

Connally, Jim 4

MEMORANDUM

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March 31, 1968

To: Mr. J. Lee Rankin
From: Arlen Specter

SUBJECT: Outline Of Suggested Questions For Governor John B. Connally

In formulating the questions, I have included all topics which I think may be of interest to the Commission since, in my opinion, the Commission should have all my ideas and then determine what to delete which are deemed irrelevant or too specific.

1. Events Preceding The Assassination

1. When, to the best of your recollection, did you first speak or discuss with President Kennedy a possible trip to Dallas in November, 1963?
2. When, to the best of your recollection, did you hear of the first state that he would definitely tour to during November, 1963?
3. When, to the best of your recollection, were you informed that President Kennedy would visit Dallas on November 22, 1963?
4. When and where did you meet President Kennedy on November 22, 1963?
5. Describe, in a general way, your activities with the motorcade party prior to Friday, November 22, 1963.
6. What were your activities, in a general way, on November 22d, prior to the time you left the place at Love Field in Dallas, Texas.
7. Describe, in a general way, your activities in going up the ramp at Love Field after disembarking from the plane.
8. Identify the people who rode in the President's automobile and specify their positions in that automobile.
9. Was the automobile open or was there any covering over, such as the mobile top?
10. Describe, in a general way, the size and position of the crowd on the motorcade route prior to the intersection of Houston and Main Streets.

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12. Are there any special events which stand out on the automobile trip prior to the intersection of Houston and Elm Street?

The Assassination

13. Had Mrs. Connally and you been talking immediately before the shooting?
14. Did you or Mrs. Connally joined in any conversation with President Kennedy or Mrs. Kennedy immediately before the shooting?
15. Was there an appreciable amount of noise coming from the crowd immediately before the shooting?
16. Did you have any difficulty in hearing Mrs. Connally, or did she have to raise her voice to talk to you immediately before the shooting?
17. Did you have any difficulty in hearing the President or Mrs. Kennedy, or did they have to raise their voices in order to be heard immediately before the shooting?
18. At any time shortly before the shooting, did you or anyone else in the automobile have any conversation to have any communication with Special Agent Gandy, the driver, or with Special Agent Kilkenny who was seated on the right-hand side of the front seat?
19. If so, did any portion to such conversations have any difficulty hearing each other, or was it necessary for anyone to raise his voice?
20. As precisely as you are able to state, what time did the first shot take place?
21. As precisely as you are able to state, where was the automobile at the time of the first shot?
22. Please mark a photograph (to be provided) indicating, as precisely as possible, the location of the President, in car, at the time of the first shot.
23. To the best of your recollection, in what direction were you looking at the time of the first shot?
24. What did you think the first shot was?
25. Did you alter your glance, or was your reaction to the first shot?

16. What movement, if any, did you make after the first shot?
17. To the best of your ability, to recollect and estimate, how many seconds after the first shot did you look toward President Kennedy?
18. Did you observe any reaction by President Kennedy to the first shot?
19. What, if anything, did President Kennedy say immediately after the first shot? (According to Special Agent Mohr, President Kennedy said "My God, I'm hit.")
20. What, if anything, was said immediately after the first shot by
a. Mrs. O'Donnell
b. Mrs. Kennedy?
c. Mrs. Connally?
d. Special Agent Greer?
e. Special Agent Holloman?
21. Immediately after the first shot, did you observe any reaction by
a. Mrs. Kennedy?
b. Mrs. Connally?
c. Special Agent Greer?
d. Special Agent Holloman?
22. What, if anything, did you observe or hear outside your automobile at the time of the first shot?
23. Did you hear a second shot? If so, then please answer questions 23 through 26.
24. What is your best estimate as to the time which elapsed between the first and second shots?
25. What was the reaction, if any, to the second shot by
a. Mrs.
b. The President?
c. Mrs. Kennedy?
d. Mrs. Connally?
e. Special Agent Greer?
f. Special Agent Holloman?

35. What, if anything, was said after the second shot by:
 - a. you?
 - b. the President?
 - c. Mrs. Kennedy?
 - d. Mrs. Connally?
 - e. Special Agent Green?
 - f. Special Agent Holloman?
36. To the best of your recollection, what was your exact position at the time you heard the second shot?
37. What movement, if any, did you make after the second shot? (From the movies, you appear to have fallen into your wife's lap.)
38. What, if anything, did you observe or hear outside of your own automobile at the time of the second shot?
39. Did you hear a third shot?
40. Were you conscious after the third shot? (If so, then the general content of Questions 33 through 39 will be repeated.)
41. Did you hear anything which you consider to be additional shots? (If answered affirmatively, then the general content of Questions 33 through 39 will be repeated.)
42. What would you estimate was the speed of the President's car at the time of each shot?
43. What is your estimate on the distance traveled by Gov. Connally's car from the first until the last shot you heard?
44. What was your impression, if any, as to the source of the shots?
45. Did you observe any bullet or fragment striking the windshield?
46. Did you observe any other bullet or fragment in the rear of the car?
47. Do you believe you were hit by the first shot or second shot, or both?
48. What are your reasons for your answer to the previous question?
49. Do you believe that one bullet caused all the injuries you sustained in the shooting?

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30. Did the bullet pass through the area (back of neck, wrist, or the volar (front or palm side) of your left arm?
31. What is your reason for your answer to the previous question?
32. As nearly as you can recollect, please give me the position you were in at the time you were shot by the bullet in your neck.

Post-Operation Events

33. If you were conscious and have any current memories, describe the pain or other sensations you experienced immediately after the shooting.
34. If you were conscious and have any qualifications, describe the trip from the assassination scene to Bethesda Hospital.
35. If you were conscious and were very dissatisfied, describe the action taken by the hospital attendants in removing you from the President's car and in taking you into the emergency room.
36. Do you know whether there was any bullet or bullet fragments which remained in your body or on your clothing or the clothes placed on the emergency stretcher at Bethesda Hospital?
37. Describe, in a general way, all post-shooting examinations which you were subjected to during the period immediately preceding the operation.
38. Describe, in a general way, the operations and treatments given to you at Bethesda Hospital.
39. Describe, in a general way, your treatment and examinations at Bethesda Hospital following the operation.
40. If you care to, please comment on the condition of your health at the present time.

C. General Information

41. Were there any conversations between either you or Mrs. [redacted] to [redacted], during their trip or either that took place prior to [redacted] right on the facts surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy?
42. Were there any conversations involving you or [redacted] either before the trip to Texas, during their trip or either that took place right on the facts concerning the assassination of President Kennedy?

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43. In the light of the function of this Committee to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy and its historical significance, are there any documents which you consider relevant or helpful to our inquiry?