Timeline of Events leading to Trump Rally in Butler

Text in Black is information derived directly from Footage and Screenshots of Text Messages

Text in Green is from official documentation

Text in Orange is from Witness testimony or Opinions from Footage

Text in Red is from the Media

Text in italics is speculation

2024-07-03

• Butler Eagle¹ reports that Trump will be holding his Pennsylvania rally at the Butler Farm Show grounds.

<u>2024-07-05</u>

• PSP was notified of the Event according to Col. Christopher Paris.

2024-07-06

- Crooks registers to attend the rally as reported by News Interactive². (NI Timeline)
- He uses a search engine to look up how far away Lee Harvey Oswald was when he assassinated President Kennedy at Dealey Plaza in Dallas. The distance: 90 yards.

2024-07-07

- Crooks drives to the Farm show grounds and spends about 20 minutes surveilling the area.
 (NI Timeline)
 - The Oversight Project has reported that according to their data, Crooks visited the Farm show grounds on 2024-07-04 and 2024-07-08. Most sources disregard this data and it contradicts the official timeline reported elsewhere. Most likely this data is false, but it is added here for completeness.
- The Farm show grounds is reported to be an hour north of his home in Bethel Park.

2024-07-08

- Beaver ESU was requested to support Butler ESU³ as per the Grassley Document beaver_esu_request_to_cover_redacted
 - There are sections that are not included, so these messages does not seem to be complete
 - o It is unclear if this document is from one Person or multiple. There are multiple groups and some pages seem to be in the wrong order (Page 2 is from a different group or contacting a single person who organized the protection detail).

¹ https://www.butlereagle.com/20240703/former-president-donald-trump-plans-butler-rally-july-13/

² https://newsinteractive.post-gazette.com/trump-butler-rally-security-timeline/

³ Grassley Document - beaver_esu_request_to_cover__redacted

- The team leader of a unit has indicated beforehand that he will leave the sniper group at 16:00. Read together with later evidence this is the person is part of the team who later was put in charge of the AGR Building designated 10S3.
 - In an article of CNN⁴ where Sgt. Greg Nicol was interviewed, it was revealed that Det.
 Pat Young is the commander of the Beaver County SWAT team and Nicol's boss.
 - Members of the AGR Building team are Sgt. Greg Nicol SWAT team member from Beaver County, Jason Woods also from Beaver County and a third member who was from Butler County's SWAT team.
- The possibility of being restricted as a unit only ON CALL was raised due to lack of resources.
- It seems that this group initially had limited overwatch duties at this point of time as per the comment that overwatch will be from a bearcat.
- An initial planning meeting with the commanders took place according to Col Christopher Paris.
- The U.S. Secret Service conducted its first walk-through of the site as part of the advance preparation.

2024-07-09

- It is confirmed that the Beaver ESU will take on the protection detail as per the Grassley Document.
- In a BDSA Bodycam footage, 122125⁵, (18:22:52) it is mentioned that local law enforcement asked the Secret Service to post agents at the AGR Building. They were under the impression whoever might be posted there, will be posted on the roof.
 - Apparently a meeting took place on this day.

2024-07-10

- A Text group is created for the crew that had to work the Donald J Trump detail⁶ as per the Grassley Document beaver esu officer assignments group text redacted.
 - o It was assumed that it would be a hot day
 - They were tasked with bringing a "folding chair and sun lotion"
 - At this point it was assumed that they would be "tucked out of site." (Sight?)

2024-07-11

- According to Col. Christopher Paris, a site walkthrough took place and Butler ESU was assigned the AGR building area. (Note that as previously mentioned, Beaver ESU was assigned to support Butler ESU, so it was not exclusively Butler ESU on duty.)
- Secret Service agents were present at this walkthrough.
 - There is a photo or a video of the SS agents at Butler during a walkthrough.
 - o The woman who had problems with the gun was the agent in charge.

⁴ https://edition.cnn.com/2024/08/10/politics/snipers-detail-breakdowns-trump-assassination-attempt-invs/index.html

⁵ https://rumble.com/v5aa2t9-maga-rally-in-butler-pa-bodycam-footage-bwc2-122125.html

⁶ Grassley Document - beaver_esu_officer_assignments_group_text_redacted

2024-07-12

- Meeting place for Donald J Trump Detail was communicated as per Grassley document.
 - The meeting place would be at the FOP (Forward Observation Post) at the back entrance of the Farm show grounds.
- According to the media Thomas Crooks was at a local shooting club practicing on the rifle range with his Father's Rifle.
 - This was apparently confirmed by the Clairton Sportsmen's club.
- The Butler County ESU Commander personally reminded the USSS counter-sniper teams to pick up their assigned radios at the ESU Command Post RV, the following morning before 1100 hrs. This is according to the Clay Higgins report of 12 August 2024
 - The radio comms were properly and perfectly arranged during the extensive premission planning
 - USSS did not retrieve the radios that had been set aside for them by Butler County tactical command on 07/13.

