28 Sept. 1964

5.15 ACS

B29

(390)

REPORT - CONNALLY

BY BARRY SCHWEID

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON, SEPT. 28 (AP)-NEWLY CONSCIOUS AND SEVERELY WOUNDED, GOV. JOHN B. CONNALLY TRIED TO GET OUT OF THE WAY WHEN THE LIMOUSINE REACHED PARKLAND HOSPITAL SO PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY COULD BE HELPED FIRST.

"ALTHOUGH HE WAS RECLINING IN HIS WIFE'S ARMS, HE LURCHED FORWARD IN AN EFFORT TO STAND UPRIGHT AND GET OUT OF THE CAR, BUT HE COLLAPSED AGAIN," THE WARREN COMMISSION SAID OF THE TEXAS GOVERNOR'S ACTION AT THE HOSPITAL'S EMERGENCY ENTRANCE.

"THEN HE EXPERIENCED HIS FIRST SENSATION OF PAIN, WHICH BECAME EX-CRUCIATING."

THE BULLET WHICH WOUNDED CONNALLY IN FOUR PLACES AS HE SAT IN THE JUMP SEAT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL LIMOUSINE HAD PASSED THROUGH THE PRESI-DENT FIRST, THE COMMISSION FOUND.

THEN IT WENT THROUGH THE GOVERNOR'S BACK, CHEST, RIGHT WRIST AND LEFT THIGH.

IN A SPLIT SECOND HE SURMISED AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT WAS UNDER WAY.

"MY GOD, THEY'RE GOING TO KILL US ALL," HE CRIED AS BLOOD SPREAD ACROSS HIS CHEST;

HIS WIFE, NELLIE, WHO SAT BESIDE HIM HELD THE GOVERNOR'S HEAD IN HER LAP. "IT'S ALL RIGHT," SHE SAID. "BE STILL."

WR

AS THE LIMOUSINE SPED TO THE HOSPITAL, CONNALLY LOST CONSCIOUSNESS, BUT HE REGAINED IT WHEN THE CAR STOPPED ABRUPTLY AT THE EMERGENCY ENTRANCE.

B30

IT WAS THEN, THE COMMISSION REPORTED, THAT "DESPITE HIS SERIOUS WOUNDS, GOVERNOR CONNALLY TRIED TO GET OUT OF THE WAY SO THAT MEDICAL HELP COULD REACH THE PRESIDENT."

CONNALLY WAS WAS TAKEN TO ONE "TRAUMA ROOM" WHILE THE DYING PRESI-DENT WAS CARRIED TO ANOTHER. A SERIES OF OPERATIONS WAS PERFORMED ON THE GOVERNOR, WHOSE WOUNDS INCLUDED A COLLAPSED RIGHT LUNG.

STILL NOT COMPLETELY RECOVERED, THE GOVERNOR TOLD NEWSMEN IN AUSTIN LAST NIGHT THAT THE COMMISSION REPORT "BRINGS INTO FOCUS ALL THE MEMORIES AND FORCES ME TO RECALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE TRAGEDY--WHICH YOU TRY TO PUT OUT OF YOUR MIND."

"MRS. CONNALLY AND I DON'T TALK ABOUT IT," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID HIS RIGHT SIDE IS WEAK, HE HAS SOME DIFFICULTY IN RAISING HIS RIGHT ARM AND HIS RIGHT WRIST WILL NOT TURN FULLY.

"I HAVE TROUBLE WITH A FORK, SO I GENERALLY EAT CONTINENTAL STYLE, OR WITH MY LEFT HAND. I CAN'T TAKE CHANGE WITH MY RIGHT HAND . . . I THINK I WILL GET GREATER FLEXIBILITY WITH THE WRIST. I DON'T HAVE THE STAMINA I HAD BEFORE."

THE COMMISSION RULED OUT THE THEORY THAT CONNALLY, NOT PRESIDENT KENNEDY, MAY HAVE BEEN LEE HARVEY OSWALD'S REAL TARGET. THE GOVERNOR TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE AGREES. JF515ACS