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Dr. CLARK. Quite simply, as I previously stated, the duration of time the President was alive was occupied by attempts to save his life. When these failed, further examination of the patient's body was not done, as it was felt that little could be gained or learned that would be helpful in deciding the course of events leading up to his assassination, that is, examination by me, as I knew an autopsy would be performed which would be far more meaningful and revealing than any cursory external examination conducted in the emergency room by me.

Mr. SPECTER. Now, was the action taken by you in signing the death certificate based upon the examination which you made in accordance with what you believed to be good medical practice?

Dr. CLARK. Yes, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. So that the characterization here of "L' Express" that the failure to turn the President over would not constitute gross negligence in your professional judgment, as they have characterized it here.

Dr. CLARK. No, sir. One other point, if I may here?

Mr. SPECTER. Yes.

Dr. CLARK. In order to move the President's body to Bethesda where the autopsy was to be performed, a death certificate had to be allied out in conformance with Texas State law to allow the body to be transported. This is the second part of the signing of the death certificate.

Mr. SPECTER. Do you have anything to add, Dr. Clark, which you think might be helpful at all in the inquiry being made by the President's Commission?

Dr. CLARK. No; I don't think so.

Mr. SPECTER. And did you and I chat for just a moment or two about the questions I would ask you on this supplemental deposition before it went on the record?

Dr. CLARK. Yes, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. And have you talked to any representative of the Federal Government between the time I took your deposition last Saturday and this Wednesday morning?

Dr. CLARK. No, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. Thank you very much, Dr. Clark.

Dr. CLARK. All right.

TESTIMONY OF DR. ROBERT NELSON MCCLELLAND

The testimony of Dr. Robert Nelson McClelland was taken on March 21, 1964, at Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Tex., by Mr. Arlen Specter, assistant counsel of the President's Commission.

Mr. SPECTER. Will you raise your right hand?

Dr. McClelland. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you give in these proceedings will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Dr. McClelland. I do.

Mr. SPECTER. Dr. McClelland, the purpose of this proceeding is to take your deposition in connection with an investigation which is being conducted by the President's Commission on the assassination of President Kennedy, and the specific purpose of our requesting you to answer questions relates to the topic of the medical care which President Kennedy received at Parkland Memorial Hospital.

Dr. McClelland, will you tell us your full name for the record, please?

Dr. McClelland. Robert Nelson McClelland.

Mr. SPECTER. Have you received a letter from the Commission which enclosed a copy of the Executive order creating the Commission, and a copy of the Congressional Resolution pertaining to the Commission, and a copy of the procedures for taking testimony under the Commission?

Dr. McClelland. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And is it satisfactory with you to answer these questions for us today, even though you haven't had the 3 days between the time of the receipt of the letter and today?

Dr. McClelland. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. What is your profession, Doctor?

Dr. McClelland. I am a doctor of medicine.

Mr. SPECTER. Would you outline briefly your educational background, starting with your graduation from college, please?

Dr. McClelland. Since graduation from college I attended medical school at the University of Texas, medical branch in Galveston, Tex., and received the M.D. degree from that school in 1954. I then went to Kansas City, Kans., where I did a rotating internship at the University of Kansas Medical Center from June 1954 to June 1955. Following that period I was a general medical officer in the Air Force for 2 years in Germany, and subsequent to my release from active duty I became a general surgery resident at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas in August of 1957. I remained at Parkland from that date to August 1959, at which time I entered private practice for ten months, and then reentered my general surgery training program at Parkland in June 1960. I completed my 4 years of general surgical training in June 1962. Following that time I became a full-time instructor of surgery on the staff of the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School, and I am at the present time an associate professor of surgery at that school.

Mr. SPECTER. Dr. McClelland, in connection with your duties at Parkland Hospital, or before, have you had any experience with gunshot wounds?

Dr. McClelland. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. Where in your background did you acquire that experience? Dr. McClelland. Largely during residency training and subsequent to that in my capacity here on the staff.

Mr. SPECTER. And what has provided the opportunity for your experience here at Parkland in residency training and on the staff with respect to acquiring knowledge of gunshot wounds?

Dr. McClelland. Largely this has been related to the type of hospital which Parkland is; namely, City-County Hospital which receives all of the indigent patients of this county, many of whom are involved frequently in shooting altercations, so that we do see a large number of that type patient, almost daily.

Mr. SPECTER. Could you approximate for me the total number of gunshot wounds which you have had an opportunity to observe?

Dr. McClelland. I would estimate that it would be in excess of 200.

Mr. SPECTER. What was your duty assignment back on November 22, 1963?

Dr. McClelland. At that time I was showing a film on surgical techniques to a group of students and residents on the second floor of Parkland Hospital in the surgical suite, where I was notified of the fact that President Kennedy was being brought to the Parkland emergency room after having been shot.

Mr. SPECTER. And what action, if any, did you take following that notification?

Dr. McClelland. Immediately upon hearing that, I accompanied the Resident, Dr. Crenshaw, who brought this news to me, to the emergency room, and down to the trauma room 1, where President Kennedy had been taken immediately upon arrival.

Mr. SPECTER. And approximately what time did you arrive in Emergency Room 1?

Dr. McClelland. This is a mere approximation, but I would approximate or estimate rather, about 12:40.

Mr. SPECTER. And who was present, if anyone, at the time of your arrival? Dr. McClelland. At the time I arrived, Dr. Perry—would you like the full names of all these?

Mr. SPECTER. That would be fine, I would appreciate that.

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Mr. SPECTER. And what action, if any, did you take following that notification, Dr. McClelland. Immediately upon hearing that, I accompanied the Resident, Dr. Orenshaw, who brought this news to me, to the emergency room, and down to the trauma room 1, where President Kennedy had been taken immediately upon arrival.

