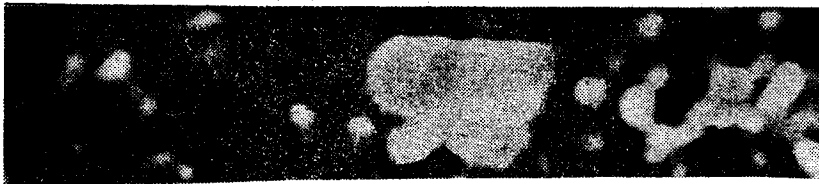


# Throwing of Paint Underlines Danger Faced by President



10/22/66

## Enormous Crowds Tax Security on Melbourne Visit

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CANBERRA, Australia,

Oct. 22 (Saturday) — A paint-throwing attack against President Johnson's car in Melbourne yesterday came near the end of a long and hazardous motorcade during which the President was repeatedly exposed to danger.

The crowds were enormous and they were overwhelmingly friendly, but the President's car was often swamped with masses of people, a small minority of whom carried placards bitterly attacking him.

The President stopped his car nine times during the hour-and-45-minute drive from the airport to the home of Dame Mabel and Sir Norman Brookes to speak, shake hands and sometimes leave the car.

Mr. Johnson flew to Melbourne yesterday morning from Canberra and returned to this Australian capital for the night. Today (Friday night Washington time) he visits Sydney, where an even bigger reception has been promised. On Sunday, he will fly to Manila for the seven-nation summit conference on Vietnam.

In one area in Melbourne yesterday the motorcade was diverted from the parade route to avoid a large group of hostile anti-Vietnam demonstrators near the University of Melbourne.

The motorcade speeded up as jeering students broke through police lines and hurled unidentified objects—some said they were empty beer cans and flour bombs—at the cavalcade. None hit the President's limousine.

Yet the President continued

to stop his car and encourage the crowds to swarm about him. Anything could have happened. Newsmen following his car in buses were amazed that no untoward incident occurred.

After reaching the residence—  
**See PRESIDENT, A7, Col. 2**

*U.S. working for a compromise between Laos' military rivals. Page A14.*

*Vietcong terrorists strike three times. Page A14.*

tial area where the Brookes house is and where Mr. Johnson was entertained in World War II, everyone relaxed a bit.

But as newsmen were waiting outside the Brookes home a police car radio carried a call for reinforcements to control a hostile crowd gathered near Government House, the next scheduled stop.

### Unfriendly Crowd Nearby

On the block leading away

from the Brookes residence—Domain Road—a crowd that was clearly unfriendly and noisy packed the sidewalks and overflowed into the street.

As the President's car moved slowly along this block, a young man, neatly dressed and clean-shaven, jumped from the left side of the presidential limousine and appeared to hurl two plastic bags of paint.

The windows of the car—the bubble-top car built for the President and flown here for his visit—were closed and the President and Mrs. Johnson were untouched. But a more serious attack could as easily have been made.

The attack came about 6:10 p.m. (4:10 a.m. EDT). A bag of green paint splattered the windshield, covering two thirds of it. A bag of red paint landed on top and ran down the back.

### Agents Are Hit

Rufus Youngblood and Lem Johns, the senior Secret Service agents with the President, were splattered with paint as they trotted beside the car. Johns was the more heavily splattered and had so much green paint in his face he had difficulty seeing what he was doing. Youngblood was hit by the red paint. Both men required medical treatment to get the paint out of their eyes.

It was Youngblood who shoved Vice President Johnson to the floor of his car in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, and threw himself upon him when President Kennedy was assassinated.

Yesterday's attacker fell, was pushed or threw himself in front of the presidential limousine, and it would have run over him had not the

driver stopped at once. Two Australian policemen grabbed him and hauled him away.

There was a long moment of confusion. Then a Secret Service agent gave the order to move on.

#### Driver Has to Stop

After a few blocks the driver had to stop to permit a policeman to try to clean the windshield with a cloth. Although he was only partially successful the car moved ahead to Government House and its large yard surrounded by a guarded fence.

Police said later they had arrested two brothers, aged 22 and 24, in connection with the incident. Their names were withheld.

