

[PART 16]

Section 4 The Eyewitnesses

What was the reaction after the shots?

The Grassy Knoll Witnesses

The Unidentified Photographic Witness - The Babushka Lady

The Missing Photographic Evidence

Assassination witness/victim, Texas Governor John Connally

“All I know is what I saw from the knoll, and I defiantly saw the man shooting from the knoll.”

Norma Jean Lollis Hill, November 22, 1963

What was the reaction after the shots?

[Warning: This work constitutes an historic review of a brutal murder! Readers are advised that certain portions of this work may be disturbing to some individuals. If an individual is easily disturbed by this report they are advised to limit their viewing experience.]



The triple underpass photographed in 2015 looking west from Elm Street with Main Street seen on the left or center underpass. The Grassy Knoll is to the far right just coming into view of the photo.

A



B



C



A - Second sniper team's position view from the fence behind the Grassy Knoll. On November 22, 1963 the foliage would have been much less than shown in this image. Photo taken in 2015.

B/C - William Newman and wife Gayle covering their children as shots continue. Both of these people were looking towards the Grassy Knoll from where they had heard shots.

C



D



C - Witnesses rushing towards the Grassy Knoll where they heard/saw a gunman fire at the motorcade or saw gun smoke.
D - Same area photographed in 2015.



Witnesses rushing towards the Grassy Knoll



After taking cover from the shots the man runs to look behind the north pergola to the sounds of a shot. They were positioned just east of Zapruder and the Grassy Knoll.

E



F



G



E/F - Motorcade west of Dealey Plaza on Elm Street showing escort police not yet in the proper protective position AFTER Kennedy was shot, but still too far in front of the motorcade. In the background the Presidential limousine passes the unmarked white Ford.

G - Brain matter shown to have been blown back and to the left.

H



I



H - Dealey Plaza, November 1963 roped off during the investigation.

I - Dealey Plaza, November 1963 showing the three signs that would soon be removed in order to change the crime scene thus interfering with any investigation.

Dallas County Sheriff's Report by Deputy Sheriff Luke Mooney, November 23, 1963.

“I was standing in front of the Sheriff's office at 505 Main Street, Dallas, When President Kennedy and the motorcade passed by. Within a few seconds after he had passed me and the motorcade had turned the corner **I heard a shot and I immediately started running towards the front of the motorcade and within seconds heard a second and a third shot. I started running across Houston Street and down across the lawn to the triple underpass and up the terrace to the railroad yards.** I searched along with many other officers, this area, when Sheriff Bill Decker came up and told me and the officers Sam Webster and Billy Joe Victory to surround the Texas School Book Depository building.”

SAIC Special Agent in Charge Rufus W. Youngblood of Vice Presidential Detail
(Compare his actions with that of President Kennedy's 'security' detail.)

“The motorcade had just cleared the congested downtown area and made a right turn. I recall observing an illuminated clock sign on a building; the time was 12:30 p.m., which was the time we were due to be at the Trade Mart. The motorcade then made a left turn, and the sidewalk crowds were beginning to diminish in size. I observed a grassy plot to my right in back of the small crowd of bystanders on the sidewalk, some tall buildings, a downhill grade ahead where the street went under what appeared to be a railroad overpass. We were about two car lengths behind the Presidential follow-up car at this time. I heard an explosion; I was not sure whether it was a firecracker, bomb, bullet, or other explosion. I looked at whatever I could quickly survey, and could not see anything which would indicate the origin of this noise. I noticed that the movements in the Presidential car were very abnormal and, at practically the same time, the movements in the Presidential follow-up car were abnormal. **I turned in my seat and with my left arm grasped and shoved the Vice President, at his right shoulder, down and toward Mrs. Johnson and Senator Yarborough. At the same time, I shouted ‘get down!’** I believe I said this more than once and directed it to the Vice President and the other occupants of the rear seat. They all responded very rapidly. I quickly looked all around again and could see nothing to shoot at, so I stepped over into the backseat and sat on top of the Vice President. I sat in a crouched position and issued orders to the driver. During this time, I heard two more explosion noises and observed SA Hickey in the Presidential follow-up car poised on the car with the AR-15 rifle looking toward the buildings. **The second and third explosions made the same type of sound that the first one did as far as I could tell, but by this time I was of the belief that they definitely were shots – not bombs or firecrackers.** I am not sure that I was on top of the Vice President before the second shot – he says I was. All of the above related events, from the beginning at the sound of the first shot to the sound of the third shot, happened within a few seconds. In my crouched position, I observed the people on the streets to scatter; heard some shouts; saw the motorcade increase speed, and I knew we were making a rapid evacuation. I shouted to the driver to stick with them and stay close. We then began moving very fast. I then called on my portable radio, which I had with me, to the Vice Presidential follow-up car and ordered them to switch to ‘Charlie’ frequency. As I switched to ‘Charlie,’ I heard some transmission from the Presidential follow-up car. From fragments of what I heard and what I saw, I knew that the President had suffered injury. I could see an agent (who had previously run from the Presidential follow-up car, although I did not observe this when it happened) lying across the trunk turtle of the Presidential car above the President and Mrs. Kennedy. I heard enough radio transmission to know we were headed for a hospital. I could also see the agents in the Presidential follow-up car waving our car to come up close, and I told our driver to stay as close and go as fast as he could without having a wreck.” November 29, 1963

After the first sound of a shot or other loud bang Secret Service Agent Rufus W. Youngblood told the people in his vehicle to get down and he covered them with his body, as he was trained to do. President Kennedy's 'security' detail DID NOTHING!



Police officers rush to the Texas School Book Depository. At the time just after the murder, no one told the police officers to ignore the shots fired from the Grassy Knoll.



Warren Commission members visit the fence at the Grassy Knoll to investigate where the shots had been fired.

Conclusions:

- 1. Dozens of individuals ran to the direction of the shots that were fired at the motorcade towards both the Texas School Book Depository area and the Grassy Knoll.*
- 2. These eyewitnesses reacted to what they honestly saw or heard and were not involved in any later cover-up.*

[END PART 16]

R. Michael Gordon, 2021

[Next week: Part 16: The Grassy Knoll witnesses.]