2024-07-13

32 Degree Celsius

09:00 - Briefing takes place at at FOP

- Butler County ESU LEO hosts a general briefing.
 - According to an interview with the Swat team, during the whole day no meeting was held where the Secret Service was present.
 - Media reports Secret Service was absent
- Sgt. Greg Nicol and other snipers were assigned to be inside the AGR building in this meeting
 as stated in a CNN Article. They were apparently directed to several windows on the second
 floor. They were instructed to remain covert.
 - o It is unclear how true this statement is and must be verified.
- There is a detail plan released by Grassley⁷. There is a sectors map ordered per importance on page 11. This map excludes the AGR building as a priority.
 - This is problematic for two reasons: At best this lowers the agents' alertness in the AGR
 Area and it is negligent, at worst it was done intentionally.
 - Some of the maps seem older than others in the Detail plan, for example the sniper positions on page 12 and stylistically some maps differ from each other. On this map the Butler sniper was posted on the roof of the AGR Building.
 - There is a possibility that this Detail Plan was changed before handing it over to Grassley. The newer maps that show Butler and Beaver at specific posts at the AGR Building on page 2, 39 & 41 was probably added later, otherwise the snipers would have taped these maps on the wall instead.
- If you look at page 4 of the Grassley Sniper positions document⁸, you can see that two maps were taped to the wall, the overall Threat Sector Map of page 4 and a generic satellite image where the butler and Washington sniper post in the south was marked with a red pen.

⁸ Grassley Document - beaver_and_butler_county_counter_sniper_positions_redacted

⁷ Grassley Document - butler esu dit fpotus detail plan redacted2

- Take note that on the top map the position marked with a red pen on the photo is the same as the sniper positions of page 12 where only one building was marked, instead of both buildings as in the image on page 2, 39 & 41.
- Page 15 indicates that sniper teams are issued a Butler County Radio.
 - Unsure if this indicates that all four counter sniper teams were able to contact each other or not.

10:15 - Beaver Co ESU in place

- Sgt. Edward Lenz, the tactical commander for the Butler County mobile unit, was inside a white trailer, a mobile communications hub for local police, according to Washington Post⁹. This Trailer was located next to a lakeside warehouse to the south of the rally site.
 - Sgt. Lenz was joined by a deputy commander in the Butler County Emergency Services
 Unit, a Butler County sheriff's sergeant and a county employee.
 - o There were three encrypted communication channels in the trailer that was monitored.
 - No one from the Secret Service was inside the trailer; the federal Agency had its own mobile command post almost 300 yards away to the northwest.
 - o If Lenz wanted to contact SS, he had to pick up his cellphone and dial a state trooper to relay the message.
 - Currently there is no proof that this is indeed the case. There was once mentioned that someone only had to turn around and tell the Secret Service at one point to give information. These two statements contradict each other.

10:30 - Vendor dispute at Main Entrance handled by a Butler Co Sheriff

• Lack of information, but part of the After Action Report

10:30 - Snipers in place

There were four counter sniper posts as per the detail plan

- 10S1 Posted on the Grandstand and very little information exists of them due to a lack of impact on the proceedings of that day.
 - As mentioned earlier there seems to exist an internal contradiction in the detail plan
 where at some parts of the document only one building would be occupied but in other
 parts two buildings would be occupied.
- 10S3 Posted at the AGR Building and was tasked to secure that area. They are a sniper team as confirmed by Grassley bodycam footage¹⁰ released and Sgt. Greg Nicol was seen with a sniper rifle in the BCSA Dashcam footage, M500-010482¹¹ at 19:59:46.
 - Sgt. Greg Nicol is one of the snipers, and there may have been 3 in the second floor in Building no.2. It is unclear if any other persons were in the building with them.
 - There are reports and whistleblowers that the team themselves decided to set up post inside the building because it was a hot day and there was an AC unit in the room. Unverified for now.

⁹ https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/2024/08/03/trump-rally-police-radio-transmissions/

¹⁰ https://www.grassley.senate.gov/news/news-releases/grassley-releases-additional-bodycam-footage-from-moments-after-trump-assassination-attempt

¹¹ https://rumble.com/v5aat5h-maga-rally-in-butler-pa-dashcam-footage-m500-010482.html

- Hercules 1 One was posted behind the podium on the south building and they seemed to be tasked to survey the south of the podium.
 - They had a clear view of the AGR Building 6 rooftop where Crooks eventually fired shots towards Trump from their position. The area towards the east of Crooks was behind the tree. All of this could be seen in the photos shown by Acting Director of the Secret Service Ronald Rowe in his testimony¹².
- Hercules 2 One was posted behind the podium on the north building and they seemed to be tasked to survey the north of the podium, which includes the AGR Building.
 - This team did not have a direct line of sight to the position of Mathew Crooks, since a tree was in the way as shown in the video of Rep. C Gimenez.¹³

13:00 - Crooks arrives at the rally site

- According to the New York Post, Crooks stopped at a Home Depot in the morning to purchase a Five-foot ladder (NY Post timeline)
- Around 13:00 Crooks arrived at the showgrounds and spend an hour in the area before driving home (NI Timeline)

13:00 - Gates opened for the Public

• According to Grassley Documents, magnetometers, which help detect ferrous items, should have been activated at this time.

