

EA157DC

(330)

DES MOINES, IOWA, DEC. 7 (AP)--NEWTON T. FISHER, DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE AT DALLAS, TEX., SAID TODAY HE WANTED TO ELIMINATE THE TURN IN PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S MOTORCADE WHERE THE PRESIDENT WAS ASSASSINATED.

"THIS IS HINDSIGHT," HE TOLD AN INTERVIEWER, "BUT I HAD THE SAME IDEA PRIOR TO THE THING THAT HAPPENED IN DALLAS.

"ANY TIME A MOTORCADE CONTAINING CELEBRITIES MAKES A TURN, IT BECOMES MORE OF A TARGET."

FISHER, 49, IS HERE TO ADDRESS A MEETING OF THE IOWA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION.

THE DES MOINES REGISTER QUESTIONED HIM ABOUT THE SLAYING OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, OV. 22, 1963, AND EVENTS THAT FOLLOWED IT.

FISHER SAID TELEVISION LIGHTS PREVENTED OFFICERS FROM SEEING JACK RUBY, WHO NOV. 24 KILLED LEE HARVEY OSWALD, ACCUSED ASSASSIN OF THE PRESIDENT, AS OSWALD WAS BEING TRANSFERRED FROM THE DALLAS POLICE STATION.

AS TO THE MOTORCADE, FISHER SAID "I WOULD HAVE HAD IT GO STRAIGHT AHEAD ON MAIN ST. TO INDUSTRIAL AVE. AND ON TO THE TRADE MART (WHERE KENNEDY WAS TO SPEAK.)

"YOU WANT TO ELIMINATE ANY TURNS IN THE ROUTE YOU CAN, BECAUSE IN TURNS THE MOTORCADE IS MORE VULNERABLE AND SPENDS MORE TIME AT A GIVEN SPOT.

"MY IDEA WOULD HAVE ELIMINATED ONLY ONE TURN, AT ELM AND HOUSTON STREETS, BUT THAT IS THE SPOT WHERE THE PRESIDENT WAS KILLED.

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"THE STRAIGHTER ROUTE WOULD HAVE PUT HIM 150 TO 200 FEET FARTHER AWAY FROM THE WINDOW" WHERE THE ASSASSIN STOOD.

FISHER SAID DALLAS POLICE DID NOT "HAVE A FIRM COMMITMENT UNTIL TWO DAYS BEFORE" AS TO HANDLING OF THE KENNEDY VISIT.

"WE HAD PREPARED TWO OR THREE POSSIBLE ROUTES SO AS NOT TO BE WHOLLY UNPREPARED," HE SAID."

FISHER SAID THERE "IS NOT A SHADOW OF A DOUBT" THAT OSWALD WAS THE ASSASSIN.

HE ADDED: "THE TELEVISION COVERAGE WAS A VERY DEFINITE FACTOR IN THE DEATH OF OSWALD. THE TELEVISION LIGHTS WERE SO BRIGHT THAT THE OFFICERS GUARDING OSWALD DIDN'T EVEN SEE RUBY."

FISHER SAID "THERE HAS NOT BEEN ANY CHANGE IN RESPECT FOR LAW
IN DALLAS. PEOPLE THERE REALIZE THE ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT
COULD HAVE HAPPENED ANYWHERE. THEY FEEL BAD THAT IT HAPPENED ANY-
WHERE."

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