

# Dallas Ambulance Driver Describes Frantic Moments Following Shooting

**EDITORS NOTE:**  
Ambulance driver Aubrey Rike, 25, and his partner, Dennis McGuire, had just delivered an emergency patient to Parkland Hospital in Dallas when President Kennedy, an assassin's bullet through his brain, was rushed into the hospital. This is his story.

**By AUBREY RIKE**  
As Told To United Press International  
DALLAS (UPI) — "We had just brought our patient in and were at the emergency desk at the hospital when these two men came in. One was carrying a briefcase and the other a big rifle. It looked like a machine-gun to me."  
"The one with the brief case yelled, 'we need some stretchers right now.' The one with the gun said, 'all right, everybody clear out of here.'"  
"I looked up and the first man I saw coming in was Vice President Johnson. From the way he was walking and because he was so pale, I thought he had suffered another heart attack."  
"They brought in Governor Connally. I recognized his face. His chest and stomach were covered with blood and I knew immediately he had been shot. There was too much blood for a stabbing and it was too localized for an auto accident."

"Then they wheeled in this stretcher with a man's body on it. His head was covered, but I recognized Mrs. Kennedy. She was running alongside the stretcher, holding onto it and crying. I knew then the President had been shot."  
"When the emergency room quieted down, they had us bring our patient back, then we took him to general medicine. That's when the call came over the loudspeaker for us to report immediately to our ambulance."  
"We rushed back to the ambulance and there was a man in a suit and carrying a gun, there with a Dallas policeman. They told us to stay with the ambulance, not to leave and not to talk to anyone."  
"They said we might be needed to rush a patient to another hospital."  
"After a while, Mr. (Vernon) Oneal (funeral home owner) drove up in a hearse with a casket. We took the casket into the room where the President's body was. He was covered with a sheet."  
"We waited while priests prayed and gave the last rites or something. Then Mrs. Kennedy came in."  
"She looked at us and smiled, and started pulling on her ring finger. After a minute, she went across, lifted the sheet and put the ring on his finger. She was crying."

# Khrushchev May Seek Early Meet With LBJ

LONDON (UPI)—Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev may seek an early personal meeting with President Johnson, high Communist diplomats said here Saturday.  
The Soviet leader was reported most anxious to make sure that the diplomatic channel between Moscow and Washington remains open and the "dialogue" with the West continues under the Johnson administration.  
Khrushchev was reported deeply perturbed that Kennedy's death could signal a change of U.S. strategy. He had come to respect the late President and to realize he meant business.  
Khrushchev apparently is worried about Johnson's policy line.

Diplomats recalled here the Soviet leader's blunt reaction when he first met Johnson during his visit to the United States. The Soviet leader greeted him by saying: "I do not know you, but I have read all your speeches and I do not like any of them."  
At the same time, European leaders of the Western Alliance were seeking an early chance for a conference with the new President to align allied and cold war policies.  
America's European allies, including Britain, are agitated by a sense of uncertainty over the future course of the defense a sense of uncertainty over the future course of the defense alignment and the international scene.

# Johnson Completely Recovered From 1955 Heart Attack

NEW YORK (UPI) — President Lyndon B. Johnson has completely recovered from the heart attack he suffered eight years ago and will be a vigorous healthy chief executive, according to heart specialists here.

They pointed to the active life Johnson has led since his months-long recuperation in 1955, including the 1960 election campaign as President Kennedy's running mate.

"You could have no better proof of his complete recovery," said one professor of medicine who for reasons of medical ethics spoke anonymously. He and other specialists deferred to Johnson's own physician, Dr. J. Willis Hurst of Emory University, Atlanta, who was en route from New York to Washington.

They could speak of what medical science knows in general about recoveries from heart attacks. Each week, each month and each year the victim survives his personal disaster, his heart muscle is healing itself and ridding itself of scar tissue.

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not interfere with healthy heart function, they said. In the unanimous opinion of three specialists, a man who has had a complete recovery of years-long duration can face up to the most exacting tasks, including that of being president.

They pointed to the example of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who suffered a heart attack during his first term, went on to win re-election and still is vigorously healthy.

To be sure, the man who has had one heart attack has demonstrated "susceptibility," one specialist said. But, after he has recovered, this "susceptibility" can be minimized to zero by proper living.

**A FULL HOUSE**  
LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Joseph and Vivian Clark, who have 10 children of their own ranging in age from 2 to 17 and are expecting still another, adopted a 10-month-old boy Tuesday.

Johnson's physician, Dr. Hurst, has told colleagues that his patient "has devoted himself unstintingly to his recovery." At the time of his attack he weighed well over 200 pounds. Now his weight is around 180 pounds which is considered an "optimum" weight for a man who is six feet three inches tall with heavy bone structure.

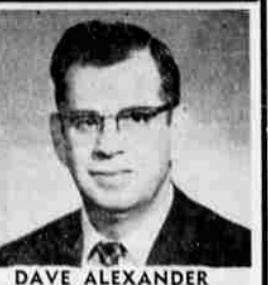
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layman's idea that a sudden emotional shock — such as the assassination of a beloved superior and being elevated in a flash into the nation's highest office — was "bad for the heart."

It is not "bad" for the healthy heart, they said. The healthy heart adjusts itself to all the situations of living without any damage to itself. They were convinced on the evidence



DAVE ALEXANDER

available to them that Johnson has a healthy heart since his attack occurred on July 2, 1955, and he has had many shocks since then, even though none could be in any way comparable to the shock he had Friday.

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