

PRESIDENT ASSASSINATED

Kennedy Shot in Texas Motorcade



THE CASKET of the late President John F. Kennedy is lowered from a plane at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., as Mrs. Kennedy and Atty. Gen. Robert Kennedy look on.

DALLAS (AP) — A hidden gunman assassinated President Kennedy with a high-powered rifle yesterday.

Three shots reverberated. Blood sprang from the President's face. He fell face downward in the back seat of his car. His wife clutched his head and tried to lift it, crying, "Oh, No!"

Half an hour later, John F. Kennedy was dead and the United States had a new president, Lyndon B. Johnson.

Within the hour, police had arrested a 24-year-old man following the killing of a Dallas policeman. Homicide Capt. Will Fritz said last night witnesses had identified the man as slayer of the policeman. But Fritz said it had not been established that the man killed the President.

Suspect Named

He is Harvey Lee Oswald of Fort Worth, who four years ago said he was applying for Russian citizenship. He has a Russian wife.

Oswald denied that he had shot anybody. The assassination occurred just as the President's motorcade was leaving downtown Dallas at the end of a triumphal tour through the city's streets.

His special car—with the protective bubble down—was moving down an incline into an underpass that leads to a freeway route to the Dallas Trade Mart, where he was to speak.

Witnesses heard three shots. Two hit the President, one in the head and one in the neck.

The third shot wounded Gov. John B. Connally of Texas in the side but his condition was reported not critical.

As the gunfire rang in the street, a reporter in the caravan screamed, "My God, they're shooting at the President!"

The motorcade slowed and then sped forward at breakneck speed to Parkland Hospital near the Trade Mart.

Onlookers, terrified at the sight and sound of the assassination, dived face forward for protection onto a grassy park at the entrance of the underpass, fearing more shots. Police swarmed into the scene.

Motionless

At the hospital emergency entrance, AP reporter Jack Bell saw the President stretched out face down at full length, motionless on the back seat of the car. His suit still looked neat—but there was blood on the floor.

The shots were fired at 12:30 p.m. and the President died at 1 p.m. He was 46 and the youngest man ever elected president.

"Automatically," the mantle of the presidency fell to Vice

President Lyndon B. Johnson, a native Texan who had been riding two cars behind the chief executive.

Johnson was sworn in as President of the United States at about 2:39 p.m. CST. He took the oath of office aboard the presidential plane at Dallas' Love Field.

The Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Dallas police swung into action within seconds after the shooting and launched what was perhaps the biggest, determined manhunt in the nation's history.

Oswald Arrested

Oswald was arrested in a theatre four miles from the assassination site. He fled to the theatre after killing Dallas policeman J. D. Tippett, who stopped him on a street, police said.

The suspect admitted owning the pistol which killed Tippett but denied under intense questioning that he had any part in the assassination.

Police said other employees of the building from which the shooting occurred confirmed that Oswald was seen in the building at the time.

Funeral arrangements for Kennedy, whose body was flown to Washington yesterday in the plane which carried the new President, were announced by the White House last night.

Today, the body will be placed on view in the White House for members of the family and government officials.

Kennedy's body will be taken to the Capitol tomorrow, where it will be placed in the Rotunda for a public viewing.

The funeral will be held at St. Matthews Cathedral in Washington where a high mass will be celebrated at noon, and the body will be interred Monday afternoon in Brookline, Mass.

President Kennedy was riding in the lead car of what had been a triumphal motorcade when he was shot through the head and neck. In the same fusillade of shots, at about 12:30 p.m. CST, Gov. Connally was struck with three bullets—one each in the right arm, right leg and back.

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State, Pitt Cancel Game; Classes To Meet Today

President Eric A. Walker and University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Edward Litchfield announced last night that the football game scheduled for today between the two schools has been canceled "out of respect" for President John F. Kennedy.

A sellout crowd of 57,000 was expected to watch the contest, which has been rescheduled for Saturday, Dec. 7, in Pittsburgh.

Penn State will have an open date next week but Pitt will meet the Miami Hurricanes.

President Kennedy's assassination will have no effect on the schedule of today's classes, except that those of the Department of Speech have been dismissed.

There were no other official cancellations among the 32 departments contacted yesterday afternoon.

Dixon Johnson, director of the University public information department, said the University will probably follow whatever policy President Lyndon B. Johnson sets up regarding a national day of mourning.

Several of the college deans and department heads said until President Eric A. Walker makes a declaration of University policy, all classes and functions will proceed as usual.