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Mr. SPECTER. And who was present, if anyone, at the time of your arrival, Dr. McClelland. At the time I arrived, Dr. Perry—would you like the names of all these?

Mr. SPECTER. That would be fine. I would appreciate that.

Dr. McClellan. Dr. Malcolm Perry, Dr. Charles Baxter, Dr. Charles Greenshaw, Dr. James Carrico, Dr. Paul Peters.

Mr. Specter. Were they all present at the time you arrived?

Dr. McClellan. They were not present when I arrived.

Mr. Specter. Will you start with the ones who were present?

Dr. McClellan. Starting with the ones who were present, I'm sorry, the ones who were present when I arrived were Drs. Carrico, Perry and Baxter. The others I mentioned arrived subsequently or about the same time that I did.

Mr. Specter. Then, what other doctors, if any, arrived after you did, in addition to those whom you have already mentioned?

Dr. McClellan. In addition, the ones that arrived afterwards, were Dr. Kenneth Salver.

Mr. Specter. Sa-l-y-e-r?

Dr. McClellan. Sa-l-y-e-r, Dr. Foud, F-o-u-n-d Bashour, Dr. Donald Sel-

lin.

Mr. Specter. Se-l-d-i-n?

Dr. McClellan. Se-l-d-i-n—I believe that's all.

Mr. Specter. What did you observe as to President Kennedy's condition at that time?

Dr. McClellan. Well, on initially coming into the room and inspecting him from a distance of only 2 or 3 feet as I put on a pair of surgical gloves, it was obvious that he had sustained a probably mortal head injury, and that his face was extremely swollen and suffused with blood appeared cyanotic—

Mr. Specter. "Cyanotic"—may I interrupt—just what do you mean by that in lay terms?

Dr. McClellan. This mean bluish discoloration, bluish-black discoloration of the tissue. The eyes were somewhat protruded, which is usually seen after massive head injuries denoting increased intracranial pressure, and it seemed that he perhaps was not making, at the time at least, spontaneous respiratory movements, but was receiving artificial respiration from a machine, an anesthesia machine.

Mr. Specter. Who was operating that machine?

Dr. McClellan. The machine—there was a changeover, just as I came in, one of the doctors in the room, I don't recall which one, had been operating what we call an intermittent positive pressure breathing machine.

Mr. Specter. Had that machine been utilized prior to your arrival?

Dr. McClellan. It was in use as I arrived, yes, and about the same time I arrived—this would be one other doctor who came in the room that I forgot about—Dr. Jenkins, M. T. Jenkins, professor of anesthesiology, came into the room with a larger anesthesia machine, which is a better type machine with which to maintain control of respiration, and this was then attached to the tube in the President's tracheotomy; anyway, respiratory movements were being made for him with these two machines, which were in the process of being changed when I came in.

Then, as I took my post to help with the tracheotomy, I was standing at the end of the stretcher on which the President was lying, immediately at his head, for purposes of holding a tracheotomy, or a retractor for the neck.

Mr. Specter. What did you observe, if anything, as to the status of the neck wound when you first arrived?

Dr. McClellan. The neck wound, when I first arrived, was at this time converted into a tracheotomy incision. The skin incision had been made by Dr. Perry, and he told me—although I did not see that—that he had made the incision through a very small, perhaps less than one quarter inch in diameter wound in the neck.

Mr. Specter. Do you recall whether he described it any more precisely than that?

Dr. McClellan. He did not at that time.

Mr. Specter. Has he ever described it any more precisely for you?

Dr. McClellan. He has since that time.

Mr. Specter. And what description has he given of it since that time?

Dr. McClellan. As well as I can recall, the description that he gave was essentially as I have just described, that it was a very small injury, with clear

cut, although somewhat irregular margins of less than a quarter inch in diameter, with minimal tissue damage surrounding it on the skin.

Mr. Specter. Now, was there anything left for you to observe of that bullet wound, or had the incision obliterated it?

Dr. McClellan. The incision had obliterated it, essentially, the skin portion, that is.

Mr. Specter. Before proceeding to describe what you did in connection with the tracheotomy, will you more fully describe your observation with respect to the head wound?

Dr. McClellan. As I took the position at the head of the table that I have already described, to help out with the tracheotomy, I was in such a position that I could very closely examine the head wound, and I noted that the right posterior portion of the skull had been extremely blasted. It had been shattered apparently, by the force of the shot so that the parietal bone was protruded up through the scalp and seemed to be fractured almost along its right lateral half, as well as some of the occipital bone being fractured in its lateral half, and this sprung open the bones that I mentioned in such a way that you could actually look down into the skull cavity itself and see that probably a third or so, at least, of the brain tissue, posterior cerebral tissue and some of the cerebellar tissue had been blasted out. There was a large amount of bleeding which was occurring mainly from the large venous channels in the skull which had been blasted open.

Mr. Specter. Was he alive at the time you first saw him?

Dr. McClellan. I really couldn't say, because as I mentioned in the hectic activity—I really couldn't say what his blood pressure was or what his pulse was or anything of that sort. The only thing I could say that would perhaps give evidence—this is not vital activity—at most, is that maybe he made one or two spontaneous respiratory movements but it would be difficult to say, since the machine was being used on him, whether these were true spontaneous respirations or not.

Mr. Specter. Would you now describe the activity and part that you performed in the treatment which followed your arrival?

Dr. McClellan. Yes; as I say, all I did was simply assist Dr. Perry and Dr. Baxter in doing the tracheotomy. All three of us worked together in making an incision in the neck, tracing the neck muscles out of the way, and making a small opening into the trachea near the spot where the trachea had already been blasted or torn open by the fragment of the bullet, and inserting a ~~tracheotomy~~ tracheotomy tube into this hole, and after this the breathing apparatus was attached to this instead of the previous tube which had been placed here.

Mr. Specter. In conducting that operation, did you observe any interior damage to the President?