13:03 – The Leader of the AGR sniper unit was added to a Text group

- Note that Grassley has released two documents of this text group.
 - First: beaver_and_butler_county_counter_sniper_positions_redacted¹⁴
 - Second: beaver_butler_and_washington_county_sniper_group_text_photos_of_crooks_redact¹⁵

13:30 - Crooks collects his gear

- Thomas Crooks gets his father's AR rifle from his home. He tells his parents he's going to the shooting range. (NI Timeline)
- On his way back to the Butler Farm Show grounds he stops at Bethal Park ammo where he bought 50 rounds of 5.56 ammunition for the rifle.

<u>13:45 – SS Counter Sniper meets up with Local Snipers</u>

- According to Local Sniper text group, the local snipers were scheduled to meet up with the SS Counter Snipers at the Grand Stands.
 - o There is no indication in this document that it was cancelled or they were stood up.
 - According to an interview by ABC News with the SWAT team, where Greg Nicol was present, the SS counter snipers were supposed to give the local snipers a briefing, but according to them this did not happen.¹⁶

¹² https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzxgMQhWoEo

¹³ https://rumble.com/v582f3e-rep-carlos-gimenez-takes-video-from-assassination-rooftop.html

¹⁴ Grassley Document - beaver_and_butler_county_counter_sniper_positions_redacted

 $^{^{15} \} Grassley \ Document - \ beaver_butler_and_washington_county_sniper_group_text_photos_of_crooks_redacted$

¹⁶ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KXMkDmV-TfA

 According to the same spokesperson in the interview, they did not have any contact with the Secret Service before the shots were fired.

15:13 – Report came in that Trump is delayed

• A Person messaged in the local sniper text group that trump was delayed by an hour.

15:45 – Crooks arrives at the rally site for a second time

- Crooks returns to the rally site in his Hyundai Sonata. (NI Timeline). In the car are two
 homemade explosive devices with detonators that can be remotely triggered.
 - It is unclear what exactly they mean by the term that Crooks arrived. Where did he arrive at, because this says at the rally site? Does that mean at the rally parking lot or at the Gas station or both at separate times? How did they get the time and location? Did they get the information from a camera, his cellphone or another source?

15:50 - Crooks scouts with a drone

- Crooks flies a drone just outside the inner perimeter of the rally, possibly to scope out security. The flight lasts 11 minutes and comes within approximately 200 yards of the rally stage. (NI Timeline)
 - o It is unclear from where Crooks flew this drone and what the evidence is to support this.
 - o It is unclear why no one saw Crooks fly this drone.
 - It is unclear where Crooks went from here, because we have two conflicting reports. The official narrative is that Crooks next was spotted by a picnic table next to the AGR building. Another possibility, inferred by video footages, is that Crooks was wandering around the Merchant stands and later parked at a gas station. From here he walked towards the AGR building to scout it out. Both can't be true.

16:19 - Sniper of 10S3 leaves

- Jason Woods leaves his post.
 - o According to Photo released by Grassley¹⁷, this person leaves through exit no.9 on the east side of Building 6.

<u>16:26 – Sniper of 10S3 notices a suspicious individual</u>

- Jason Woods sees a foreign car parked at the exit of AGR building and assumes that the person sitting at the picnic table is the owner. This person happens to be Thomas Crooks.
 - o It is unclear why this agent did not confront Crooks at this time?
 - Did anyone else confront Crooks and told him to vacate the premises? Red Truck quy?
- On a Text group that seems to be of his team, Jason Woods informs them of this person.
 - He mentions that Crooks knows they are in the building
 - Two people, one with the Initial N and other M acknowledges this msg. *It is assumed that 'N' stands for Nicol (Sgt. Greg Nicol).*
 - It is unclear why Crooks was deemed important at that point of time
- New Footage was released where Crooks can be seen walking northwards at the Merchant stands at the Butler Rally¹⁸. The Merchant stands were located on the road on one of the

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¹⁷ Grassley Document - agr picnic table

three intersections at the east side of Sector 7, Dairy Barns and Hangers, in the Grassley detail plan. The unnamed merchant, who apparently sold hats, claimed that this was taken at 16:26.

