

MEMORANDUM

March 31, 1964

TO: Mr. J. Lee Martin

FROM: Arlen Specter

SUBJECT: Outline Of Suggested Questions For Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy

In formulating the questions, I have included all topics which I think may be of interest to the Commission since, in my opinion, the Commission should have all my ideas and then questions can be deleted which are deemed irrelevant or too specific.

- A. Events Of November 22, 1963, Preceding The Assassination  
(Not indispensable since this topic was covered with other witnesses, except for Mrs. Kennedy's personal reactions.)
1. What were your activities, in a general way, on Friday, November 22nd, prior to the time you left the plane at Love Field in Dallas, Texas?
  2. What were President Kennedy's activities, in a general way on Friday, November 22nd, prior to the time he left the plane at Love Field in Dallas, Texas?
  3. Describe, in a general way, your and President Kennedy's activities in greeting the crowd at Love Field after disembarking from the plane.
  4. Identify the people who rode in the President's automobile and specify their positions in that automobile.
  5. Was that the automobile regularly used to transport the President?
  6. Was the automobile open or was there any covering on, such as the bubble top?
  7. Describe, in a general way, the size and reaction of the crowd on the motorcade route prior to the intersection of Houston and Elm Streets.
  8. Are there any special events which stand out on the motorcade trip prior to the intersection of Houston and Elm Streets?
- B. General Questions About President Kennedy  
(Answers to questions 9, 10, 11, 14 and 15 would be helpful, but not indispensable since these topics have been covered with other witnesses.)
9. Did President Kennedy always ride on the right-hand side of the rear seat?

10. What was President Kennedy's attitude about having Secret Service agents stand on the President's car as it proceeded in a motorcade?
11. Did President Kennedy give any specific instructions on November 22nd about Secret Service agents riding on the Presidential car?
12. Do you have any recollection as to whether President Kennedy was buttoning or unbuttoning his suit jacket during the motorcade through downtown Dallas, especially immediately prior to the shooting? (In trying to evaluate President Kennedy's reaction to the first shot from viewing the films, it appears that he was fidgeting or buttoning and unbuttoning the middle or bottom button on his jacket.)
13. Aside from your specific recollection as to whether he was buttoning or unbuttoning his jacket immediately prior to the shooting, was it his custom or habit to button and unbutton his jacket during the course of such motorcades or at other times?
14. Was President Kennedy wearing an undershirt on November 22, 1963?
15. Was President Kennedy wearing a back brace? If so, describe that brace.

C. The Assassination

16. To the best of your recollection, what had President Kennedy and you been talking about immediately before the shooting?
17. Had Governor or Mrs. Connally joined in any conversation with you or President Kennedy immediately before the shooting?
18. Was there an appreciable amount of noise coming from the crowd immediately before the shooting?
19. Did you have any difficulty in hearing President Kennedy, or did he have to raise his voice to talk to you immediately before the shooting?
20. Did you have any difficulty in hearing Governor or Mrs. Connally, or did they have to raise their voices in order to be heard immediately before the shooting?
21. Did you have to raise your voice in talking to the President or Governor and Mrs. Connally?

22. At any time shortly before the shooting, did you or anyone else in the automobile have any occasion to have any conversation with Special Agent Greer, the driver, or with Special Agent Kellerman who was seated on the righthand side of the front seat?
23. If so, did any parties to such conversations have any difficulty hearing each other, or was it necessary for anyone to raise his voice?
24. As precisely as you are able to state, what time did the first shot take place?
25. As precisely as you are able to state, where was the President's automobile at the time of the first shot?
26. Please mark a photograph indicating, as precisely as possible, the location of the President's car at the time of the first shot.
27. To the best of your recollection, in what direction were you looking at the time of the first shot?
28. What did you think the first shot was?
29. Did you alter your glance, or what was your reaction to the first shot?
30. To the best of your ability to recollect and estimate, how many seconds after the first shot did you look toward President Kennedy?
31. What reaction, if any, did President Kennedy have after the first shot?
32. Was there any time interval between the time of the first shot and the President's first reaction to it?
33. What, if anything, did President Kennedy say after the first shot? (According to Special Agent Kellerman, President Kennedy said "My God, I'm hit.")
34. What, if anything, was said immediately after the first shot by
  - a. you?
  - b. Governor Connally?
  - c. Mrs. Connally?
  - d. Special Agent Greer?
  - e. Special Agent Kellerman?

35. Immediately after the first shot, did you observe any reaction by
- Governor Connally?
  - Mrs. Connally?
  - Special Agent Greer?
  - Special Agent Callahan?
36. What, if anything, did you observe or hear outside your own automobile at the time of the first shot?
37. Did you hear a second shot? If so, then please answer Questions 38 through 43.
38. What is your best estimate as to the time which elapsed between the first and second shots?
39. What was the reaction, if any, to the second shot by
- yourself
  - the President?
  - Governor Connally?
  - Mrs. Connally?
  - Special Agent Greer?
  - Special Agent Callahan?
40. What, if anything, was said after the second shot by
- yourself
  - the President?
  - Governor Connally?
  - Mrs. Connally?
  - Special Agent Greer?
  - Special Agent Callahan?
41. To the best of your recollection, what was Governor Connally's position at the time you heard the second shot?
42. What movement, if any, did Governor Connally make after the second shot? (From the movies, he appears to have fallen into his wife's lap.)
43. What, if anything, did you observe or hear outside of your own automobile at the time of the second shot?
44. Did you hear a third shot? If so, then the general content of Questions 38 through 43 will be repeated.

