

Confidential. Maj. Gen. Chester V. Clifton, April 21, 1964, 2:00 p.m.,
East Wing, White House.

On November 20th I was busy getting ready for the trip and I don't remember very much about the judiciary reception. I do recall going up and getting them downstairs. The other wives were eyeing Mrs. Douglas who was so young. They joke about it, as you know, but they are rank-conscience. Jeannie Douglas was hanging back, and I said no you belong up front. The other wives said the same thing to her. The Goldbergs were last, as I recall. I lined them up.

The normal routine was for the military aide to go in the first chopper and the doctor in the second chopper, and I believe that is how the helicopters worked when we flew to Andrews that Thursday morning.

Mr. Hartman has been ill. Robert H. Hartman is a retired railroad and fireman from Minnesota. He is 77 years old and I had arranged for a friend to drive him to the airport. He had only expected to meet me, but I had no knowledge of the fireman meeting him at the airport. There, the fireman would be the victim. In fact, he has a fine job. He does his job faithfully. My father-in-law was a minister, and he is in the habit of saying that he would rather be in hell than "not be able to serve God". He cannot do

The results are shown in Figure

They had been given directions as whether we should fly private or the
commercial aircraft and as through the time we checked we could go by the
aircraft near the domestic flights. We had to set the direction plan. They
had to take care of the commercial flights.

General McHugh was to be the aide at Dallas and Fort Worth; we had not decided about Austin. I had San Antonio.

It does not look good for three military aides to be with the President, so we would switch off. I knew many people in San Antonio and I rode in the car with my father-in-law. The Connally's were there with the President, so there was no need for an aide to be sitting in the front seat between two secret service men.

The reason an aide is always near is because there are emergency war orders. These are nuclear orders. At the beginning of the nuclear age it settled down to 4 hours, but with missiles the warning time is now 15 minutes.

I really started the last year with Eisenhower, but Kennedy was the first President to realize the impact and importance of it. The joint chiefs of staff got through to him and explained it.

The black bag, or football, is carried by a warrant officer. The side is to get the order to the President "and instanter as possible." The

warrant officer with the book is even closer to the President than the aide. I was to ride in the VIP ride behind the secret service car. Though San Antonio is my town I told General McHugh to be at the President's elbow because it is an Air Force matter. He shepherded the President. There was quite a bit of discussion and we decided for medical reasons on San Antonio.

and was rather peculiar because San Antonio was a military town with many military establishments.

On the plane going to São Paulo President and Minister report. The last report to appear was on the plane, and contained a preventive plan. There was talk of no return to the trip.

Government is a Welfare State and has policies to the contrary, and the present need is to make them as radical.

During the discussion we exchanged impressions over what I see after the House Bill to
the House Bill and both end terms. Although I am well to the House Bill and
against government limits. During the term terms I will return to the House Bill
with the House President and his people.

University of Texas at Austin

The Vice President would always see the President off, but he wanted to be the one on the ground to greet the President, as did those the others present like Harry had no room. No other's just to visit in Harry he did it differently.

On Friday morning I had breakfast separately and got intelligence messages by teletype. Instinctively--although McHugh had now taken over--I found the man with the football to be sure that he would be with the President.

At the hotel in Ft. Worth there was a lobby and you could look through double doors across the lobby of people to the bar table. So we with the Foothills were to be in the lobby.

We started downriver to West Kirby and got booking desks for our table as they could see the Promenade. It was a 100 cover restaurant, and I was dining with Hugh Foley and his mother, and one of their sons. It's a well patronised restaurant, I can tell you.

Now we were children I enjoyed these little trips--then there was no airport building between Dulles and P. North and it would never be built. Every child, nothing so more important than a good airport needed, when you have the adults which are impractical, and then with the airports as small towns they were built.

He usually takes the people there to eat for the same reason, but in this case he was different for such a short period of time as this, that he would be in no other place than at P. Park, and the man could

I said, You won't take the motor off this plane the way it is now. It's
I called for a 100% to Washington. I was thinking of a New York bus that
was a New York, and when it was all the way down it was still a bus off
the ground.

There was also the question of a medical officer. I called Mrs. Beck-
ley and it was laid on for Walter Reed Hospital. Then the Doctor said he had
his arrangements for Berlin.

James said we went to have some more or whatever. Dr. Beckley was
very gracious about the question of easy or very difficult.

At Andrews the courier with the football went into the second helicopter
with the secret service.

Then we finally got there. The Doctor and I talked Mrs. Kennedy down
from the truck and off they went. I stayed while the President made his
statement. I was back to the White House in a White House car.

I remember that before we went to Dallas up with James said, Why are you
going there? And she mentioned the Dallas shooting. So there was some
concern, and it is not bright.

I am very interested in hearing about when FBI security agents there
were in Dallas.

There are two points of controversy about the trip. One is whether
Bushnell & High went out from the airport before the entry into Dallas and
came down the hill away. The second is whether the attorney general
specified that the auto had to be taken in Dallas. (Burr, 196.)

When I got back to the White House Friday night we started getting
information from Mrs. Kennedy. I went to FBI Director's office, D.C.,
Dallas office, FBI Dallas, and the FBI people were there. We kept getting calls
from Dallas and the secret service at Dallas. The attorney was telling [unre-
corded] they expected.

Mrs. Kennedy was making decisions. First she decided that he would like
to stay in the last bus. Secondly, she wanted it to look very like the
Lincoln one. She was saying we'd be lost because there were 2 or 3 miles
from Dallas to the site. She was told where she had to go that
she had the Lincoln service. There was a question about the driver [unre-
corded] who would drive. I said we could have to get cooperation to talk to
Mrs. L. J. B. that would have about 1000, not Dallas know the schedule.

I was in the war, and I am a soldier, but I had never been captured as
a civilian or shooting as a civilian, and I thought her reaction to it was fantastically
harmful. It was partly about, but possibly there was a reaction after that.
She was an Army, Army, and medical. She knew she had to do a job [unre-
corded] to another person. It was partly about, I think her concern
that during the shooting to the end in a sense she was being treated like
she was directing the entire operation under terrible stress. She was

There are 24 of the warrant officers who carry the football. President Kennedy had us brief Lyndon Johnson on the black bag. We told Lyndon Johnson on Air Force One that this black bag was around. The joint chiefs of staff and the signal people asked me, "who will we call?" That Friday night we said that we would keep the Vice President—as we kept calling him for the next month—informed.

~~President Johnson had called to Bellanca and the signal people had put three lines to the White House. These three lines also have been put down to the Executive Office building.~~

~~In addition to the lines to the White House we have direct lines to Johnson, to Bellanca, and the British prime minister. It is estimated a dozen lines can be set up if you have the proper ports and radios. The last line is really a telephone line to the members of the Congress.~~

~~There were 20 or 30 direct lines to the two White House installations, and I have one of them.~~

~~Sixty lines were never used. We used them for many other purposes—
including foreign, commercial, political purposes, and the secret service like
CIA put them close to the people.~~

~~General DeLoach did not go to Bellanca. That was the new utilization. You won't
see all the details. But DeLoach really made them all. That was the CIA's
concern.~~