

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Mr Carter:

I am not surprised that you wondered why we had no pictures of the President's actual arrival in our Sunday morning editions. While I thought the boys did a rather thorough job of coverage otherwise, from a photographic standpoint the Sunday Star-Telegram was like playing Hamlet without Hamlet. But the misfortune that befell us befell all other Texas newspapers and photograph services which had photographers here.

The thought that pictures would be prohibited never occurred to any of us. We had three camera men at the station snapping pictures of the crowd, important persons, etc., before arrival of the train. When the President's train pulled in, we had two, one having returned to the office, and, as the President came out on the rear platform, these two were in position, as were all the other photographers, to get excellent shots of him.

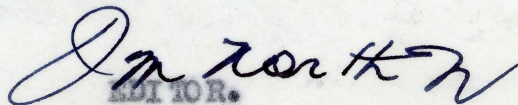
Don Weaver, of the Press, and I, both on the reception committee, were to the right of the ramp, just a few feet from the end of the President's car; so was Bascom Timmons. Just about the time the President appeared, Secretary McIntyre came along. Weaver immediately asked him, "How about pictures?" He said, "Pictures? Sure; see Early". Mr. Early came along a second later and was asked the same question. I understood him, too, to say pictures would be okay. Weaver and I were both watching the photographers; the President was in full view of them; all were in position to get excellent pictures; but we were amazed when not a flashbulb exploded. Before we had an opportunity to ask anyone, the President started down the ramp;

the crowd surged all about us, and there was no chance to find out what had happened or to arrange for a picture.

Later, Weaver and I were informed that a Secret Service man, either stationed among the photographers or he went over among them for that purpose, told them not to attempt any pictures, just when they were ready to take them. Of course, they didn't. The chances are if they had attempted to do so their cameras would have been smashed and we would have had no pictures anyway.

Mr. Record, the managing editor, says he was afterward informed that night snapshots of the President were not being permitted; but it seems to me I have seen numerous ones published that were taken at night. It seems even stranger to me that if such was the case why Mr. McIntyre and Mr. Early would so readily assent. I should think if anyone would know the policy or any change in such they would. Yet, it is equally as hard to understand why a Secret Service man would give such orders.

This is the reason that neither The Star-Telegram nor any other paper in Texas had pictures of the President's arrival in Fort Worth, though all the larger papers had sent photographers here for that purpose. We had photographs of his arrival in Oklahoma City and every other shot that was worth taking; yet on the only really worth while one we got nothing. It made us look silly, but, in view of the explanation given me, I couldn't blame the photographers. I hope that after this explanation you will not blame them either.


EDITOR.