View from Oswald's Dallas perch

By Charles Richards
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — To the chagrin of President John F. Kennedy's survivors, the view from the sixth-floor warehouse window where Lee Harvey Oswald shot Kennedy is being transmitted live on the Internet.

The camera panned and zoomed in all directions, capturing images for viewing at www.jfk.org. The camera is mounted in the window of the old Texas School Book Depository, where Oswald fired his fatal shots on Nov. 22, 1963.

The sixth floor has been a Kennedy museum for years. Oswald's perch is preserved, complete with stacked wooden crates near the window, but the corner is behind glass and off-limits to visitors.

"Those who guided the original creation of The Sixth Floor Museum made a substantial effort to prevent the exploitation and commercialization of President Kennedy's death, and their efforts were a great credit to the people of Dallas," said Melody Miller, a spokeswoman for Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D., Mass.), Kennedy's only surviving brother.

"It is unfortunate that their accomplishment is now being undermined in this insensitive and tasteless manner," she said.

is shown live on Net

Jeff West, executive director of the museum, said he was "surprised, and disappointed" by Sen. Kennedy's remarks and defended the decision to install the camera.

"We have received countless requests for access to the view of Dealey Plaza from the sniper's perch," West said. "The installation of this camera affords us the opportunity to honor those requests without disrupting the solemnity of the museum experience.

"Half the population of the world was born after the assassination. We're talking about a view of a national historic landmark, and I don't think that's ever in bad taste."

Kennedy was shot while traveling in a motorcade. Texas Gov. John Connally, riding in the same car, was seriously wounded. Oswald was shot and killed two days later by nightclub operator Jack Ruby.