Dr. McClellan. Yes.

Mr. Specter. Will you describe that for me, please?

Dr. McClellan. That damage consisted mainly of a large amount of contusion and hematoma formation in the tissue lateral to the right side of the trachea and the swelling and bleeding around this site was to such extent that the trachea was somewhat deviated to the left side, not a great deal, but to a degree at least that it required partial cutting of some of the neck muscles in order to get good enough exposure to put in the tracheotomy tube, but there was a good deal of soft tissue damage and damage to the trachea itself where apparently the missile had gone between the trachea on the right side and the strap muscles which were applied closely to it.

Mr. Specter. What other treatment was given to President Kennedy at the time you were performing the procedures you have just described?

Dr. McClellan. To the best of my knowledge, the other treatment had consisted of the placement of cutdown sites in his extremities namely, the making of incisions over large veins in the arms and, I believe, in the leg; however, I'm not sure about that, since I was not paying too much attention to that part of the activity, and large plastic tubes were placed into these veins for the giving of blood and fluids, and as I recall, he received a certain amount of blood, but I don't know exactly how much, since I was not actually giving the blood.

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Dr. BAXTER. I do.

Dr. SPECTER. Would you state your full name, please?

Dr. BAXTER. Charles Rufus Baxter.

Mr. SPECTER. What is your profession, sir?

Dr. BAXTER. I am a medical doctor of surgery, general surgeon.

Mr. SPECTER. Will you outline briefly your educational background?

Dr. BAXTER. University of Texas—1948 through 1950, Southwestern Medical School, 1950 through 1954, 1955 straight medicine internship, 1956 medicine residency—internal medicine residency, 1956 through 1958, surgical research at Brooke Army Medical Center, 1958 through 1964—surgical residency, and 1964 through the present—this is 1964, I got out of the Army—in 1958, 1958 through 1962—surgery residency, and 1962 until now, assistant professor of surgery.

Mr. SPECTER. And are you board certified, Doctor?

Dr. BAXTER. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And what boards have you passed?

Dr. BAXTER. The American Board of Surgeons.

Mr. SPECTER. And what year were you so certified?

Dr. BAXTER. 1963.

Mr. SPECTER. And what is your specific title at the medical school?

Dr. BAXTER. Assistant professor of surgery.

Mr. SPECTER. Did you have occasion to aid in the treatment of President Kennedy at Parkland Hospital?

Dr. BAXTER. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And will you outline briefly the circumstances surrounding your being called to render such assistance?

Dr. BAXTER. I was conducting the student health service in the hours of 12 to 1 and was contacted there by the supervisor of the emergency room, who told me that the President was on the way to the emergency room, having been shot. I went on a dead run to the emergency room as fast as I could and it took me about 3 or 4 minutes to get there.

Mr. SPECTER. Approximately what time did you arrive at the emergency room?

Dr. BAXTER. I think it was 12:40—thereabouts.

Mr. SPECTER. And who was present at that time?

Dr. BAXTER. Dr. Carrico and Dr. Jones and Dr. Jenkins—several nurses.

Mr. SPECTER. Can you identify the nurses?

Dr. BAXTER. Yes; Mrs. Nelson—and who else? There were two or three others whose names—Miss Henchcliffe was there.

Mr. SPECTER. Miss Bowron?

Dr. BAXTER. Who?

Mr. SPECTER. Was Miss Bowron there?

Dr. BAXTER. Yes; I believe so.

Mr. SPECTER. Were any other nurses there?

Dr. BAXTER. One or two more, but I'm not sure of their names.

Mr. SPECTER. Can you identify any other doctors who were there at that time?

Dr. BAXTER. Oh, let's see—I'm not sure whether the others came before or after I did. There was Crenshaw, Peters, and Kemp Clark, Dr. Bashour finally came. I believe Jackie Hunt—yes—she was, I believe she was the anesthesiologist who came.

Mr. SPECTER. Was Dr. Don Curtis there?

Dr. BAXTER. I'm not sure—I just don't remember.

Mr. SPECTER. When you arrived, what did you observe as to the condition of the President?

Dr. BAXTER. He was very obviously in extremis. There was a large gaping wound in the skull which was covered at that time with blood, and its extent was not immediately determined. His eyes were bulging, the pupils were fixed and dilated and deviated outward, both pupils were deviated laterally. At that time his breathing was being assisted so that whether he was breathing on his own or not, I couldn't determine.

Mr. SPECTER. In what way was his breathing being assisted?

Dr. BAXTER. With an anesthesia machine.

Mr. SPECTER. Would you continue to describe what you observed as to his condition?

Dr. BAXTER. There were no pulses that I could feel present. The anesthesiologist told me that he did still have a heartbeat.

Mr. SPECTER. Who is that who said that to you?

Dr. BAXTER. Well, I believe this was Carrico who said that his heart was still beating. There was present at the time two intravenous catheters in place with fluids running. We were informed at that time—well, having looked over the rest of the body, the only other wound was in his neck, that we saw.

Dr. Carrico said that he had observed a tracheal laceration. At that moment Dr. Jones, I believe, was placing in a left anterior chest tube because of this information. We proceeded at that time with a tracheotomy.

Mr. SPECTER. Who performed the tracheotomy?

Dr. BAXTER. Dr. Perry and myself, with the assistance of Dr. McClelland and I believe that's all—there may have been one more person that held the retractor.

Mr. SPECTER. What else, if anything, did you do for President Kennedy at that time?

Dr. BAXTER. During the tracheotomy, I helped with the insertion of a right anterior chest tube, and then helped Dr. Perry complete the tracheotomy. At that point none of us could hear a heartbeat present. Apparently this had ceased during the tracheotomy and the chest tube placement.

