

BY SAUL PETT

AP SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT (PMS BUDGET)

WASHINGTON, SEPT. 28 (AP)-WHAT WAS HE THINKING AS HE LOOKED DOWN AND ADMIRER HIS HANDIWORK?

ONE EYEWITNESS TOLD THE WARREN COMMISSION THAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ASSASSIN PAUSED IN THE SIXTH FLOOR WINDOW OF THE TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY AFTER FIRING THE SHOTS.

"HE DREW THE GUN BACK FROM THE WINDOW AS THOUGH HE WAS DRAWING IT BACK TO HIS SIDE," THE WITNESS SAID, "AND MAYBE PAUSED FOR ANOTHER SECOND AS THOUGH TO ASSURE HISSELF (SIC) THAT HE HIT HIS MARK, AND THEN HE DISAPPEARED."

WONDERING ABOUT ANOTHER MAN'S MIND IS FUTILE BUT IRRESISTABLE, ESPECIALLY IN THE CASE OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD. WHAT DID HE THINK AND WHAT DID HE FEEL AS HE LOOKED DOWN AT THE PROFOUND TURMOIL HE HAD EXPLODED ON A DALLAS STREET AND A PAGE OF HISTORY?

DID THE MALCONTENT FEEL CONTENT AT LONG LAST? DID THE SULLEN LITTLE MAN WHO IMAGINED HIMSELF A "COMMANDER"--WHO, BEYOND HIS DREAM WORLD, NEVER ROSE HIGHER THAN PRIVATE FIRST CLASS, AND THAT NOT FOR LONG--DID HE GROW TALLER IN HIS COMMAND OF HISTORY? DID HE WONDER AT ALL ABOUT THE HIGH COST OF HIS CONTENTMENT, ABOUT THE HANDSOME HEAD HE HAD SHATTERED AND THE FAMILY AND THE COUNTRY HE HAD SHATTERED?

AND JOHN KENNEDY...HE KNEW HE HAD BEEN SHOT. HE WAS HEARD SAYING, "MY GOD, I AM HIT." AS HE WAS SLIPPING OFF THE LEDGE INTO THE OUTER DARKNESS, WAS THERE TIME TO KNOW ANYTHING ELSE? THIS PRACTITIONER OF ELEGANT REASON, THIS STUDENT OF IRONY, THIS MAN WHO HAD SURVIVED THE WAR AS A LIEUTENANT, THIS COMMANDER IN CHIEF NOW MORTALLY WOUNDED IN TIME OF PEACE, WAS HE SPARED SEEING THE LAST IRONIES?

EA43WX

JUST A FEW HOURS BEFORE, HE HAD TOLD AN AIDE: ANYBODY WHO WANTED TO SHOOT A PRESIDENT COULD, SIMPLY BY FIRING WITH A TELESCOPIC RIFLE FROM A HIGH BUILDING. AND THEN HE WAS RIDING IN THE MOTORCADE AND THE GREAT CROWD WAS CHEERING HIM AND HE AGREED WITH THE WIFE OF THE GOVERNOR OF TEXAS THAT DALLAS APPARENTLY DID LIKE HIM. AND NOW IT WAS 12:30 P.M., AND IT WAS DONE, WITH A TELESCOPIC RIFLE FROM A HIGH BUILDING.

AND JACQUELINE KENNEDY...THIS WOMAN OF GRACE, THIS STUDENT OF BEAUTY, SAW THE ULTIMATE UGLINESS. SHE SAW HIM STRUCK, SHE REACHED FOR THE CRUSHED HEAD, SHE CRIED OUT: "OH, MY GOD, THEY HAVE SHOT MY

HUSBAND. I LOVE YOU, JACK."

AND THEN SHE CRIED, "WHAT ARE THEY DOING TO YOU?"

AND, APPARENTLY NUMBED WITH SHOCK, SHE BEGAN TO CLIMB OVER THE BACK OF THE CAR. TOWARD WHAT? OR FROM WHAT? TO THE SECRET SERVICE AGENT, WHO PUSHED HER BACK, IT APPEARED SHE WAS "REACHING FOR SOMETHING COMING OFF THE RIGHT REAR BUMPER, THE RIGHT REAR TAIL, WHEN SHE NOTICED THAT I WAS TRYING TO CLIMB ON THE CAR. SHE TURNED TOWARD ME AND I GRABBED HER AND PUT HER BACK IN THE BACK SEAT..."

AND MANY WEEKS LATER, THE WIDOW OF THE PRESIDENT TOLD THE WARREN COMMISSION SHE HAD NO RECOLLECTION OF CLIMBING ONTO THE BACK OF THE CAR. IN THIS FORGETTING, DID SHE FIND THE ONE MERCY YIELDED HER BY NOV. 22, 1963?"

WE350AED&