- o It must be noted that the time currently can't be verified, but is taken at face value for now. But it is a fact that Crooks was at one point captured in that area.
- It is reasonable to infer that at this time when the footage was taken, Crooks had parked at the designated area for attendees of the rally and walked towards the entrance for the event where magnetometers were active. If seen together with the 17:04 Dashcam footage, he then returned to his vehicle and drove towards the Gas station.
- If the time is true then this is highly problematic since this contradicts the timeline posted by Jason Woods, where he claimed he saw Crooks at a Picnic Table next to the AGR Building, which places Crooks at a completely different location. Was this a case of mistaken identity or an intentional red herring?
- Early on the CNN¹⁹ and NY Post reported that Mathew Crooks set off the metal detector at the rally entrance, because he was carrying a rangefinder. In the CNN article it was stated that the source was from a senior LEO.
- According to NY Post, Crooks was still allowed to enter through the entry gates, but the
 authorities, in particular a rooftop counter sniper team, kept close watch on him until he
 departed the secure area. It was further stated by the New York Post that, quote: "Crooks
 was scoping them out with his rangefinder while they watched him with theirs."
- Further reported by NY Post is that Crooks drew suspicion, after the above event, quote: "— not once but twice and was even photographed and reported."
 - o It is unclear when exactly this happened. NY Post claimed it was 3pm., but other timelines contradict this. The most likely scenario is that this event happened shortly after the Merchant footage was taken if it indeed did happen.
 - o If the report from New York Post is not true, how is possible that they could go this in depth based on false information.
 - This information has since then disappeared from timelines and reports. After the 18th of July no mention of magnetometers was mentioned in reports again. It is possible that this was about another suspicious individual, but it is unclear if this is the case, because we know Thomas Crooks was near the entrance of the event at one point.

17:02 – Red Truck guy tries to remove people from his property

- According to footage released by Dayve Stewerd²⁰, a man attempted to remove people from the AGR property or that area on the south/east side of AGR Building 6.
 - Later in the day only a limited number of rally goers were in that area.
- A few minutes later, 17:10 according to Stewerd, a sheriff vehicle arrives and seems to resolve the issue. The person left after the discussion the with officer from the vehicle
 - According to an interrogation of Stewerd²¹ the person who tried to remove them, claimed to be the owner of the AGR and was driving in a red Ford Ranger truck. The person has highly agitated according to Stewerd.

¹⁸ https://www.tiktok.com/@ironcladusa/video/7394850830802816298

¹⁹ https://edition.cnn.com/2024/07/14/politics/what-happened-trump-assassination-attempt/index.html

²⁰ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=28lxF9LONGk&t=315s

17:04:40 - Second video of Thomas Crooks

- He parked at a gas station about a third of a mile (500m) away called Sheetz.
 - O It must be noted that in all other evidence it was not suggested or mentioned that Crooks parked at any other place. The only other suggestion was by Jason Woods that Crooks parked at the AGR building which seems unlikely. This however does not exclude the possibility, that Crooks parked at other places beforehand.
 - It will be assumed that Crooks parked at the Gas Station shortly before the following dashcam footage was taken. This most likely was the last position the vehicle had been parked at.
- A dashcam video, seen on News Interactive in the same article mentioned earlier, shows Thomas Crooks moving towards the AGR building from the direction of Sheetz.
 - It is mentioned that this video may be off by a couple of minutes to either side.
 - o If Crooks was seen 16:26 east of AGR building 6, why did he go back and forth to Sheetz without a backpack as this footage shows? It is more likely that this footage shows the first time Crooks walked towards the AGR building.

<u>17:06 – Second video of Thomas Crooks</u>

- A video, released by WTAE²², catches Thomas Crooks moving and looking around at the south side of the AGR Building 6. According to WTAE this happened at 17:06.
 - O It is possible that this timeline contradicts with the timeline of Dayve Stewerd. According to Stewerd he had recordings from 17:02 to 17:10 and in that timeframe there were around a few dozen people at the south side of Building 6 in a confrontation with the owner of the Red Truck. In the WTAE video no civilians or any confrontation is seen in that area, only Crooks. It is possible that right at that moment the other civilians happen to not be seen in the footage, but it is unclear how probable this is.
 - o If possible confirm the time with Dayve Stewerd.

17:10 - Sgt. Greg Nicol positioned in the AGR building observes Crooks

- According to the After Action report released by Grassley²³, Local law enforcement sniper,
 Sgt. Greg Nicol, spotted Crooks.
 - Quote from ABC Interview: "He was looking up and down the building and just walked around and just seemed out of place."

17:14 - Pictures taken of Suspect by Sgt. Greg Nicol (Time from After Action Report)

17:28 - Picture of Bike by Sgt. Greg Nicol (Time from After Action Report)

 According to Grassley Bodycam footage, the Beaver ESU agent said that Sgt. Greg Nicol saw Crooks walking from a bicycle and putting a bag down.

²¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p_IB1uDQhwE&t=40s

²² https://www.wtae.com/article/trump-rally-gunman-thomas-crooks-video-prior/61623731

²³ Grassley Documents - beaver_county_fpotus_after_action_redacted

It was later confirmed that the bicycle was not owned by Crooks and Crooks had nothing to do with it. Was it a hyperbole of the Beaver ESU or did Sgt. Greg Nicol give false information through?

17:32 - Sgt. Nicol observes Crooks looking at phone and using a rangefinder towards the stage

- In the after action report there is additional information that Sgt. Greg Nicol was observing Crooks with a monocular and that Crooks was watching the news feeds.
 - o It is unclear how much Sgt. Greg Nicol could see from his position.
 - It is unclear if Sgt. Nicol lost sight of Crooks at 17:14 or at 17:32. According to a later message, the last position of Crooks was next to the building and Sgt. Nicol did not see where Crooks went, but suspected that Crooks went towards the back, northwards. It seems unlikely that Crooks stood still for 18 minutes, so it is assumed that Sgt. Nicol lost sight of Crooks shortly after taking the photo.
 - After this moment (17:15), for at least the next 30-45 minutes Crooks was not seen. It is assumed that Crooks went to fetch his backpack. If Crooks went all the way back to the Gas station to fetch the bag, then that would take about 30 minutes at normal walking speed.

17:33:48 - Trump arrives at the Butler rally site

- Trump motorcade arrives as per the video footage of CBS. The timeline is based on this footage.
 - o At 17:34 a person on local sniper text group send a message "Game Time!!"
 - o The arrival time, according to testimony of Acting Director of the Secret Service Ronald Rowe, was at 17:30 as per the timeline of Senator Johnson²⁴.
 - It can be assumed that the timing depends on the definition of arriving and when the audience, agents and Crooks was aware of the motorcade. It could also be that this was stated in generalities.

17:34 (approx.) – Butler Co. Sniper texts Butler Team (assumed)

17:38 - Sgt. Greg Nicol sends text about suspect

- Sgt. Greg Nicol sends a text on the local sniper text group the photos he had taken of Crooks and a short description of what he has seen.
 - Quote: "Kid learning around building we are in. AGR I believe it is. I did see him with a range finder looking towards stage. FYI. If you wanna notify SS snipers to look out. I lost sight of him. Also a bike with backpack sitting next to it in rear of building that was not seen earlier."
 - It must be noted that from this moment timelines contradicts each other. The after action report and the Washington Post timeline differs by a few minutes and thus it is unclear what the actual timeline is. I used the WP timeline because it has more details that can be fact checked in the future.

²⁴ Johnson Document - 2024-07-30 Timeline of Law Enforcement Awareness of Crooks on July 13 2024 - For the Record

17:40 - Response text to Sgt. Greg Nicol "Call into command"

• Someone responds to Sgt. Greg Nicol on the same group and quote: "Call it in to command and have a uniform check it out."

17:41 - Called into command by Sgt. Greg Nicol about suspect

- 4 Sierra 2 to Command communicated description and range finder lurking around AGR Building (From the After Action Report)
 - Butler 4 Command Frequency
- Quote received from Washington Post²⁵: "Just an FYI, we had a younger white male, long hair, lurking around the AGR building... [] ...He was viewed with a range finder sighting the stage. ... We lost sight of him."
 - According to Washington Post, the radio transmission set off a flurry of messages between local officers on the ground and supervisors stationed in the Butler County command center trailer.
 - o "Do you know what color shirt?" one sheriff's deputy asked.
 - o "White shirt with a hat," another answered.
 - In a separate channel for local tactical officers not audible on the channel used by sheriff's deputies — Sgt. Greg Nicol gave a different description: "Gray T-shirt, lightcolored khaki shorts."

17:44 - Secret Service is notified of Suspicious Person

- Sgt. Ed Lenz used his cellphone to call a state police officer stationed in the Secret Service trailer, according to the official and call logs. State police Sgt. Joseph Olayer, the call recipient, relayed the information to his Secret Service counterparts in the trailer. (WP Timeline)
- Minutes after Lenz passed on the suspicious-person report to the state police sergeant, Lenz radioed to local officers that help was on the way, the transcript shows.
 - "PSP (Pennsylvania State Police) and sheriffs should be in route," Lenz told officers on the ground at 5:45 p.m.