We then gave him or Dr. Perry and Dr. Clark alternated giving him closed chest cardiac massage only until we could get a cardioscope hooked up to tell us if there were any detectable heartbeat electrically present, at least, and there was none, and we discussed at that moment whether we should open the chest to attempt to revive him, while the closed chest massage was going on, and we had an opportunity to look at his head wound then and saw that the damage was beyond hope, that is, in a word—literally the right side of his head had been blown off. With this and the observation that the cerebellum was present—a large quantity of brain was present on the cart, well—we felt that such an additional heroic attempt was not warranted, and we did not pronounce him dead but ceased our efforts, and awaited the priest and last rites before we pronounced him dead.

Mr. SPECTER. Did the priest then arrive to perform the last rites?

Dr. BAXTER. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. At what time was he pronounced dead?

Dr. BAXTER. As I recall, it was 1:08, I'm not sure, it may have been that that was Oswald.

Mr. SPECTER. But it was approximately 1 o'clock? Then, could the time of death be fixed with any precision?

Dr. BAXTER. I don't think so—the time elapsing in all of this resuscitation and the time the heart actually ceased, I don't think one could be very sure of it. It was sometime between a quarter to 1 and 1 o'clock.

Mr. SPECTER. Have you now described all of the efforts which were made to save the life of the President?

Dr. BAXTER. Only with the exception, I think, of the fluids that were administered. He was given hydrocortisone because of his previous medical condition. He was given no negative blood because the blood loss was rather fierce and I believe that's all.

Mr. SPECTER. What other doctors arrived during the course of the treatment, in addition to those whom you have already mentioned?

Dr. BAXTER. I don't recall—I know that there were more doctors present in the room, but their names, I'm not sure of. The reason I'm not sure is because we had some of the same crew and a different crew on the Governor and on Oswald, and I'm afraid that I've gotten them mixed up.

Mr. SPECTER. Now, will you describe in as much particularity as you can the nature of the head wound?

Dr. BAXTER. The only wound that I actually saw—Dr. Clark examined this above the manubrium of the sternum, the sternal notch. This wound was in temporal parietal plate of bone laid outward to the side and there was a large area, oh, I would say 6 by 8 or 10 cm. of lacerated brain oozing from this wound,

TESTIMONY OF DR. FOUAD A. BASHOUR

The testimony of Dr. Fouad A. Bashour was taken at 1:15 p.m., on March 25, 1964, at Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Tex., by Mr. Arlen Specter, assistant counsel of the President's Commission.

Mr. Specter. May the record show that Dr. Fouad Bashour has appeared pursuant to a letter of request from the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, in connection with the Commission's inquiry into all of the factors surrounding the assassination of the President, including medical treatment received at Parkland Hospital, and Dr. Bashour's knowledge, if any, as related to the treatment in the emergency room.

With that preliminary statement of purpose, Dr. Bashour, would you mind rising and then raise your right hand?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you give before the President's Commission in this deposition proceeding will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Dr. Bashour. I do.

Mr. Specter. Would you state your full name for the record, please?

Dr. Bashour. F-o-u-a-d (spelling), Fouad A. Bashour.

Mr. Specter. What is your profession, sir?

Dr. Bashour. I am an internist with a specialization in cardiology. I am a sociate professor of medicine.

Mr. Specter. Are you duly licensed by the State of Texas to practice medicine here?

Dr. Bashour. Yes.

Mr. Specter. And are you board certified at the present time?

Dr. Bashour. No, sir. I don't have my board because I am not yet a citizen. I will be taking my citizenship this year, I hope, and then I will be able to sit for the board.

Mr. Specter. Did you have occasion to assist in the treatment of President Kennedy back on November 22, 1963?

Dr. Bashour. Yes; we were called from the dining room, the doctors' dining room, and we went directly to the President Kennedy room.

Mr. Specter. When you say "we" whom do you mean by that?

Dr. Bashour. Dr. Seldin and myself—we left the dining room and went right straight down to the President's room.

Mr. Specter. And what is Dr. Seldin's first name?

Dr. Bashour. Donald.

Mr. Specter. And what is his specialty, if any?

Dr. Bashour. He's chairman of the department of medicine and professor of medicine. He is a specialist and a recognized famous specialist in renal diseases.

Mr. Specter. And what, in lay language, does that facet of medicine involve?

Dr. Bashour. Kidney diseases.

Mr. Specter. Did Dr. Seldin accompany you into the emergency room where President Kennedy was located?

Dr. Bashour. We went to the room together and then I was left alone because this is a problem—a heart problem.

Mr. Specter. Did Dr. Seldin remain in the room with you?

Dr. Bashour. Well, he came and stayed for—he just left the room after we came in.

Mr. Specter. How long did he stay in the room?

Dr. Bashour. A few seconds.

Mr. Specter. Who was present in the room when you arrived?

Dr. Bashour. When I arrived, Dr. Kemp Clark was doing the cardiac massage on the President, Dr. Jenkins was in charge of controlling artificial respiration of the President, and the probably there were some three or four—I don't remember.

Mr. Specter. And what did you observe the President's condition to be at the time you arrived?

Dr. Bashour. The President was lying on the stretcher, the head wound was

there, and then I recall Dr. Jenkins from the Anesthesia Department, and Dr. Seldin, Dr. Crenshaw, and that's about all the doctors—I could think of others probably, but I can't remember now.

Mr. Specter. Can you identify any other nurses who were there?

Dr. Curtis. No; I can't—I wasn't paying attention to the nurses.

Mr. Specter. During the course of your presence near President Kennedy, did you have any opportunity to observe any wounds on his body?

Dr. Curtis. After I had completed the cutdown, I went around to the right side of the patient and saw the head wound.

Mr. Specter. And what did you observe there?

Dr. Curtis. Oh—fragments of bone and a gross injury to the cranial contents, with copious amounts of hemorrhage.