After the President and Mrs. Johnson got out of the car it was taken away to be cleaned with gasoline. It was back in time to take the Johnsons to the airport for their return to Canberra.

Mr. Johnson's only comment on the attack, relayed by Press Secretary Bill D. Moyers, was: "I guess they just couldn't stand the size of the turnout."

#### Rebukes Critics

Moyers said that during the drive into Melbourne one young man waved a sign at the President calling him "Bloodfinger." Mr. Johnson looked him in the eye and said, according to Moyers, "Aren't you ashamed of yourself?"

The President said the man looked sheepish and folded his sign, Moyers reported.

Mrs. Johnson's comment on the incident was: "In the perspective of 2 million people it was just a grain of sand."

But what disturbs those who watch the President in his travels is that it is just the grain of sand, just the lunatic or the fanatic who could repeat the tragedy of Nov. 22, 1963.

#### Concern About Security

The President has often spoken privately of his concern about security and his desire for proper protection. Yet he constantly exposes himself to danger—almost in the manner of a daredevil.

On his way back to the airport tonight after the inci-

dent, the big crowds that had greeted him earlier had dispersed.

But there were still sizable crowds at some street corners and he stopped his car ten times to beckon them closer in the dark streets, to shake hands and to talk to those in earshot of his loudspeaker.

All the precautions that have been taken since President Kennedy's assassination and the Warren Commission Report are insufficient to safeguard a President who defiantly exposes himself to stimulate the crowds, particularly when war and other issues inflame people at home and abroad.

#### News agencies reported these other developments:

The crowds that greeted Mr. Johnson in Melbourne were immense. Some Australian officials figured that 1 million people had turned out. The police estimate was half a million. All agreed that the total topped that for Queen Elizabeth II when she visited Australia in 1963.

#### Tribute to War Role

In his speech at Government House, Mr. Johnson paid tribute to Australia's role in the war in Vietnam. But before he could speak, the crowd of about 1500 persons broke into "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow." The President was visibly moved.

Mr. Johnson said U.S. and Australian troops would stay in Vietnam "until this aggression is checked before it blooms into World War III."

"We are doing everything that we know to have peace in this world, but it's not a one-way street. You can't make a contract by yourself. You can't go to a conference and sign a treaty that is unilateral when you are the only one present."

As the presidential party drove to the Melbourne airport after the reception, an Australian shouted "Come back" during one of the frequent stops Mr. Johnson ordered to address the crowds.

#### 'Big Barbecue'

"Oh, we're comin' back, we're comin' back," the President responded. He added that once Vietnam is settled and Asia is at peace, "Then we're

all going to come back and have a big barbecue together."

Flying back to Canberra with Prime Minister Harold Holt, the President needed him about the paint-throwing incident. Holt was obviously embarrassed.

As he was entering his hotel in Canberra, a man standing at the front of a crowd shouted: "What about Vietnam?"

According to an Australian radio reporter, the President stared at the man in silence for a minute and then walked inside.

#### Soviets Say LBJ Tour Is Hollywood Gimmick

From News Dispatches

The Soviet press derided President Johnson's Asian tour yesterday as a "Hollywood panorama" to influence voters at home and promote his "imperialist policy" abroad.

"But all diplomatic preparations have been spoiled," the Communist Party newspaper Pravda said, "by the news of the new crisis in South Vietnam." This referred to the resignation of seven Vietnamese Cabinet ministers, deferred Thursday at least until the end of the Manila summit conference.

In other diplomatic developments on Vietnam, Indonesian Foreign Minister Adam Malik refused to comment in Moscow on the possibility of Indonesia's serving as "honest broker" to achieve a Vietnam settlement. He said two weeks ago both sides had asked his country's help.

Indonesian sources in Moscow said, however, that Malik had had no detailed talks on Vietnam in his discussions with top Soviet officials, although the subject had been mentioned generally. Malik is discussing Indonesia's debts and aid needs with the Russians.

In Oslo, the Norwegian Parliament's Nobel Peace Prize committee said it had turned down a suggestion that it play a role in trying to reach a Vietnam settlement. It said it would reconsider if responsible quarters on both sides asked it to contribute to organizing preparatory peace talks.