

Tex. Driver Shocked by Breakage

DALLAS, July 7 (UPI)—Patrolman Jim Bryan, driving the last car in Vice President Ford's motorcade, said the shattering of his car window Saturday came as a shock. He said his immediate reaction was that the automobile was under fire.

"We just thought we were receiving gunfire at the time," said Bryan. "This is why we did pick up the radio and signal the lead car. At the time it shocked everyone in the car and scared us."

Bryan, 25, a Texas Department of Public Safety officer, was in the car with a Dallas police officer and a Secret Service agent when the window shattered, apparently from a rock or because of heat.

"It kind of blew up in my face and we sped up and closed ranks," he said.

He said in the back of his mind was the assassination of President Kennedy, which occurred a few miles away, but there was no time to think

about it.

"There wasn't that much time. We continued on with the motorcade and provided security on the back side of the motorcade.

"We were determined not to let any vehicles in the motorcade."

Within seconds of the incident, officers moved into a nearby construction site to look for any possible sniper.

"We looked over several pieces of construction equipment and in a construction trailer," said Dallas Police Capt. John Driscoll.

The door was locked but we looked inside anyway in case a sniper was hiding in there. We didn't find anybody. There was just no place to hide. A projectile of any kind would have had to come from straight on to make that kind of hole."

No sniper was seen by police or by a Secret Service agent in a helicopter directly over the motorcade, although a second helicopter immediately flew to the scene to assist in the search.

A check of Bryan's car, after he completed the drive to the World Trade Center where Ford spoke later in the day, showed no trace of a bullet.