

FARMINGDALE, N.Y., NOV. 1 (AP)--A MAN SITTING IN A CAR PARKED ALONG PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S MOTORCADE ROUTE--WITH A TELESCOPIC RIFLE ON THE FLOOR AND A SHOTGUN IN THE TRUNK, BOTH UNLOADED--GAVE AUTHORITIES A SCARE YESTERDAY.

SUFFOLK COUNTY DETECTIVE CHIEF ORAY EDWARDS SAID POLICE CHECKED OUT AND BELIEVE THE MAN'S STORY THAT HE WAS FULFILLING A BOAST TO TAVERN ACQUAINTANCES THAT HE COULD SIT THERE WITH HIS GUN AND NOT BE SPOTTED.

BUT HE WAS.

TWO DETECTIVES DECIDED TO CHECK ON THE MAN, IDENTIFIED AS ROBERT E. BABCOCK, 39, OF BLUE POINT, LONG ISLAND, AFTER NOTICING THAT HE WAS ALONE IN THE CAR WHEREAS OTHER VEHICLES PARKED ALONG THE PRESIDENTIAL ROUTE WERE GENERALLY FILLED WITH FAMILIES, EDWARDS SAID.

BABCOCK WAS PICKED UP JUST EIGHT MINUTES BEFORE PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S BUBBLE-TOP LIMOUSINE--WITH THE TOP CLOSED--CAME OUT OF THE REPUBLIC AVIATION CORP. GATE AND HEADED WEST DOWN CONKLIN STREET, EDWARDS SAID.

HE SAID BABCOCK'S CAR WAS PARKED ALONG CONKLIN STREET ABOUT 300 YARDS WEST OF THE GATE EXIT.

IN THE PRESIDENTIAL LIMOUSINE--THE SAME VEHICLE IN WHICH PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS ASSASSINATED IN DALLAS--WERE JOHNSON AND HIS WIFE, LADY BIRD; FORMER ATTY. GEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR THE U.S. SENATE IN NEW YORK, AND HIS WIFE, ETHEL; AND NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE EUGENE NICKERSON.

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EDWARDS SAID THE PRESIDENT'S AIR FORCE JET WAS LATE IN ARRIVING AT THE REPUBLIC AIRFIELD. HE SAID THIS WAS PROBABLY WHY JOHNSON DID NOT STOP AND GREET THE CROWD WAITING AT THE PLANT GATE, NOT BECAUSE OF THE DISCOVERY OF BABCOCK, A REPUBLIC EMPLOYEE.

THE DETECTIVE CHIEF SAID THE SECRET SERVICE WAS NOT EVEN AWARE AT THE TIME THAT BABCOCK HAD BEEN TAKEN INTO CUSTODY. HOWEVER, THE SECRET SERVICE DID QUESTION HIM LATER, THE OFFICER SAID.

AFTER VERIFICATION OF BABCOCK'S STORY WITH OTHER PATRONS OF THE LOCAL BAR WHERE HE HAD MADE HIS BOAST, HE WAS CHARGED WITH DISORDERLY CONDUCT, EDWARDS SAID.

IN FIRST DISTRICT COURT IN COMMAK TODAY, JUDGE VICTOR J. ORGERA ORDERED BABCOCK SENT TO CENTRAL ISLIP STATE HOSPITAL FOR OBSERVATION.

ALBERT E. WHITAKER, SECRET SERVICE AGENT IN CHARGE IN NEW YORK, SAID THERE WAS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN BABCOCK'S APPREHENSION AND THE FACT THAT JOHNSON'S CAR MADE NO STOPS IN NASSAU COUNTY WHILE EN ROUTE TO MANHATTAN. THE REPUBLIC PLANT IS IN SUFFOLK COUNTY JUST OVER THE NASSAU LINE.

THE PRESIDENT SPOKE AT A DEMOCRATIC RALLY IN MADISON SQUARE GARDEN LAST NIGHT.

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