

The Kennedy Assassination and the American Public. Ed., Bradley S. Greenberg & Edwin B. Parker. Stanford U. Press, 1965.

The Business of Television and the Black Weekend, by Ruth Leeds Love

pp:77-8  
..... I was with Truman every minute everywhere he went during the '48 campaign. . . . You sense these things as you are covering. You work closely with the Secret Service, and the routing of covering a President is always that the guy is going to get killed. . . . When you cover a President as a photographer, you have three networks and two wire-service photographers usually in a convertible right ahead of the President. . . . When you drive into a square or a crowd, you look around at the tops of buildings first and then you shoot a picture of the President. It is a normal feeling, and that is the reason you cover him ~~for~~ 24 hours. . . because he is going to be shot. . .

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The network, acting on wire-service information and tips from the White House, as well as the reports of its Southwest man, doubled the usual presidential coverage strength for the Dallas visit. The same respondent said, "Normally we would just come with a Presidential cameraman who travels with him - the man out of the White House and one other crew. But this time we had quite a few scattered over the Dallas area. And then we missed (the assassination) by one block."

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(NBC producer) . . . The cameras had already been set up for hours, we'd been down there before, but there wasn't enough happening to stay with it until when it became obvious they were ready to move him.

//// The reason I was at the county for the Oswald transfer was that had he got there I would have had the opportunity to talk to him. . . . The police case would have been made, otherwise he wouldn't have been transferred. . . . Frequently the police don't want you to talk to the prisoner until they have made their case. . . (When) he is simply a prisoner of the Sheriff you can talk to him.

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The executive was asked why it would have been in bad taste to show the shooting of the President when the network had already shown the film of the Oswald shooting. "That's a good question. . . . You would have to see the film. . . . I understand you can see the President's head snap as the bullet hit him and the blood spurt right out of his temple. It's far too strong stuff to put in the home."