17:45 - Problems with Cellphone reception is encountered

- As reinforcements made their way to help, officers tried to circulate photos of Crooks, but cellphone reception problems got in the way, the transcript shows.
 - On the Officers text group²⁶, part of the Grassley documents; messages in this regard reflect this.
- 17:47 "I'm trying to forward photographs of the individual," said a local tactical team member
- 17:48 "Units be advised internet and cell service is down," another officer on the Butler channel said
- 17:49 "Your picture is probably not going to go through because I don't have any service," a sheriff's deputy radioed

²⁵ https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/2024/08/03/trump-rally-police-radio-transmissions/

²⁶ Grassley Document - beaver_county_esu_officers_group_text_photos_of_crooks_redacted

<u>17:49 – Communications regarding suspect and pictures</u>

- A sniper with Butler County sends the images and description given by Sgt. Greg Nicol of Crooks to one of the Secret Service counter snipers at the rally, including that Crooks was seen using a rangefinder in the direction of the rally stage.
 - o The Secret Service counter sniper responds, "Roger. I'll notify teams on AGR side."
 - Around this time, a Butler County tactical officer said he had "notified Hercules," a code name for Secret Service counter sniper units, according to the transcript.

17:53 - SS Counter Sniper team leader sends email to SS Counter Sniper teams

- According to Acting Director Rowe, the Secret Service counter sniper team leader emails the Secret Service counter sniper teams that "local law enforcement [is] looking for a suspicious individual outside the perimeter, 'lurking around the AGR building'."
- In the New York Post article mentioned earlier, when the Secret Service was warned of a suspicious person, Crooks was identified as a threat. (NYP Timeline)
 - Since this article, the secret service constantly held the stance that Crooks was never labeled as a threat and only as a suspicious person. It is unclear how true these statements from New York Post or Secret Service are.

17:54 - Traffic control officers was enlisted for the manhunt

- Sgt. Lenz enlisted more officers, including police handling traffic on roads outside the rally site.
- "Our sierra units lost visual of him," Lenz told the traffic-control officers. "I believe you guys are outside of that fence, if you come upon him."

17:59 – Command asks for direction of travel

- Command wants to know it what direction Crooks was moving before sight was lost on him.
 - o On the Officers text group Sgt. Greg Nicol responds at 18:00.
 - Quote: "Not Sure. He was up against the building. If I had to guess towards the back.
 Away from the event."

18:02 – Sgt. Greg Nicol spots Crooks

- From a northwest window, facing away from the rally site, Sgt. Greg Nicol spotted Crooks again. (WP Timeline). Sgt. Greg Nicol had moved to look for the suspect, according to Young, Sgt. Greg Nicol's commander.
 - Quote: "All right, subject is in between the AGR building. He has a backpack," said Sgt. Greg Nicol.
- Butler Sniper stayed in place at original position. (This is from the After Action report) They are referring to Sgt. Greg Nicol's teammate in the AGR Building.
 - Note that the time differs with at least 3 minutes between timelines
 - It is unclear what the Butler sniper actually did in the next 10 minutes. No radio traffic, text messages or evidence can be attributed to the second sniper in the AGR building. Why did he not attempt to find Crooks on the roof from the second floor windows?
- From his vantage point on the second floor, Sgt. Greg Nicol was unable to discern where Crooks was headed though; the transcript shows (WP Timeline).

- o It is unclear how it was difficult to discern what the direction is. Sgt. Greg Nicol has a map next to him and should have a clear view over that area.
- o It is unclear how the transcript shows that Sgt. Greg Nicol is unsure. It seems he gave a direction a moment later.
- Crooks walked to the northeast, toward an area between two wings of the complex of warehouses at AGR International. The space was enclosed on three sides, a dead end.
 - But Sgt. Greg Nicol suggested Crooks was headed in the direction of a gas station on the other side of the building about a quarter of a mile away. And this is the information that was circulated.
 - Quote: "He just went towards the Sheetz."
- From this moment, any movement and evidence of Sgt. Greg Nicol ceases. There are some things mentioned in the after action report, but multiple stories about Sgt. Greg Nicol exists. Only after the shots were fired does Sgt. Greg Nicol resurface in footage or hard evidence.

18:02:33 - Trump takes the stage

- Trump is announced to the crowd and music plays as he takes the stage.
 - Trump was not informed of any danger and was not asked to wait before taking the stage.
- Sgt. Lenz called Olayer in the Secret Service command post to pass on a message during a
 40-second call, according to the law enforcement official familiar with the police response
 and call logs. (WP Timeline)

18:04 - Focus stays on Sheetz

• "All units be advised also that individual is headed towards Sheetz," a sheriff's deputy radioed to his colleagues.

18:05 – A Local Officer is called / contacted to go towards AGR

- In the BCSA Bodycam footage, 122110²⁷, it can be seen that the officer, referred to as Officer 1, through some means, is redirected to the AGR building.
 - It is unclear if Officer 1 was part of Traffic Control that Sgt. Lenz has contacted to be redirected to AGR building. As seen in Washington Post, that happened 10 minutes earlier so the timeline does not make sense.

