Dallas, Nov. 28 - It appeared that Oswald's employment in a building along the parade route that President Kennedy would travel was happenstance.

Statements by persons familiar with the circumstances indicated that Oswald had no way of knowing when he took the job at the Texas School Book Depository that it would provide a vantage point for assassinating the President... New York Times, John Herbers

The motorcade was on schedule. At exactly 12:30 p.m., Dallas time, the President and the First Lady would step through the doors of the Trade Mart …

... As the President Passed, workers [at the depository building] interrupted their lunch break to wave or watch from every floor except the sixth. That floor was used only for storage, its windows vacant.

It was exactly 12:29 p.m.

Suddenly, a rifle shot. … Long Beach Independent-Press Telegram, Three Days in Dallas, by Bill Hunter.

The President's route was not released to the public until 72 hours before his arrival -- but the job Oswald held gave him solitary access to the window commanding the route … Life, Memorial Edition.

The Murder. Meanwhile Oswald continued working at the warehouse. On 11/6 Pierre Salinger disclosed Kennedy's Dallas date: 11/22. On the night of Thursday, 11/21, Oswald stayed at the Paine house in Irving a departure from his routine of weekend visits. He went to bed early. Next morning the Dallas Morning News published a map showing the route of the presidential motorcade. On the same morning, Oswald got a ride to work with a neighbor, Wesley Frazier. Time, p. 33b, The Man Who Killed Kennedy.

.... Shaken (after the 10/24 incident) Stevenson told presidential adviser Arthur M. Schlesinger there was "a mood of unpredictable madness" in Dallas and asked that the President reconsider his trip. A few days later Stevenson called Schlesinger back and said he had changed his mind: a cancellation of the trip would be too obvious a slap in the city's face.

Nothing changed. Schlesinger had not relayed the first warning. Two presidential advance men flew to Texas from Washington to complete arrangements for the visit. The Secret Service inspected and approved the parade route -- including the car-slowing curve in the highway lying under the windows of the Texas School Book Depository.

... The President's route was not released to the public until 72 hours before his arrival -- but the job Oswald held gave him solitary access to the windows commanding the route.
The fact that Oswald apparently decided to take a particular job in a particular building on the chance it might lead to a shot at the President stretches the credulity of any rational observer. But Oswald was not rational and the incredible may have seemed commonplace to his fixed-focus mind. We will never know what went on in that mind, Ruby saw to that. Life, End to Nagging Rumors, by Paul Mandel

12/7/63 Dallas, Dec. 6 - Three days before the President's visit here, it was officially announced that his automobile would pass that building ... New York Times, Joseph A. Loftus

12/8/63 Undated feature - ....Through a chance conversation of Mrs. Paine's he [Oswald] learned of a job opening at a school book warehouse. This, as it turned out, was a perfect spot to fire at the President as his cavalcade sped by. But it wasn't known until three days before his visit that the President would travel this route. Oswald had begun work in October ...

1/1/64 … The sun glared through the din as the motorcade went down Main Street at 10 or 15 miles an hour. …

The schedule makers looked anxiously at their watches. It was now almost 12:30, the time the motorcade was due at the Trade Mart. Obviously, things were not running according to plan. The Torch is Passed, p. 11

1/1/64 That morning five workmen had been laying down plywood flooring on the sixth floor of the book building. … The crew knocked off for lunch at noon. This was the start of the regular 45-minute lunch break and, besides, everyone wanted to go downstairs when the President was due to pass about 12:25. The Torch is Passed, p. 12

1/1/64 [On 11/26] the White House announced that President Kennedy would visit Texas. The Torch is Passed, p. 66

2/21/64 On the morning of Tuesday, the 19th, the Dallas News announced the route of President Kennedy's motorcade. On his way to the Dallas Trade Mart ... the President would pass directly by the Texas School Book Depository. On Wednesday the papers announced that Kennedy and his wife would arrive at Love Field from Fort Worth at 11:35, tour the downtown area and arrive at the Trade Mart at 12:30 p.m. This meant that the motorcade would pass the school book building at about 12:25, in the middle of Lee Oswald's 45-minute lunch period. Life, p. 78

9/64 … the route of the Kennedy procession was changed [to go in front of the depository] only at the last minute by the Secret Service upon the advice of the local police and the FBI. The Realist, Paul Krassner, Route attributing to Mark Lane speaking at Cafe Au Go Go, NY, "this month"

9/64 The President's route for his drive through Dallas was widely known and was printed in the Dallas Morning News on 11/22. At the last minute the Secret Service changed a small part of their plans so that the President left Main Street and turned into
Oswald, Route

Houston and Elm Streets. This alteration took the President past the book depository building from which it is alleged that Oswald shot him. How Oswald is supposed to have known of this change, has never been explained. Why was the President's route changed at the last minute to take him past Oswald's place of work? The Minority of One, p. 6, 16 Questions on the Assassination, Bertrand Russell

9/26/63

Kennedy To Visit Texas Nov. 21-22, Jackson Hole, WY - White House sources told The Dallas News exclusively Wednesday night [9/25] that President Kennedy will visit Texas Nov. 21 and 22. ... The final White House decision to make the trip to Texas came late Tuesday[9/24] night, these sources said. Although specific details have not been worked out, it was considered likely that the President will visit Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and Fort Worth. ...

[Dallas Times-Herald, 9/13, mentions projected JFK visit to Dallas, no date given; CE 1366. Times-Herald and Dallas Morning News, both of 11/19, give details of motorcade route through Dallas - Main, Houston, Elm, Stemmons; CE 1362, 1363.] Dallas Morning News, Robert E. Baskin [CE 1368, Hearings XXII, p. 620]

9/24/64

Although publicity concerning the President's trip to Dallas appeared in Dallas newspapers as early as 9/13/63, the planning of the motorcade route was not started until after 11/4, when the Secret Service was first notified of the trip. A final decision as to the route could not have been reached until 11/14, when the Trade Mart was selected as the luncheon site. Although news reports on 11/15 and 11/16 might have led a person to believe that the motorcade would pass the Depository Building, the route was not finally selected until 11/18; it was announced in the press on 11/19, only 3 days before the President's arrival. Warren Report, p. 247/3

12/6/64

Des Moines, IA - Newton T. Fisher, deputy chief of police at Dallas, TX, 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. ..."

… 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.

"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. AP, 10:44 pcs

Was Main St. one of the alternate routes, and published by mistake in Dallas Morning News, 11/22? (Joesten - Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy?)