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Acoustic Evidence Revisited

A controversial study

presented by Greg Jaynes

At the time of the assassination, the Dallas Police were operating two radio channels which were both being recorded at headquarters.

Channel One was being recorded onto a Dictaphone machine. A Dictabelt is a plastic sleeve that fits around dual platters in the machine. As the platen rotates, a needle assembly records the radio frequency by cutting a groove into the sleeve just like on a turntable record. It can be played back in the same manner.

Channel Two was being recorded onto a Gray Audiograph machine. An Audiograph record looks similar to regular LP record Album.

Acoustics experts (BBN/WA) commissioned by the House Assassinations Committee determined certain impulses on a portion of the Channel One Dictabelt recording could have been the effects of rifle fire. The experts could demonstrate the waveform of the impulses with spectrographic charts. But the

human ear can not distinguish gun shots from the overwhelming background noise on the recording.

The official opinion is that Dallas Police Officer H.B.

"McLain told me his microphone was on the handlebar of his motorcycle. He also said it was not his microphone that was stuck on."

McLain who was riding a motorcycle in the motorcade had a microphone that was stuck in the "ON" position during the assassination and after.

Robert Groden's documentary The Case for Conspiracy, cites a point in the Dallas Cinema Associates film when McLain reached down on the lower left area of his motorcycle and adjusted the microphone in some way. Groden says this was when the jamming of police Channel One began.

It is important to point out Groden's role because he was instrumental in locating McLain in the films for the HSCA.

McLain told me his microphone was on the handlebar of his motorcycle. He also said that it was not his microphone that was stuck "on". He said that if his microphone was the one stuck on then the Channel One recording would contain the sound of his police siren from the point he engaged it in Dealey plaza all the way to Parkland Hospital. But we only hear the siren sound for 36 seconds.

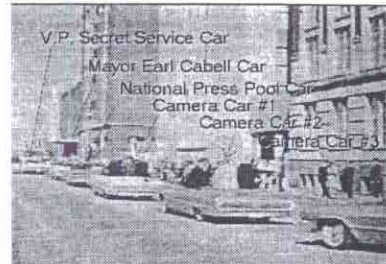
The BBN test microphone that recorded the impulses during test firing in Dealey Plaza that they think matches spectrographic analysis of the Channel One Dictabelt, was located at the intersection of Elm and Houston Streets.

This photo shows where the actual stuck microphone would have had to be for their conclusions to be true.



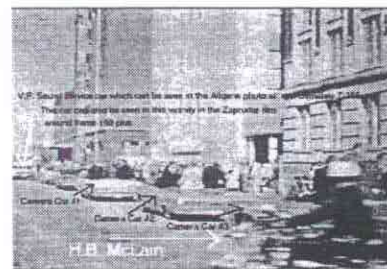
This frame from the Hughes film identifies the cars in the motorcade on Houston street, starting with the white Mercury Comet that Dallas Mayor Earl Cabell was riding in and all the cars on back were on Houston Street during the shooting.

In the Altgens photo which is at, approximately Z-255, we can see that only up to the Mercury Monterey sedan Vice Presidential Secret Service car was on Elm street during the shooting.



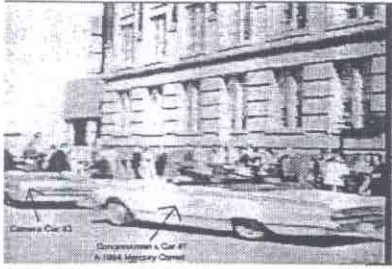
In this frame we can see the Vice Presidential Secret Service car beginning its turn from Houston onto Elm. This is in the vicinity of Zapruder frame 160. According to the BBN scenario, the first shot is happening about now relative to this frame.

If H.B. McLain had the stuck microphone that recorded impulses to match the BBN findings, McLain should already be near the intersection of Houston and Elm at this point. But he is not, as the next frame shows us.



This frame shows McLain rounding the turn from Main onto Houston at a time when he should already be at the intersection of Houston and Elm where the Vice Presidential Secret Service car is in the frame.