Mr. Specter. Did you observe any other wound on the President?

Dr. Curtis. No; I didn't. As I said before, I noticed the mass in the pre-tracheal area.

Mr. Specter. And when you say "as you said before," you mean in our previous discussions prior to going on the record here?

Dr. Curtis. Yes.

Mr. Specter. And will you state now for the record what you did notice with respect to the tracheal area?

Dr. Curtis. The President's head was extended or hyperextended and I noticed that in the superasternal notch there was a mass that looked like a hematoma to me, or a blood clot in the tissues.

Mr. Specter. How big was that hematoma?

Dr. Curtis. Oh, I think it was 5 cm. in size.

Mr. Specter. What color was it?

Dr. Curtis. It had no color—there was just skin overlying it.

Mr. Specter. What did it appear to be?

Dr. Curtis. Probably a hematoma.

Mr. Specter. Did you observe any perforation or hole in the President's throat?

Dr. Curtis. No; I didn't. But that doesn't mean it wasn't there.

Mr. Specter. Did you have an opportunity to look closely for it?

Dr. Curtis. I focused my attention on his neck for an instant, and that's all.

Mr. Specter. Did you hear any discussion among any of the doctors about an opening on his neck?

Dr. Curtis. No; I didn't.

Mr. Specter. Did you make any written report concerning your activity on the President?

Dr. Curtis. No; I didn't.

Mr. Specter. Have you any notes or writings of any sort concerning your work with the President?

Dr. Curtis. No.

Mr. Specter. Have you talked to any representatives of the Federal Government about your participation in treating President Kennedy before today?

Dr. Curtis. No; I haven't.

Mr. Specter. Prior to the time that we went on the record here with the court reporter, did you and I have a very brief conversation concerning the purpose of the deposition and the general questions which I would ask you on the record?

Dr. Curtis. Yes.

Mr. Specter. And is the information which you have provided on the record the same as that which you gave me before the court reporter started taking notes?

Dr. Curtis. Yes.

Mr. Specter. Do you have anything to add which you think would be helpful to the Commission in its work?

Dr. Curtis. No; I don't think so.

Mr. Specter. Thank you very much, Dr. Curtis, for coming here today.

Dr. Curtis. All right.

Don Ford (with) 26 don't - not anything

TESTIMONY OF DR. KENNETH EVERETT SALYER

The testimony of Dr. Kenneth Everett Salyer was taken at 6:15 p.m., on March 25, 1964, at Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Tex., by Mr. Arlen Specter, assistant counsel of the President's Commission.

Mr. Specter. May the record show that Dr. Kenneth Salyer is present in response to an inquiry that he appear to have his deposition taken in connection with the inquiries being conducted by the President's Commission on the assassination of President Kennedy, which is looking into all facets of the shooting, including the wounds of the President and the care he received at Parkland Hospital.

With that preliminary statement of purpose, Dr. Salyer, will you stand up and raise your right hand?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you will give before the President's Commission in the course of this deposition will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Dr. Salyer. I do.

Mr. Specter. Have you had an opportunity to examine the document or the Executive order creating the President's Commission and Rules for the taking of testimony?

Dr. Salyer. Yes; I have.

Mr. Specter. And are you willing to have your deposition taken today without having the formal three days of written notice, which you have a right to, if you wish?

Dr. Salyer. Yes.

Mr. Specter. You are willing to waive that right, is that right?

Dr. Salyer. Yes.

Mr. Specter. Would you state your full name for the record, please?

Dr. Salyer. Kenneth Everett Salyer.

Mr. Specter. What is your profession?

Dr. Salyer. Physician.

Mr. Specter. Are you duly licensed to practice medicine by the State of Texas?

Dr. Salyer. Yes; I am.

Mr. Specter. And would you outline briefly your educational background, please?

Dr. Salyer. A B.S. degree at the University of Kansas, an M.D. degree at the University of Kansas, and Internship at Parkland, and now a first year resident in surgery at Parkland Hospital.

Mr. Specter. In what year did you graduate from the University of Kansas Medical School?

Dr. Salyer. 1962.

Mr. Specter. And how old are you, Dr. Salyer?

Dr. Salyer. I am 27.

Mr. Specter. Will you relate briefly the circumstances surrounding your being called in to assist in the treatment of President Kennedy?

Dr. Salyer. Well, for the month of November, as part of our rotation on surgery, I spent that month on neurosurgery, and being on call that day for any emergencies which come in to our emergency room related to neurosurgical problems, we would be called down to the emergency room to see these, and I was upstairs viewing a movie when I heard that the President had arrived and so I thought I should go down to the emergency room and see what the situation was.

Mr. Specter. And, upon your arrival at the emergency room, who was present?

Dr. Salyer. Oh, I don't recall—I know that there were a room full of doctors—I could list specific ones that I remember if you would like.

Mr. Specter. Would you please?

Dr. Salyer. I don't really think I could give you every one, but I remember Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Perry and Dr. Baxter, and also Dr. Bob McClelland and Dr. Carrico and Dr. Crenshaw, and I think a Dr. Gene Akin was there also—at that time, when I first came in.

Mr. Specter. Can you think of any others?

Dr. Salyer. No; I don't recall any others—there could have been some, there were a lot of people sort of moving in and out. There certainly were a lot of nurses in there at that time.

Mr. Specter. Can you identify any of the nurses who were there?

Dr. Salyer. No; I can't.

Mr. Specter. What was the President's condition at the time you arrived?

Dr. Salyer. It was critical.

Mr. Specter. What did you observe about him with respect to any wounds he may have sustained?

Dr. Salyer. Well, I observed that he did have some sucking wound of some type on his neck, and that he also had a wound of his right temporal region—these were the two main wounds.

Mr. Specter. Did you have an opportunity to observe his throat?