18:06 - Crooks pulls himself onto AGR building 6

- According to Federal Bureau of Investigation Deputy Director Paul Abbate, video shows Crooks pulling himself onto the AGR building rooftop as per Johnson timeline.
 - o The video was not made public yet.
 - This video is apparently from a local Business. The video, obtained by FBI, shows Crooks climbing onto the roof from an HVAC unit next to building 6 according to Washington Post
- "He's reportedly between the building up here at AGR somewhere," a local officer on the channel for traffic control. "I'm guessing the west side, east side looks clear." (WP Timeline)

²⁷ https://rumble.com/v5a9zwd-maga-rally-in-butler-pa-bodycam-footage-bwc2-122110.html

18:06? – Sgt. Greg Nicol / Butler ESU team leaves their post (Time unclear)

- According to After Action report Sgt. Greg Nicol goes downstairs of Building 6 (Named Building 1 in the After Action report) to meet patrol to let them know suspect is around building on side of fairgrounds.
 - This contradicts with the testimony that Sgt. Greg Nicol went out to look for Crooks with his team members after losing sight of him as testified by Col Paris²⁸.
 - This contradicts with an X post that claims that Sgt. Greg Nicol was locked out of the building because he forgot his access card. Apparently his team mate went down to open the door for him.
- 1 Marked vehicle and unmarked vehicle pull in together. This information is added under the section that describes Sgt. Greg Nicol meeting with a patrol after spotting Crooks.
 - Most likely it refers to vehicles that arrive at 18:09:02 which falls in the timeline of that
 after action report, 18:06 18:12. It also matches the description of the vehicles where
 one was marked, the vehicle of Officer 1 and the other unmarked, vehicle of SP1. No
 other vehicles matching this description are found in any footage. There were no
 vehicles on the west side.
- In the CNN article Sgt. Greg Nicol testified that after spotting Crooks, he 'bounded down the stairs in an attempt to keep eyes on the suspect'. Sgt. Greg Nicol further claims that he pushed a door open and saw two officers who pulled up outside AGR. He then shouted at them where he'd last seen the suspect. The officers took off on foot in opposite directions around the sprawling AGR complex. Trump was already on the stage according to Sgt. Greg Nicol.
 - o It is unclear at what time Sgt. Greg Nicol went and did this because in this CNN article it is stated as events that happened before Crooks climbed the roof, but the After Action report and footage contradict him.
 - This testimony from Sgt. Greg Nicol follows the same line as the After Action report. But it is problematic for Sgt. Greg Nicol. We can see in the BCSU Dashcam with a clear line of sight to the exit no.9 when the vehicle stops at the AGR building, as stated in the After Action report. But the door to Building 6 stayed closed and Sgt. Greg Nicol was not seen. Most likely he lied to CNN and in the interviews for the After Action report.
- According to bodycam footage the Beaver ESU was under the impression that Sgt. Greg Nicol
 was still in the building in the open window.
 - This indicates that there was no communication to Beaver ESU and perhaps any other groups that Sgt. Greg Nicol or his teammate is leaving their post.
 - It is unclear if they decided to leave the post themselves or are ordered to do so and if so, who ordered it. Sgt. Greg Nicol claimed that he left 'instinctively'.
 - It is unclear if a Suspicious Person could be deemed such a high risk that they had to leave the post in search of the SP while the SP is still not considered as a threat. And why this information still was not reported to Trumps protection detail.
- Butler County DA Richard Goldinger said in an interview with NewsNation²⁹ that the snipers never left their position in the AGR Building. He claims that the snipers did not have an angle on the roof and could not see Crooks on it.

²⁸ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wocjihprbww

²⁹ https://x.com/NewsNation/status/1816664235432202401

This is another version of what happened with the sniper team in the AGR Building.

18:07 - AGR building is surrounded

 In the command post, Lenz radioed to the tactical units that local police had the building surrounded. "They should have a fairly good perimeter. If you get another visual let me know." (WP Timeline)

18:08:21 - A radio message is received that there is someone on the roof of AGR Building