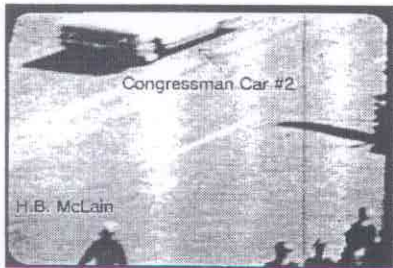
Some may argue my timing is off and McLain only now sped down to the corner of Houston and Elm at this point to record the shooting a la BBN. But as we will see in the frames from the Elsie Dorman film, McLain did not zip down to the intersection of Houston and Elm at this point.



This frame from the Hughes film shows the last of the three Chevrolet Impalas we call Camera Car #3 and the first of two white 1964 Mercury Comets are designated Congressman's car numbers 1 and 2.



In this frame of the Elsie Dorman film we see H.B. McLain arriving at the intersection of Houston and Elm Streets with Congressman's car #1.



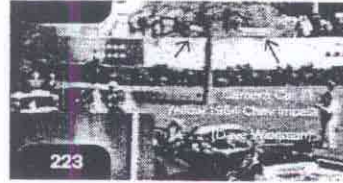
This frame shows McLain arriving at the intersection of Houston and Elm with Congressman's car #2 in the background.

If McLain was at the intersection of Houston and Elm in time to record the shooting as BBN claim, then how is it he is only now arriving at the intersection in the Dorman film?

It is obvious. He was not there. He only arrived at this point AFTER all the shooting was over. Acoustics supporters will have to claim the two white Mercury Comet Congressman's cars were at the intersection of Houston and Elm at the time of the shooting.

In an interview, McLain told me that he stopped midway of the block on Houston street and was in position to see Jackie Kennedy on the trunk of the Presidential limo through the square ornamental holes in the white wall that separates the Houston street reflecting pool from the infield grass between Elm and Main Streets.

Greg Jaynes is a Dallas based researcher with a unique approach to studying the assassination evidence. Greg's hands-on work is featured on his web site at: <http://www.flash.net/~jaynes/>. Look for more studies of the acoustic evidence in the Spring issue of KAC.



Camera Car #2

In Zapruder frames 223 and 242, we can see Camera Cars #1 and #2 above the white wall and Congressman's Cars #1 and #2 are behind these cars on Houston Street and H.B. McLain is near them at the intersection of Houston and Elm in the Dorman film.

In both of these Zapruder frames, McLain should be off the frame to the left when, in fact, he is off the frame to the right!



Camera Car #1

H.B. McLain did not have the stuck Channel One microphone. But who did? Unquestionably there was a stuck microphone. The siren sounds on the Channel One recording only last for thirty six seconds. If the stuck microphone had been on any vehicles escorting the president to Parkland, we should hear the siren for well over thirty-six seconds.

I mounted a camcorder in my truck and tried to duplicate the drive from the spot of the headshot on Elm Street all the way to the emergency docks at Parkland Hospital.

From the spot of the headshot to the triple underpass, I deliberately took ten seconds because this is what we see in the Zapruder film. I delayed beyond the triple underpass to time my approach to the Stemmons Freeway ramp at 26 seconds, allowing for the confusion as the presidential limo passed the white lead Ford with Chief Curry and Sheriff Decker.

Once on Stemmons Freeway, I drove 70 mph to the Market Center Boulevard exit (which was called Industrial Boulevard at the time of the assassination. Industrial Boulevard ran between Market Hall and the Dallas Trade Mart between Stemmons Freeway and Harry Hines Boulevard). I drove at the best speed I could on Harry Hines until I reached the Parkland Hospital Emergency docks. It took about 4 minutes for this trip.

Next I wanted to que up the channel one recording at the point in time when BBN said the shots happened on the recording. Doing this, the siren sounds began as I reached the exit for Market Center Boulevard. The sirens lasted thirty-six seconds and ended as I passed the Trade Mart on Market Center Boulevard.

Even if H.B. McLain had the stuck microphone and caught the motorcade at this point, we should hear his and the other sirens blaring from the point we hear them until they reached the emergency docks. But we do not.

Instead it sounds like the stuck microphone was stationary during the sirens and that the sirens passed its position somewhere between Dealey Plaza and Parkland Hospital.

Conclusion: Therefore, since the microphone was not in Dealey Plaza it did not record the sounds of gunshots.