Dr. Salyer. No; I really did not. I think there were a lot of people—a lot of doctors more closely around him. I might mention also, I think just right after I came in the room Dr. Clark and Dr. Grossman also arrived.

Mr. Specter. Doctor who?

Dr. Salyer. Dr. Grossman, just briefly. He's a neurosurgeon also.

Mr. Specter. What is his name?

Dr. Salyer. Dr. Grossman—Bob Grossman. He was just there, I think, briefly.

Mr. Specter. How long was he there?

Dr. Salyer. I couldn't say—I'm not sure he came in the room. I know they were together—I cannot say that for sure.

Mr. Specter. To what extent did Dr. Crenshaw participate?

Dr. Salyer. Dr. Crenshaw participated about the extent that I did. We were occupied in making sure an I.V. was going and hanging up a bottle of blood.

Mr. Specter. Is the—Dr. Crenshaw a resident?

Dr. Salyer. Yes, he is third-year resident. That's the reason I remember him specifically because we were sort of working there together on that.

Mr. Specter. I had asked you a moment ago whether you had an opportunity to observe the condition of the President's throat.

Dr. Salyer. Right.

Mr. Specter. What was your answer to that question?

Dr. Salyer. The answer was—there were a lot of doctors standing around, and I didn't really get to observe the nature of the wound in the throat.

Mr. Specter. At approximately what time did you arrive at the emergency room where the President was situated?

Dr. Salyer. I really don't know.

Mr. Specter. What was done for the President by way of treatment that you observed?

Dr. Salyer. Well, an adequate airway eventually, of course, some external cardiac massage—he had I.V.'s—intravenous fluids going in a number of sites, and all of the acute measures we administered him.

Mr. Specter. I didn't hear you at the end of your answer.

Dr. Salyer. I said—all of the many other measures that we administered—I don't recall specifically some of the other details as far as medications and so forth.

Mr. Specter. What did you observe with respect to the head wound?

Dr. Salyer. I came in on the left side of him and noticed that his major wound seemed to be in his right temporal area, at least from the point of view that I could see him, and other than that—nothing other than he did have a gaping scalp wound—cranial wound.

Mr. Specter. Has anyone from the Federal Government talked to you about your observations of this matter?

Dr. Salyer. No one has.

Mr. Specter. Do you have anything to add which you think may be of aid to the President's Commission in its inquiry?

Dr. Salyer. No, I believe not.

Mr. Specter. Thank you very much, Dr. Salyer.

Dr. Salyer. Thank you.

TESTIMONY OF DR. KENNETH EVERETT SALYER

The testimony of Dr. Kenneth Everett Salyer was taken at 6:15 p.m., on March 25, 1964, at Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Tex., by Mr. Arlen Specter, assistant counsel of the President's Commission.

Mr. Specter. May the record show that Dr. Kenneth Salyer is present in response to an inquiry that he appear to have his deposition taken in connection with the inquiries being conducted by the President's Commission on the assassination of President Kennedy, which is looking into all facets of the shooting, including the wounds of the President and the care he received at Parkland Hospital.

With that preliminary statement of purpose, Dr. Salyer, will you stand up and raise your right hand?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you will give before the President's Commission in the course of this deposition will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Dr. Salyer. I do.

Mr. Specter. Have you had an opportunity to examine the document or the Executive order creating the President's Commission and Rules for the taking of testimony?

Dr. Salyer. Yes; I have.

Mr. Specter. And are you willing to have your deposition taken today without having the formal three days of written notice, which you have a right to, if you wish?

Dr. Salyer. Yes.

Mr. Specter. You are willing to waive that right, is that right?

Dr. Salyer. Yes.

Mr. Specter. Would you state your full name for the record, please?

Dr. Salyer. Kenneth Everett Salyer.

Mr. Specter. What is your profession?

Dr. Salyer. Physician.

Mr. Specter. Are you duly licensed to practice medicine by the State of Texas?

Dr. Salyer. Yes; I am.

Mr. Specter. And would you outline briefly your educational background, please?

Dr. Salyer. A B.S. degree at the University of Kansas, an M.D. degree at the University of Kansas, and Internship at Parkland, and now a first year resident in surgery at Parkland Hospital.

Mr. Specter. In what year did you graduate from the University of Kansas Medical School?

Dr. Salyer. 1962.

Mr. Specter. And how old are you, Dr. Salyer?

Dr. Salyer. I am 27.

Mr. Specter. Will you relate briefly the circumstances surrounding your being called in to assist in the treatment of President Kennedy?

Dr. Salyer. Well, for the month of November, as part of our rotation on surgery, I spent that month on neurosurgery, and being on call that day for any emergencies which come in to our emergency room related to neurosurgical problems, we would be called down to the emergency room to see these, and I was upstairs viewing a movie when I heard that the President had arrived and so I thought I should go down to the emergency room and see what the situation was.

Mr. Specter. And, upon your arrival at the emergency room, who was present?

Dr. Salyer. Oh, I don't recall—I know that there were a room full of doctors—I could list specific ones that I remember if you would like.

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Dr. Salyer. I don't really think I could give you every one, but I remember Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Perry and Dr. Baxter, and also Dr. Bob McClelland and Dr. Carico and Dr. Crenshaw, and I think a Dr. Gene Alkin was there also—at that time, when I first came in.

Mr. Specter. Can you think of any others?

Dr. Salyer. No; I don't recall any others—there could have been some, there were a lot of people sort of moving in and out. There certainly were a lot of nurses in there at that time.

Mr. Specter. Can you identify any of the nurses who were there?

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Mr. Specter. To what extent did Dr. Crenshaw participate?

Dr. Salyer. Dr. Crenshaw participated about the extent that I did. We were occupied in making sure an I.V. was going and hanging up a bottle of blood.

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Dr. Salyer. Yes, he is third-year resident. That's the reason I remember him specifically because we were sort of working there together on that.

