was to the east of the point the President had reached ~~xxxxxxx~~ when the first shot was fired. It is not known what, if anything, he can add to what we know, but I think we should seek him out, beginning with checking the S.F. phone book.

Jerry is known to Munn, expects to see him again soon, and will ask him to check Klein for forwarding address and the Charlotte P.O. for the address to which mail was to have been sent.

Although it is presumed there was no interview on Clifford's return from Dallas, I have asked that a check on this also be instituted. At this late date, it may be known or may be irretrievable.

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