

September 30, 1975

POOL REPORT #2O'Hare Field to the Conrad Hilton.

At the time the President's car was stopped, the Secret Service immediately surrounded it. The cars at the immediate head of the motorcade were kept separated from the traffic in front, which was pushed on ahead by what I assume to be embarrassed police.

The President did not get out. Senator Percy said afterward they did not discuss the stop. They were busy talking about other things, and the President didn't seem to be paying any attention.

They were talking about the fact the traffic was stopped. There were really no people along the roadway at that point. The newsmen in the pool cars constituted the crowd, along with the security agents and Don Rumsfeld, who immediately was visible up by the limousine.

There was no crowd across the street. As he pulled around the corner here, a handful is probably a pretty good description. There was a barricade. I did see some television lights pointing our way, so there were some cameras back there. It was nothing compared to the people in front. There were maybe 25 or 50 people behind that barricade.

This is a rear corner entrance. It is not a public entrance at all. You would have to go back and look, but I don't think there were any windows in the door. It was kind of a service entrance, was my impression. The stairway inside was not carpeted or anything. It was certainly convenient, but it was certainly most unusual for the arrival of the President.

It was up a stairway, maybe one flight, and directly into the corner of that ballroom. You can't argue with the fact it was the most convenient entrance. It was. You saw the crowds along the way. I don't know whether you could hear or not, but as we would go by, relatively close to the limousine, there was cheering at numerous points along the way.

I don't know which ramp it was. We asked our driver, and we were all confused. All I know is we did not use another ramp getting on to the John F. Kennedy. We may have been just over Kennedy, but we were through the last exit entrance when it happened.

-- Steve Bell, ABC