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Dr. Salyer. No one has.

Mr. Specter. Do you have anything to add which you think may be of aid to the President's Commission in its inquiry?

Dr. Salyer. No, I believe not.

Mr. Specter. Thank you very much, Dr. Salyer.

Dr. Salyer. Thank you.

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Dr. Salyer. Yes, he is third-year resident. That's the reason I remember him specifically because we were sort of working there together on that.

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Dr. Salyer. No one has.

Mr. Specter. Do you have anything to add which you think may be of aid to the President's Commission in its inquiry?

Dr. Salyer. No, I believe not.

Mr. Specter. Thank you very much, Dr. Salyer.
Dr. Salyer. Thank you.

The testimony of Dr. Kenneth Everett Salter was taken at 8:15 p.m., on March 25, 1964, at Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Tex., by Mr. Arlen Specter, assistant counsel of the President's Commission.

Mr. Specter. May the record show that Dr. Kenneth Salter is present in response to an inquiry that he appear to have his deposition taken in connection with the inquiries being conducted by the President's Commission on the assassination of President Kennedy, which is looking into all facets of the shooting, including the wounds of the President and the care he received at Parkland Hospital.

With that preliminary statement of purpose, Dr. Salter, will you stand up and raise your right hand?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you will give before the President's Commission in the course of this deposition will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Dr. Salter. I do.

Mr. Specter. Have you had an opportunity to examine the document or the Executive order creating the President's Commission and Rules for the taking of testimony?

Dr. Salter. Yes; I have.

Mr. Specter. And are you willing to have your deposition taken today without having the formal three days of written notice, which you have a right to, if you wish?

Dr. Salter. Yes.

Mr. Specter. You are willing to waive that right, is that right?

Dr. Salter. Yes.

Mr. Specter. Would you state your full name for the record, please?

Dr. Salter. Kenneth Everett Salter.

Mr. Specter. What is your profession?

Dr. Salter. Physician.

Mr. Specter. Are you duly licensed to practice medicine by the State of Texas?

Dr. Salter. Yes; I am.

Mr. Specter. And would you outline briefly your educational background, please?

Dr. Salter. A B.S. degree at the University of Kansas, an M.D. degree at the University of Kansas, and internship at Parkland, and now a first year resident in surgery at Parkland Hospital.

Mr. Specter. In what year did you graduate from the University of Kansas Medical School?

Dr. Salter. 1962.

Mr. Specter. And how old are you, Dr. Salter?

Dr. Salter. I am 27.

Mr. Specter. Will you relate briefly the circumstances surrounding your being called in to assist in the treatment of President Kennedy?

Dr. Salter. Well, for the month of November, as part of our rotation on surgery, I spent that month on neurosurgery, and being on call that day for any emergencies which come in to our emergency room related to neurosurgical problems, we would be called down to the emergency room to see these, and I was upstairs viewing a movie when I heard that the President had arrived and so I thought I should go down to the emergency room and see what the situation was.

Mr. Specter. And, upon your arrival at the emergency room, who was present?

Dr. Salter. Oh, I don't recall—I know that there were a room full of doctors—I could list specific ones that I remember if you would like.

Mr. Specter. Would you please?

Dr. Salter. I don't really think I could give you every one, but I remember Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Perry and Dr. Baxter, and also Dr. Bob McClelland and Dr. Carrico and Dr. Crenshaw, and I think a Dr. Gene Akin was there also—at that time, when I first came in.

Dr. Salter. No; I don't recall any other's—there could have been some, there were a lot of people sort of moving in and out. There certainly were a lot of nurses in there at that time.

Mr. Specter. Can you identify any of the nurses who were there?

Dr. Salter. No; I can't.

Mr. Specter. What was the President's condition at the time you arrived?

Dr. Salter. It was critical.

Mr. Specter. What did you observe about him with respect to any wounds he may have sustained?

Dr. Salter. Well, I observed that he did have some sucking wound of some type on his neck, and that he also had a wound of his right temporal region—these were the two main wounds.

Mr. Specter. Did you have an opportunity to observe his throat?

Dr. Salter. No; I really did not. I think there were a lot of people—a lot of doctors more closely around him. I might mention also, I think just right after I came in the room Dr. Clark and Dr. Grossman also arrived.

Mr. Specter. Doctor who?

Dr. Salter. Dr. Grossman, just briefly. He's a neurosurgeon also.

Mr. Specter. What is his name?

Dr. Salter. Dr. Grossman—Bob Grossman. He was just there, I think, briefly.

Mr. Specter. How long was he there?

Dr. Salter. I couldn't say—I'm not sure he came in the room. I know they were together—I cannot say that for sure.

Mr. Specter. To what extent did Dr. Crenshaw participate?

Dr. Salter. Dr. Crenshaw participated about the extent that I did. We were occupied in making sure an I.V. was going and hanging up a bottle of blood.

Mr. Specter. Is he—the—is Dr. Crenshaw a resident?

Dr. Salter. Yes, he is third-year resident. That's the reason I remember him specifically because we were sort of working there together on that.

Mr. Specter. I had asked you a moment ago whether you had an opportunity to observe the condition of the President's throat.

Dr. Salter. Right.

Mr. Specter. What was your answer to that question?

Dr. Salter. The answer was—there were a lot of doctors standing around, and I didn't really get to observe the nature of the wound in the throat.

Mr. Specter. At approximately what time did you arrive at the emergency room where the President was situated?

Dr. Salter. I really don't know.

Mr. Specter. What was done for the President by way of treatment that you observed?

Dr. Salter. Well, an adequate airway eventually, of course, some external cardiac massage—he had I.V.'s—intravenous fluids going in a number of sites, and all of the acute measures we administered him.

Mr. Specter. I didn't hear you at the end of your answer.

