

Date 3/25/64

STEVEN F. WILSON was interviewed in Room 235, Sandy Shores Motel, and he gave the following signed statement which is to be placed in the files of the Dallas Office of the FBI.

"Corpus Christi, Texas
March 25, 1964

"I, ~~Steven F. Wilson~~, make the following statement to Penrod W. Harris, who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This statement relates to a matter of interest to the Government, that is, the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

"As a matter of identification, I am 60 years of age, having been born April 1, 1903, at Jackson, Tennessee. I reside at 903 Carney Drive, Garland, Texas, a suburb of Dallas, Texas. I am presently on a business trip, which is my reason for being in Corpus Christi. I am of the white race, and a college graduate.

"I am vice president of the Southwest Division of Allyn and Bacon, Inc. This is a school text book publishing company. My office is located at Room 301 Texas School Book Depository Building, located at 411 Elm Street in Dallas. My office has been at this location for four years or so.

"On Friday, November 22, 1963, I had a coke and some cookies in my office around the noon hour. The motorcade with the President and other officials was to come by Elm and Houston Streets at around 12:30 p.m. The motorcade was to pass in front of the Texas School Book Depository Building.

"In September, 1962, I had a heart attack. For that reason I decided to stay in my office to see the motorcade, rather than mingling with the crowds on the street. Also,

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by SA PENROD W. HARRIS:jj Date dictated 3/25/64

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ENCLOSURE

Section 112

"I wanted the employees in my office to have the opportunity of viewing the motorcade and the officials from a close position on the street or sidewalk. The other employees had left the office and I was there by myself.

"My private office is located on a corner of the building (Texas School Book Depository Building). It was subsequently ascertained the fatal shots at the President were fired from storage area which is three floors directly above my private office, that is, from the sixth floor of the building.

"I left my private office and went in my company's main office, so I could watch the safe and other property in the office. Also, I could get equally as good a view from this position as from my private office on the corner of the building. I sat next to the window on the Elm Street side, in front of my secretary's desk. I raised the venetian blinds. The window was not open, as it was secured with screws because of the air conditioning in the building.

"From my position, I watched the motorcade as it approached, moving north on Houston Street, and turned west on Elm Street. I saw the President and other dignitaries in his car, and I saw the roses in Mrs. Kennedy's lap.

"As the motorcade proceeded, my view of President Kennedy and his car and the other occupants, became obscured by some trees which are on Elm Street.

"In a matter of ten seconds or less after the President's car and occupants were obscured from my view by the trees, I heard three shots. I am positive there were three shots, no more and no less. It is my opinion there was a greater space of time between the second and third shots than

"between the first and second. The three shots were fired within a matter of less than five seconds. The shots sounded to me like rifle shots.

"At that time it seemed the shots came from the west end of the building or from the colonnade located on Elm Street across from the west end of our building. The shots really did not sound like they came from above me.

"My impression was the sounds were definitely not firecrackers exploding or automobile backfires. I saw a man, who it seems to me was wearing a white shirt, run across the street and I realized then something was amiss.

"I stayed at the window quite a while. Some of the girls in my office returned and were crying. This was the first I knew that the President had been shot.

"I heard nothing unusual in my office or in the building at any time shortly before, or after the sounds of the shots, or at the time of the shots other than the shots themselves.

"I went to the rest room on the second floor. I returned to my office and lay down on a couch in my office, as I felt so upset. A little later I lay down again for a few minutes.

"A number of officers came to my office and questioned all of those present as to where they were at the time of the shooting. Later we were told the building was to be evacuated, and we were instructed to leave every thing as it was. There were several different groups of officers who came to the office.

"When we were told we could leave, the other employees and I left the building. Before this, I had furnished my name and other information to officers in the building. I left to go home about 2:30 p.m.

"I would like to say that at the time the President's car and its occupants went out of my view, being obscured by the trees, as mentioned above, the car was not as far as 100 yards from me. A person in the same position in the building as I was in, only on a higher floor, (above the third floor), could probably have seen over the trees and could have kept the President's car in view.

"I did not know Lee Harvey Oswald by name, or by sight. After the publicity about the shooting of the President, it seemed to me I had possibly seen him standing in the lunch room door on the second floor of the building on one occasion. Also, it seemed to me, I possibly saw him pass by the shipping desk on the first floor of the building when I may have been going to see about someone's parking in my space in the parking lot we use.

"As mentioned above, I did not see Lee Harvey Oswald or anyone else at the time of the shooting or shortly before or after.

"On the morning of November 22, 1963, I did not see any stranger in the building, and I observed nothing unusual, so far as I was able to recall.

"I have been told by some of my associates that a picture was taken around the time of the shooting of the President. I do not know if it was supposedly taken before or after the shooting. It is my understanding I could be identified in this picture, and there were two Negroes also in the picture, some place above me and to the west in the building. I have not seen this picture and do not know that it exists. I think Mrs. Billie Clay, who works in my office, may have mentioned seeing this picture.

Billie Clay

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"I would have no objection whatsoever to appearing before the President's Commission and to testifying under oath to the information as set out in this statement.

"I would be happy to help in this matter in every way possible. I have no other information which I consider of any possible pertinence in connection with the shooting of the President.

"I have read this statement and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"/s/ Steven F. Wilson

"Witness

/s/ Penrod W. Harris, Special Agent,
F.B.I., Corpus Christi, Texas"