

The Other Texan Jailed as Assassin

Young Man's Weird Story Of Arrest

STRAWN (Tex.)—(UPI)—To most people, the Warren Report is a distant, lengthy, formal document—a summary of a weekend when history tore their hearts but did not touch their lives.

To Donald Wayne House it's a reminder of four hours last Nov. 22 when he was jailed by mistake as the President's killer.

House spent those four hours in the Fort Worth jail, denying he had any part in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Newsmen eager to talk to him upon arrest turned their attention to the real killer and it remained for the Fort Worth Press to tell the full story of House for the first time.

Although the young man was never charged and said he is now trying hard to forget it all, he recalled how, for a while, "I was facing the nation."

Later his arrest became something to laugh about. But House added: "It hasn't changed my life, but I'll never forget it."

HOUSE, 23, hauls dynamite for a construction firm. He lived in Ranger, Tex., last fall and on Nov. 22 decided to come to Dallas to visit an old Army buddy.

While he was in Dallas, he waited until he caught a glimpse of President Kennedy, whom he greatly admired, and started back home via Fort Worth.

He did not know Kennedy was assassinated until he turned his car radio on well out of Dallas. Half way between Dallas and Fort Worth, he stopped in Grand Prairie for gasoline.

A **WOMAN** asked him whether he had heard what the killer looked like. House gave her the description he had heard on the radio without realizing at the time that it also fitted him.

But if House didn't note the similarity, she did and phoned police. House heard a siren and saw a red light flashing and pulled over.

A Fort Worth policeman ordered him to get out of his auto and stand with his hands against it.

"I looked up and there were a lot of policemen with shotguns and everything," House said.

"**WHAT AM I** being arrested for?" House said he asked.

"You are being arrested for the assassination of President Kennedy," a policeman said.

"I was frightened at first," House said. "But after I got to the police station, I wasn't scared any more. I had a clear conscience and I kept repeating, 'I didn't do it.'"

After three hours of denying he was the assassin, House was put in a cell. Finally a policeman came to the cell door and said:

"They've caught another boy, Lee Harvey Oswald. They are pretty sure he did it."

House was released and the best apology he got was from a jail matron who ran up, kissed him and said, "I'm glad you didn't do it."