known to have given statements or affidavits on November 22 and
November 23 about the origin of the shots. Twenty-two said they
believed that the shots came from the knoll.\textsuperscript{23}

Ninety-two out of 124 witnesses affirmed, either explicitly or
by the direction in which they ran or looked, that the knoll, and
not the Book Depository Building, was where the shots came
from. Fifty-eight witnesses in all stated that the shots came from
the knoll, while 34 others are known to have run toward the knoll
or directed their attention there at the moment the shots rang out.
The Commission and its investigative agents failed to ask 21 of
these where they thought the shots came from. By the time the
remaining 13 were questioned, each said he was unsure of or
could not tell the direction of the shots.\textsuperscript{24}

Except for Lee Bowers, who surveyed the scene from a tower
behind the wooden fence, the witnesses with the best view of the
fenced-in area were those standing above Elm Street on the rail-
road overpass. As the motorcade approached, 13 railroad
employees and two Dallas policemen were on the railroad bridge;\textsuperscript{25}
the knoll was just to their left. Not one of the railroad men was
called before the Warren Commission.\textsuperscript{26} However, four were
questioned by counsel for the Commission\textsuperscript{27} and nine by agents of
the FBI.\textsuperscript{28} Five of them said that shots came from the knoll\textsuperscript{31}
and six others said that when the shots were fired their attention
was immediately attracted to the knoll.\textsuperscript{32} It is worth noting that
not one of the 13 men, who were among the witnesses closest to
the grassy knoll, said that he thought that the shots came from the
Book Depository,\textsuperscript{33} while 11 of them indicated either explicitly
or implicitly that the fenced-in area above the knoll was where
they thought the sniper was.\textsuperscript{34}

Many rifles emit a small amount of smoke when discharged.\textsuperscript{35}
The presence of trees and bushes on the knoll, grouped around the
fence, virtually precluded the possibility that a spectator not on
the overpass could have observed smoke if a sniper fired from
behind the fence. Most of the railroad workers standing on the
overpass turned to their left—toward the knoll—when the shots
were fired. Thus, of all those in Dealey Plaza when the assassina-

\* The first such interview took place almost four months after the assassination,
on March 17, 1964.\textsuperscript{29} The FBI did not give verbatim transcripts to the Commission,
merely its agents' summaries of the interviews\textsuperscript{30}—which are, of course, hearsay.