

The Assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963, at Dallas, Texas

Statement of Special Agent David B. Grant, United States Secret Service, concerning his activities and official duties on November 22, 1963. Statement dated December 1, 1963.

Shortly before 9 am on Friday, November 22, 1963, SA Lawson and I arrived at the Dallas Trade Mart. SA Lawson and I checked the final preparations for the President's visit. SA Lawson remained at the Trade Mart for a short while and then departed for Love Field, Dallas, Texas, to set up security arrangements prior to the President's arrival.

After SA Lawson departed I discussed the luncheon arrangements with representatives of the Trade Mart and assisted them with the seating of the President and guests at the head table, and any other problems that came up before the President arrived.

With SA's Stueart and Howlett, Dallas Field Office, I re-checked the police security both inside the Trade Mart and outside at the parking lot area where the motorcade would arrive.

At approximately 12 Noon I met ATSAIC Stout, SA's Johnsen, Sulliman, Olsson and Berger who had arrived in Dallas prior to the President, and they were transported to the Trade Mart by police car. I gave them a briefing on the arrangements and assigned them to their respective posts.

A short time prior to the scheduled arrival of the President, I located Mr. Crow and Mr. Stemmons, co-owners of the Trade Mart, and we went to the entrance where the President would arrive and we discussed the procedure they should use when greeting the President and escorting him to the head table.

While waiting at the entrance where the motorcade would arrive, at approximately 12:25 pm I called the White House switchboard and requested the board to contact the motorcade and have them give me a five minute signal before their arrival. This telephone was located just inside the entrance. I then continued my discussions with Mr. Crow and Mr. Stemmons outside the entrance where the President's car would stop. In a few minutes the White House telephone rang and I was told that the motorcade had given the five minute signal.

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I went back outside with Mr. Crow and Mr. Stemmons to await the arrival. In a short while I heard sirens approaching along the motorcade route. The motorcade went by the Trade Mart at a great rate of speed and I noticed that there was no one seated upright in the back seat of the Presidential limousine and that there was a person lying across the trunk of the car.

After observing this I immediately called the White House switchboard for information as to what had happened. The operator on the board informed me that he had no information other than he had heard on the base radio that the President had been "hit" and that the motorcade had been instructed to proceed to the nearest hospital. I then instructed the switchboard to find out what hospital the President had been taken to, and the extent of his injury. At this time I did not know that the President had been shot. I thought that some one had thrown a rock or a stick which had hit him. After receiving this information I went into the Trade Mart and informed ATSAIC Stout that something had happened to the President.

ATSAIC Stout and I discussed the incident and decided that we and the other agents should remain at the Trade Mart in the event the injury to the President had not been serious, and that he would after treatment at the hospital return to the Trade Mart for the luncheon as scheduled.

While awaiting further information, people arrived at the Trade Mart who had been part of the motorcade. These individuals had been in cars that had been unable to keep up with the front part of the motorcade as it sped to the hospital. They indicated to me and to others that there had been some shooting and that the President had been wounded. Upon hearing this, all agents that were assigned to the Trade Mart building proceeded by Police car to the Parkland Hospital and assumed posts in the area of the emergency room where the President had been taken.

I remained on duty at the Parkland Hospital. While at the hospital ATSAIC Stout informed me of the death of the President. I remained at the hospital until the hearse carrying the body of the President, with Mrs. Kennedy riding in the back, departed the hospital for the airport. I rode

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in the front seat of a Lincoln convertible which was used as a follow-up car directly behind the hearse from Parkland Hospital to Love Field, Dallas, Texas. I assisted in getting the coffin out of the hearse and carrying it aboard Air Force I.

I remained at Love Field from that time until Air Force I departed for Washington, D. C.

After the departure of Air Force I, SA Lawson, Chief of Police Curry, and I proceeded to Dallas Police Headquarters. There had been a radio report that an individual had just been apprehended for the murder of a Dallas police officer. The thought was that the assassination of the President and the murder of the Dallas Police officer could be related.

Upon arriving at Police Headquarters we located SAIC Sorrels who was in conference with Captain Fritz, Homicide Supervisor, Dallas Police Department. From this time until approximately 4 am the morning of November 23, when I departed Police Headquarters with Inspector Kelley, who had arrived late that evening, I, along with SAIC Sorrels, SA Lawson, and other agents from the Dallas Field office, assisted the Dallas Police and Captain Fritz with the homicide investigation.

I returned to Dallas Police Headquarters at 8 am this same morning with Inspector Kelley. I remained at Police Headquarters providing what assistance I could until approximately 8:30 pm. I departed Dallas, Texas, aboard American Airlines, flight No. 628, at approximately 12 Midnight carrying a blowup of the photograph showing Oswald holding a rifle similar to the one used in the assassination which I was to deliver to our agents at the White House.

I arrived in Washington, D. C., at approximately 7 am the morning of November 24, 1963, and delivered the photograph to the White House.

David B. Grant

David B. Grant
Special Agent
White House Detail

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