

PMS BUDGET (450)

ASSASSINATION-HOLLAND

BY TOM JOHNSON

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

DALLAS, TEX. NOV. 22 (AP)-"THERE DEFINITELY WAS A SHOT FIRED FROM BEHIND THAT FENCE," MAINTAINS S.M. HOLLAND IN REGARD TO THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY THREE YEARS AGO.

HOLLAND, SIGNAL SUPERVISOR FOR THE DALLAS UNION TERMINAL RAILROAD, WAS STANDING ON THE TRIPLE UNDERPASS WHEN THE PRESIDENTIAL MOTORCADE CAME UNDER FIRE ABOUT A HALF-BLOCK AWAY AND HEADING TOWARD THE UNDERPASS.

HE SAID IN AN INTERVIEW YESTERDAY THAT ONE AND POSSIBLY TWO SHOTS WERE FIRED AT THE MOTORCADE FROM BEHIND A WOODEN FENCE ADJACENT TO THE UNDERPASS AND SOME 150 FEET FROM WHERE HE WAS STANDING.

"FOUR OR FIVE OF US SAW IT, THE SMOKE," HOLLAND SAID. "ONE OF MY EMPLOYEES EVEN SAW THE MUZZLE FLASH."

HOLLAND'S TESTIMONY ON THE MATTER IS IN VOL. 6 OF THE WARREN COMMISSION HEARINGS.

"THE WAY THE WARREN COMMISSION PUBLISHED MY TESTIMONY, IT WAS KIND OF WATERED DOWN SOME. IT MADE IT SEEM THAT I WASN'T REALLY SURE WHETHER I'D HEARD A SHOT FROM THE FENCE.

"BUT I OWN TOO MANY GUNS MYSELF, AND I'VE DONE TOO MUCH HUNTING. I KNOW A RIFLE SHOT WHEN I HEAR ONE," HE SAID.

ASKED WHY HE THOUGHT THE COMMISSION WOULD DELETE OR ALTER ANY OF HIS TESTIMONY, HOLLAND REPLIED:

"WELL, OBVIOUSLY, WHAT I HAD TO SAY PRETTY SERIOUSLY CONFLICTED WITH THEIR OFFICIAL VERSION."

THE WARREN REPORT CONCLUDED THAT THREE SHOTS WERE FIRED AT THE MOTORCADE. ALL BY LEE HARVEY OSWALD FROM THE TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY. THAT BUILDING IS AT THE OTHER END OF THE BLOCK FROM THE OVERPASS AND THE WOODEN FENCE.

BULLETS FIRED FROM THE DEPOSITORY WOULD HAVE STRUCK THE MOTORCADE FROM BEHIND, WHEREAS SHOTS FIRED FROM THE FENCE WOULD HAVE COME FROM THE FRONT. SHOTS FROM BOTH PLACES WOULD HAVE PUT THE MOTORCADE IN A CROSSFIRE, AND MEANT THAT MORE THAN ONE ASSASSIN WAS INVOLVED.

EA42

HOLLAND SAID THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE NONE OF THE OTHER RAILROAD EMPLOYEES WITH HIM THAT DAY HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED BY THE COMMISSION.

"I FEEL SURE THEY ALL WOULD CORROBORATE WHAT I SAY," HE SAID.

"I WAS CLOSE ENOUGH TO SEE IT AND HEAR IT," HOLLAND SAID. "AND IF YOU DON'T THINK YOU CAN SEE RIFLE SMOKE AGAINST A CLUMP OF TREES, YOU'RE MISTAKEN."

HE ADDED THAT HE IS CERTAIN THERE WERE AT LEAST FOUR SHOTS FIRED, AND PERHAPS FIVE.

"NOW, THE ONES THAT CAME FROM UP THE STREET (THE DEPOSITORY AREA) WERE QUITE A BIT LOUDER THAN THE ONE FROM THE FENCE. THAT'S HOW I COULD TELL THEY WERE FROM DIFFERENT RIFLES."

HOLLAND SAID HE SAW TWO MUD MARKS ON THE BUMPER OF A STATION WAGON THAT HAD BEEN BACKED UP TO THE FENCE, WHEN HE RAN TO THE VEHICLE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SHOOTING.

"IT HAD RAINED THAT MORNING. IF A MAN WANTED TO SHOOT OVER THE FENCE, HE PROBABLY WOULD HAVE HAD TO STAND ON THAT BUMPER."

HE SAID HE NOTICED FRESH FOOTPRINTS NEAR THE STATION WAGON THAT DID NOT CLEARLY LEAD AWAY FROM THE AREA.

"A MAN COULD HAVE GOTTEN INTO THE TRUNK OF A CAR PARKED NEARBY AND HIDDEN HIMSELF. OR HE MIGHT HAVE JUST GOT LOST IN THE CONFUSION. I COULDN'T TELL YOU," HE SAID.

BN352AES