Dr. Salter. I said—all of the many other measures that we administered—I don't recall specifically some of the other details as far as medications and so forth.

Mr. Specter. What did you observe with respect to the head wound?

Dr. Salter. I came in on the left side of him and noticed that his major wound seemed to be in his right temporal area, at least from the point of view that I could see him, and other than that—nothing other than he did have a gaping scalp wound—cranial wound.

Mr. Specter. Has anyone from the Federal Government talked to you about your observations of this matter?

Dr. Salter. No one has.

Mr. Specter. Do you have anything to add which you think may be of aid to the President's Commission in its inquiry?

Dr. Salter. No, I believe not.

Mr. Specter. Thank you very much, Dr. Salter.

Dr. Salter. Thank you.

tion taken yesterday that you have some information of value to provide to us so that the regular procedure has not been followed of sending you a copy of the Executive order or of the resolution concerning the procedures of the taking of testimony.

Permit me to make those documents available to you.

(Handed instruments to the Witness Henschliffe.)
Let me say that since yesterday I have contacted Mr. J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel in Washington and he has authorized the taking of this deposition by letter, which I received today, so that it has been authorized, and the real question I have with you is whether it is all right with you to provide us with the information you have today, as opposed to sometime next week after you have had the 3 days' notice which you are entitled to if you want it?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. It is all right with me.

Mr. SPECTER. Is it all right with you to proceed and have your deposition taken today?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Yes, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you shall give before this Commission as it is holding deposition proceedings now will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. Will you state your full name, please?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Margaret M. Henschliffe.

Mr. SPECTER. What is your occupation or profession?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. I am a nurse, registered nurse.

Mr. SPECTER. And where are you employed?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Parkland Memorial Hospital.

Mr. SPECTER. And where were you employed on November 22, 1963?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Parkland Memorial Hospital.

Mr. SPECTER. And were you notified on that date that the President was on his way to the hospital?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. No, sir; I didn't know it at the time until later.

Mr. SPECTER. When did you first learn about it, if at all?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. I found out who it was when I went out to get blood.

Mr. SPECTER. About what time of day was that?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Well, I guess it was about 2 minutes after he came in.

Mr. SPECTER. Did you observe him at some place in the hospital?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. I was working with him in the emergency room.

Mr. SPECTER. Had he arrived in the emergency room when you first arrived at the site of the emergency room?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Do what?

Mr. SPECTER. Were you in the area of the emergency room before he came there?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. Did you see him actually wheeled into the emergency room?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Yes; in fact, I helped wheel him on into trauma room 1.

Mr. SPECTER. And, where was he when you first saw him?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. He was between trauma rooms 1 and 2.

Mr. SPECTER. Did you see him when he was brought into the hospital itself?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. At the emergency entrance—no. It was after he came into the emergency room.

Mr. SPECTER. He came into the emergency area?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And then you saw him and helped wheel him, you say, into the emergency room No. 1?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And who else was present at the time you first saw him when he had just come into the emergency area?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Let me see, I think Dr. Carrico was there—he was there very shortly after—afterwards.

Mr. SPECTER. He was there when you arrived? Or arrived shortly after

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Well, actually I went in ahead of the cart with him and I was the first one in with him, and just in a minute, or seconds, Dr. Carrico came in.

Mr. SPECTER. And what other doctors arrived, if any?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Oh, gee. Let's see—there was Dr. Baxter, Dr. Perry, and you want all of them that were in the room?

Mr. SPECTER. If you can remember them.

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Dr. Kemp Clark, Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Peters, Dr. Orensshaw, and there was some woman anesthetist that I don't know which—who it was.

Mr. SPECTER. What did you observe to be the President's condition when you first saw him?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. I saw him breathe a couple of times and that was all.

Mr. SPECTER. Did you see any wound anywhere on his body?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Yes; he was very bloody, his head was very bloody when I saw him at the time.

Mr. SPECTER. Did you ever see any wound in any other part of his body?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. When I first saw him—except his head.

Mr. SPECTER. Did you see any wound on any other part of his body?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Yes; in the neck.

Mr. SPECTER. Will you describe it, please?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. It was just a little hole in the middle of his neck.

Mr. SPECTER. About how big a hole was it?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. About as big around as the end of my little finger.

Mr. SPECTER. Have you ever had any experience with bullet holes?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And what did that appear to you to be?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. An entrance bullet hole—it looked to me like.

Mr. SPECTER. Could it have been an exit bullet hole?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. I have never seen an exit bullet hole—I don't remember seeing one that looked like that.

Mr. SPECTER. What were the characteristics of the hole?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. It was just a little round—just a little round hole, just a little round jagged-looking—jagged a little bit.

Mr. SPECTER. What experience have you had in observing bullet holes, Miss Henschliffe?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Well, we take care of a lot of bullet wounds down there—I don't know how many a year.

Mr. SPECTER. Have you ever had any formal studies of bullet holes?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Oh, no; nothing except my experience in the emergency room.

Mr. SPECTER. In what?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. In the emergency room is all.

Mr. SPECTER. What was done to the President after he arrived at the emergency room?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Well the first thing, his endotracheal tube was inserted.

Mr. SPECTER. Were you present all the time he was in the emergency room?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Except when I left out to get blood.

Mr. SPECTER. And how long were you gone?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Oh, about 3 minutes or so—3 or 4 minutes.

Mr. SPECTER. And were you present when he was pronounced dead?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Yes, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. What was done with the President's body after he was pronounced to be dead?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Well, after the last rites were said, we then undressed him and cleaned him up and wrapped him up in sheets until the coffin was brought.

Mr. SPECTER. And after the coffin arrived, what was done with his body?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. He was placed in the coffin.

Mr. SPECTER. What had he been on up until that time?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. An emergency room cart.

Mr. SPECTER. And is that also described as a stretcher?

Miss HENCHLIFFE. Yes, sir.

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