

OFFICER "C" --

*This is Douglas Jackson's corrected statement. I do not recall why I put this aside for use on its source.*

Officer C did something unique. Late that night after he had returned home, he felt the weight of the day in a most personal way. Not wishing to permit time and circumstance cloud his memory, he sat down with his child's school notebook and in a fatigued but reflective mood, wrote a diary for the day. He intended to correct it later and have it typed. However, after considering its contents, he decided to leave it unedited.

It is fortunate that he did for in its original state it more clearly reflects his pensive mood. He graciously consented to publishing his unedited account for the first time.

"I SAW THE PRESIDENT ASSASSINATED"

The morning of November 22, 1963 started out to be cold and raining a dark day. I made detail at 6:45 A. M. along with many other officers. I had escorted President Kennedy in 1961 when he came to Dallas to visit with Mr. Sam Rayburn who was in Baylor Hospital in serious condition. That day when we got back to Love Field Mr. Kennedy shook my hand and thanked me for the escort. This time I was hoping that I could escort the President again but I thought I would probably have to work a corner instead. In Detail I was assigned to ride on the right hand side and slightly to the rear of the Presidential Limousine. The original plan was to have two officers ride on the left of the car and two on the right of the car.

heaviest of all and they wouldn't back up. Several times my right handle bar and right hand hit people in the stomach because they weren't watching me they were only looking at the president. Along about Akard Street the crowd was so heavy and they would not back up so rather than bump them I slacked back and was riding directly behind Jim Chaney. A young man ran out of the crowd from behind me and ran past me on my left which put him between me and the Presidential Limousine as he ran by me I saw that he was carrying a small camera already placed to his eye but he didn't get to take the close up picture of the President because one of the Secret Service men caught him just in front of my motor and bodily threw him between me and Jim Chaney into the crowd. The last glance I got of the crowd there were people still falling. About this time I saw ahead of me standing in the street a lady holding an umbrella, the type that had a long metal piece on the tip I rode up beside Jim Chaney forcing people to back up but this lady didn't right then. An Agent left his car and got on the rear of the Presidential car. I rode closer and closer to her forcing her back into the crowd. After we passed her the Agent went back to his car.

We traveled west on Main the turned north on Houston Street without too much trouble with the crowd then we turned west onto Elm Street. Drove only a short way traveling very slowly. About that time I heard what I thought was a car back fire and I looked around and then to the President's car in time for the next explosion

and saw Mr. Connally jerk back to his right and it seemed that he look right at me I could see a shocked expression on his face and I thought "Someone is shooting at them" I began stopping my motor and looking I looked straight ahead first at the Railroad overpass saw only one Policeman standing on the track directly over the street I looked then back to my right and behind me then looked back toward Mr. Kennedy and saw him hit in the head he appeared to have been hit just above the right ear. The top of his head flew off away from me. Mrs. Kennedy pulled him toward her. Mrs. Connally pulled Mr. Connally down and she slid down in the seat. I knew that the shooting was coming from my right rear and I looked back that way but I never did look up. Looking back to the front again I saw the Secret Service Agent lying down across the car over Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy the Presidential limousine was beginning to pick up speed and Secret Service men were running past the presidential car drawing there guns as they ran. I said to Jim Chaney "Let's go with them" and we sped away he pulled past the President's car and up toward Chief Curry's car. Chief Curry came on the radio and notified the Dispatcher that a shooting had accured that we were in route to Parkland Code three and to notify them to stand by. As we were traveling north on Stemmons Freeway Agent Will raised up looked over toward me and shook his head from side to side and held up his