

Police Officer H.B. McLain Testimony

HSCA Vol. V

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4.0.1.3

IDENTIFICATION OF WITNESS:

DPD Officer McLain was the officer who was sitting on the motorcycle in the position which the acoustics experts determined was the position from which the sounds in Dealey Plaza were recorded as a result of the "stuck" switch on the radio transmitter.

SUMMARY:

At the time of the assassination, DPD Officer McLain was assigned to ride as a solo escort motorcycle. He had been doing this type of police work for approximately eight years. With the aid of photographs of the motorcade and DPD documents regarding the police protection of the president, the Committee was able to determine that officer McLain was the driver of the motorcycle in question. The motorcycle was on Houston Street several car lengths behind the Presidential limousine as it turned in front of the TSBD. Officer McLain testified that he heard only one shot when he was approximately halfway between Main & Elm Streets on Houston Street. After he heard the shot he looked up the street and saw a flock of pigeons flying out from behind the TSBD. Immediately following the shot, the DPD chief announced over the radio that all officers should proceed to Parkland Hospital. McLain and his partner responded by speeding up. At this time, Officer McLain also recalled seeing Officer

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Hargis running up the grassy knoll. With respect to some acoustic-related questions, McLain testified that his radio was usually set on Channel 1, but he could not recall whether or not his radio was on Channel 1 during the assassination. He also did not speak on his radio while riding in the motorcade. McLain also confirmed that his radio had been "stuck" many times in the past.