

Millions Witness Shooting on TV

Television cameras Sunday gave millions of Americans eyewitness seats to the fatal shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald, the self-proclaimed Communist who had been charged with the assassination of President Kennedy.

The drama unfolded as Oswald, flanked by a protective guard of detectives, was being led from the police department garage in the basement of the city hall, to an armored car which was to transport him to the county jail where he was to await trial.

Questions Shouted

The shooting occurred when Oswald was being escorted down a cleared aisle packed on

both sides by swarms of newsmen shouting questions like:

"Did you shoot the president?"

"Why did you shoot the president?"

"Was anyone else in on the assassination?"

Staring ahead sullenly, Oswald ignored the questions as he was hustled along to the waiting armored car. The attack came as a complete surprise.

Leaps Over Railing

Viewers had just settled back to watch removal of the prisoner. Suddenly, a man wearing a dark gray hat, leaped over the railing and ran up to Oswald. There was a noise, Oswald slumped to the ground clutch-

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TELEVISION

Camera Shows Man Running Out of Garage

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ing his chest, and the attacker tried to leap on top of him.

The detectives grabbed frantically at the assailant and shouts began to ring out as the picture blurred into a flurry of movement.

"He's been shot," someone shouted.

"Watch out, he has a gun," was another shout.

As the cameras swung wildly about trying to follow the action, detectives and police officers could be seen moving in a crouch with guns drawn.

There was a rush of movement by detectives and officers back through the door from which Oswald had entered and it appeared obvious that Oswald had been dragged back to safety.

Assumed Gunman Loose

Newsmen and other officers who were not close to the actual shooting scene assumed that the gunman was loose, running around the crowded garage trying to make an escape.

It was not learned until later that the gunman, Jack Ruby, a Dallas night club owner, was caught almost immediately and dragged back through the same door as was Oswald.

The television cameras, meanwhile, were panning the crowded garage in an effort to pick up the action. One camera followed a man in civilian clothes with a drawn gun as he moved through the crowd. He apparently was a detective.

Running Man Shown

A split second later, the camera followed a man who was running wildly out of the garage. It could not be learned who that person was, but it is likely that it was a detective who wanted to seal the exit.

Several of the police officers had recognized the assailant and they were sought out immediately by newsmen who fired questions at them with bewildering speed. Most of the newsmen were interested in learning the identity of the gunman, what kind of gun he used, whether he was in custody and the like.

A woman reporter who was off camera asked one of the startled officers how Oswald had been dressed.

"I don't recall, ma'am," he answered.



OSWALD AND DETECTIVES LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD UNAWARE THAT JACK RUBY, GUN IN HAND, HAS MOVED IN TO SHOOT.



Anguish showed on the face of Lee Harvey Oswald (right) after he was shot in the stomach by a man identified by police as Jack Ruby (back to camera,

left). Ruby is reported to have leaped in front of Oswald as he was being led down a corridor of a Dallas police station to be transferred to the county jail.

—AP Wirephoto