The Hetzel Union Social Committee announced the cancellation of Nickelodeon Night as a result of the President's death.

A spot check of the University's 14 Commonwealth campuses yesterday indicated a pattern of cancellations of social events following the news of President Kennedy's death.

None of the four campuses contacted, however, said classes will be canceled officially today.

Jay L. Chronister, dean of student affairs at McKeesport campus, said the news of the President's death "has put a damper on the Pitt game."

McKeesport students canceled a bonfire and pep rally, scheduled for last night, in support of the Nittany Lions.

Ill Ball Canceled

Kenneth M. Bailey, dean of student affairs at the Ogontz campus, said that campus' military ball set for tonight, has been canceled.

"It has not yet been decided whether or when the military ball will be rescheduled," Bailey said.

An Ogontz faculty meeting last night was also canceled.

No classes at Ogontz were canceled on an official basis yesterday although individual professors did cancel their classes.

"Classes will be held tomorrow (today) in the view that the business of the nation must be carried forward," Bailey said.

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U.S., World Mourn with First Family

Reactions to the President's death yesterday in the immediate family and from leaders all over the world took the form of shock and sorrow.

A stunned Senate adjourned until noon Monday after a prayer by its chaplain. The House was not in session.

The President's younger brother, Sen. Edward M. (Ted) Kennedy, D-Mass., was presiding over the Senate when he received word of the shooting.

Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, the President's other brother and closest adviser, was having lunch at home when word of his brother's shooting reached him. He met his sister-in-law, Jacqueline Kennedy, at the airport when she arrived from Dallas.

Edward Kennedy has flown to Boston with his sister Eunice Shriver, to comfort their parents.

Speaker of the House John McCormack, who is now second in line to the Presidency, remarked: "It is a staggering loss."

Around the World

From Soviet Premier Khrushchev came an immediate expression of sympathy to Mrs. Kennedy; he is sending an official message to the people of the United States.

French President Charles De Gaulle also expressed his sorrow, as did British Prime Minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home in private messages to the Kennedy family.

President De Gaulle said, "President Kennedy will never be forgotten," and pledged the friendship and support of the French people to President Johnson.

West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard, who was to come to Washington tomorrow to confer with President Kennedy, immediately canceled his travel plans, but later said he hoped to attend the funeral.

In West Berlin, over 25,000 Germans staged a mass torch light parade in memory of the President.

In most of the European capitals, radio and television broadcasts were interrupted

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FIVE CENTS

Campus Reacts with Shock To Kennedy's Assassination

Reactions of the administration, faculty and students to President Kennedy's assassination ranged from shock and disbelief to discussion of former Vice President Johnson's capabilities as chief executive.

No one displayed concern for the fate of Texas Gov. John Connally.

President Eric A. Walker said, "We are all stunned by the assassination of President Kennedy and there is nothing that can be said to lessen the shock and sadness we feel."

R. Wallace Brewster, professor of political science said, "It will take us Americans and our friends all over the world a long time to adjust to the cold fact that he is no longer at the helm."

M. Nelson McGeary, assistant to President Walker, said "... a tremendous loss to the nation ... we can merely hope and pray that President Johnson can receive the cooperation needed to carry us on."

Solemn Groups
Meanwhile, students all over campus stood in nervous, solemn groups, commenting on the tragedy of the event. In the Hetzel Union Building the jukebox was still. About 15 or 20 students were seen clustered about a transistor radio near the lowered flag of Old Main.

"I am deeply sorry as I am sure the whole student body is ... This is certainly a sad day for our nation and the world," commented George Jackson, president of the Undergraduate Student Government. Senior Class President Ralph Wise said, "... this will be felt throughout the country and the world. It's tragic."

Paul McPherson, chairman of the Young Republican Club said "I would like to express our grief ... and extend our sympathies to his (Kennedy's) family ..." Vicki Caplan, president of the Association of Women Students, commented that she was "extremely upset."

First Reaction

The first reaction of many students was one of disbelief. "We'd all been joking about it because we couldn't believe it was true," Robert Kok (4th-secondary education-Blairsville) commented. "I can't believe it could happen in a country like this," Judith Rost (5th-elementary education-Teaneck, N.J.) said.

Almost everyone expressed shock and despair. Voices were hushed; comments were simple and direct.

"It's a hell of a thing," James (Continued on page four)



VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON is sworn in as President of the United States by Federal District Judge Sarah T. Hughes. His wife Lady Bird (left) and Mrs. John F. Kennedy are present.

THE UNIVERSITY'S flag stands at half mast at the news of the President's death.