

Kennedy's Assassination Reconstructed in Dallas

PAGE 17
Monday, May 25, 1964
San Francisco Chronicle

is in the jail that nightclub operator Jack Ruby is confined for the November 24 slaying of Oswald. A jury has sentenced him to death in the electric chair.

Associated Press

Dallas

Federal agents spent seven hours yesterday painstakingly reconstructing the Dallas motorcade scene in which President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

Cameras recorded the re-enactment for the Warren commission, charged with the November 22 assassination.

J. Lee Rankin, chief counsel for the commission, said agents were "just trying to check out some of the approximate positions and places of the car at the time of the shots."

WEAPON

Rankin said it was the most extensive re-enactment since the slaying, surpassing a similar reconstruction by the Secret Service shortly after the assassination.

"We wanted to be as accurate as we could in the reconstruction," Rankin said, revealing that what is regarded as the actual murder weapon was used in the simulated assassination.

A federal agent repeatedly poked the weapon through the sixth floor window of the Texas school book depository building from where police say Lee Harvey Oswald fired the fatal shots.

Scores of spectators watched Scores of spectators watched silently as a limousine containing four agents moved time and again along the motorcade route in front of the depository.

PATCH

The popping of the rifle bolt could be heard above the din of the traffic, rerouted from the assassination site from 6 a. m. until 1 p. m.

The FBI agent sitting in the simulated death seat of the limousine bore a chalk mark on the back of his coat where the first bullet entered the President's body. A patch was placed at a spot on the

back of his head to indicate where the fatal bullet struck.

A second agent, posing as Governor John Connally, wore the same suit Connally was wearing when he was seriously wounded. The bullet hole in the coat was circled in chalk.

PICTURES

A Dallas county survey team, performing its third reconstruction, sought to establish the exact location of the car when each of the three shots was fired. Secret Service and FBI agents, working with still pictures from

motion pictures taken by an amateur photographer November 22, attempted to recreate the scene as closely as possible.

Several cameras — including one mounted on the murder weapon—filmed the re-enactment from various angles. The participants remained in contact by radio.

Among observers of the bizarre scene were occupants of the Dallas county jail, who appeared from time to time at bar-covered windows overlooking the street leading into the triple underpass. It

SEE X P 24 MAY
326 PCS