42. Did you hear anything which you consider to be additional shots? (If answered affirmatively, then the general content of questions 39 through 43 will be repeated.)
43. What would you estimate was the speed of the President's car at the time of each shot?
44. What is your estimate on the distance traveled by the President's car from the first until the last shot?
45. What was your impression, if any, as to the source of the shots?
46. Did you observe any bullet or fragment strike the windshield?
47. Did you observe any other bullet or fragment in the air or the car?

B. Immediate Post-Shooting Events

48. What did you do immediately following the last shot? (It is not indispensable that the Commission know Mrs. Kennedy's reason for climbing onto the back of the car, but that question is of historical interest and has caused some speculation. The alternatives most discussed are: (1) She climbed onto the car to assist Special Agent Hill; (2) she moved by automatic reaction to get away from the tragedy and danger in the car; (3) Special Agent Hill's testimony suggests a third alternative that she might have been reaching for something which may have been a portion of the President's scalp which blew off in the direction of the left rear of the automobile.)
49. When did you first observe Special Agent Clinton Hill?
50. What action, if any, did you take as to Special Agent Hill?
51. How long in distance and time would you estimate that you rose on the trunk of the President's car?
52. Would the President's car accelerate rapidly in speed in relation to your riding on the back end of the car?
53. Did you have any difficulty in returning to the rear seat from the back end of the car?
54. What was your position immediately after returning to the rear seat of the car?
55. When you returned to the rear seat of the car, did you come into contact with President Kennedy?
56. In what position was Special Agent Hill as the automobile drove to the hospital?

51. What was the position of the President enroute to the hospital?
52. What was the condition of the President on your arrival at Parkland Hospital?
53. What would, if any, did you observe on the President's back?
54. What would, if any, did you observe on the President's throat or neck?
55. Enroute to Parkland Hospital what, if anything, was said by
  - a. you?
  - b. President Kennedy?
  - c. Governor Connally?
  - d. Mrs. Connally?
  - e. Special Agent Casert?
  - f. Special Agent Holloman?
56. What did you observe concerning Governor Connally's condition enroute to the hospital?
57. What was Governor Connally's position enroute to the hospital?
58. What would you estimate was the speed of the President's car in traveling to the hospital?
59. What is your best estimate as to the time span from the last shot until your arrival at the hospital?
60. Upon arriving at the hospital, what, if anything, was said by
  - a. you?
  - b. President Kennedy?
  - c. Governor Connally?
  - d. Mrs. Connally?
  - e. Special Agent Casert?
  - f. Special Agent Holloman?
  - g. Special Agent Hill?

Activities At Parkland Hospital

(This topic is optional since the important data has been covered by other witnesses; however, inclusion of this topic would make the Kennedy's testimony more complete.)

70. Who came (identify if possible) to the President's automobile upon its arrival at Parkland Hospital?
71. What action was taken by those who came to the President's car?

72. Describe the removal of the President and Governor Connally from the automobile into the hospital.
73. In what sequence did you leave the automobile?
74. Describe your activities while you were in Parkland Hospital.
75. Relate the conversations you had while in Parkland Hospital which you consider to be significant.
76. Describe, in a general way, the formulation of the plans for the return to Washington, D. C. for you and the President's body.
77. Describe the circumstances surrounding your departure from Parkland Hospital.

78. Return Trip To Washington, D. C.

(This topic is optional since the important data has been covered by other witnesses; however, inclusion of this topic would make Mrs. Kennedy's testimony more complete.)

78. Describe, in a general way, the mode of transportation back to Washington, D. C. for you and the President's body.
79. Did you observe the hearing-in of President Johnson?
80. In a general way, what did you do on the return flight from Dallas, Texas to Washington, D. C.?
81. Relate the conversations on the trip back to Washington, D. C. which you consider significant.

79. General Information

(Questions 82, 85, 86, 87, 88 and 89 may be regarded as beyond the scope of testimony which Mrs. Kennedy should be called upon to provide; however, her answers might be considered to have substantial weight in the event the Commission deals with these topics.)

82. Were there any events or occurrences either before the trip to Texas, during that trip or after that trip which shed light on the facts surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy?
83. Were there any conversations involving you or anyone else either before the trip to Texas, during that trip or after that trip which shed light on the facts surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy?

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34. Were there any events or occurrences either before the trip to Texas, during that trip or after that trip which would be significant in formulating plans to protect future Presidents from assassination plots?
35. Were there any conversations involving you or anyone else either before the trip to Texas, during that trip or after that trip which would be significant in formulating plans to protect future Presidents from assassination plots?
36. What is your view of the advisability of having a President ride in an open car on a motorcade through a metropolitan area?
37. What is your view of the advisability of having Secret Service agents either on the running boards or in the Presidential car in order to be able immediately to protect the President after the first indication of danger?
38. What is your view of the advisability of taking away from the President some of his current authority to direct Secret Service agents on protecting him in public places?
39. Do you have any specific suggestions on how to reduce the risk of assassination to future Presidents?
40. In the light of the function of this Commission to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy and its historical significance, are there any other facts which you consider relevant or helpful to our inquiry?