- 18:08:21 In the BCSU Bodycam footage, 122111³⁰, an officer, referred as Officer 2, spots Crooks running on the roof and calls it in.
 - In the BCSU Dashcam footage, 010482, released by Butler Police Department, you can hear a radio message, "Someone is on the roof."
 - o In the next 20 seconds you can see in Officer 2's footage another officer walking northwards underneath Crooks. It is easier to see in a stabilized video.
- 18:08:34 Officer 2 says over the radio: "I have someone on the roof with white shorts". Officer 1 stops his vehicle next to another patrol car, while both vehicles were orientated towards the AGR building next to the Water tower.
 - Officer 1 was in a black uniform, while the other, referred as SP 1, was a state trooper
- 18:08:38 Officer 1 remarks to SP 1: "See that dude running?", referring to Crooks on top of the Building.
- 18:09:02 They come to a complete stop after driving towards the AGR to confront Crooks.
 - It must be noted that these two officers does not seem to have had any contact prior to the shooting with the civilians who had a better view from the west side.
- Inside the local command, Lenz radioed to clarify that the person on the roof was not a police officer.
- "We do not have assets on the roof," he said. "That is not us."
- Lenz did not make a cellphone call to the Secret Service command post, the law enforcement official said.
 - Unsure about the precise second of this message
 - o It is unclear why the press highlighted that Sgt. Lenz did not contact Secret Service.
 - It is unclear why LEO's on the ground was positive that there would be a team on the roof, but Sgt. Lenz was sure that there were none. Were LEO's part of the briefing in the morning? When had this plan changed and can we trust this information from the Washington Post?

18:09 - Officers get a good view of Crooks with backpack

- A local officer said that he had a good view of the male on the roof. (WP Timeline)
- Quote: "We got him. We don't have him in custody yet, but he's right straight in front of me by the pine tree standing upwards. He had a backpack."
 - What officer could possibly have seen him at this point of time? The officers on the east side had no clear line of sight and according to our information the officers on the west side have not seen him yet for at least a minute. The timeline is very unclear at this moment.

³⁰ https://rumble.com/v5ah1bu-maga-rally-in-butler-pa-bodycam-footage-bwc2-122111.html

- After 25 seconds (Exact time unknown) they lose sight of him. (WP Timeline)
- "Lost sight of him, trooper was chasing him, trying to follow him around the building," the
 officer said.
 - o It is unclear what is meant with a trooper chasing him. Do they refer to SP1? It almost sounded like they were on the cusp of catching him, but all evidence shows otherwise.
 - I heard somewhere that Sgt. Greg Nicol mentioned that he heard officers had found Crooks and was thus relieved and thought it was handled. Another story that is not verified.

18:09:25 - A Third Vehicle arrives east of AGR

- In the Dayve Stewerd video you can see a third vehicle arriving where a third officer, Officer 3, steps out. A few seconds later you can see Officer 1 saying something to another officer, Officer 4, on the south west side before he turns around and walks to the east side of the building. Officer 4 went around the west side of the building.
 - o Officer 3's name seems to be Tedeski as seen later in the bodycam footage.
 - The discussion seems short and it is unclear what the Officer 4 told Officer 1 and vice versa.

18:09:34 - Spectators see that Hercules 2 seems agitated

• In a video posted on youtube³¹, rally goers see that the Secret Service counter sniper teams seem agitated compared to earlier.

18:09:35 - People spot Crooks on the roof

- The Public on the west side of the AGR building sees Crooks on the roof.
 - o It is unclear at what time exactly spectators first see Crooks, since there were reports that people saw him as early as 18:08, but no evidence can be found for this.
- A video released by the Associated Press, seems to be the earliest evidence when the spectators first saw Crooks. You can see Officer 4, walking towards Officer 1 at the start of the footage. In this footage, you can hear spectators trying to get the attention of the officers. Quote: "Right here, right on the roof."
 - If you listen to comments of the spectators, Officer 4 did not seem to have noticed
 Crooks at this point of time.
 - o It seems that at this point of time the spectators did not notice a rifle.

18:09:58 - Hercules teams Reorient towards the north

- According to a video posted by The New York Times³², it can be seen that Hercules 1 counter sniper team was reorienting towards the north and Hercules 2 was looking intently through scopes. In this video you can also see spectators on the middle stand pointing towards the AGR building.
 - o It is unclear why both counter snipers seem agitated if they had no communication that there was a problem at the AGR building. They did not turn northwards when Sgt. Lenz

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³¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHeGlc5wJg4

https://www.nytimes.com/2024/07/16/us/trump-shooting-secret-service-snipers.html

- gave information earlier so from the last communication to this moment something alerted the Counter Snipers.
- o It is unclear why the press highlighted that Sgt. Lenz
- The reorientation is confirmed in the BCSU bodycam footage, 122104³³. At timestamp 18:10:11 [18:09:58 CT] you see the south team, Hercules 1, reposition themselves. At this time the officer of this footage, referred to as Officer 5, is walking northwards behind the stands of the rally, sipping a drink.
 - Take note that the time in this bodycam footage is not synchronized. The timestamp runs 13 seconds early. It should have shown 18:09:58 instead at the top right at this specific moment. [CT stands for Corrected time] The bodycam footage is synchronized by using the moment the woman in the white dress flinches at 18:11:46 [18:11:33 CT]
 - o Take note that this bodycam footage has no sound.
- In the Dayve Stewerd video you see an officer, Officer 2, coming from north east from the forest.
 - o It is possible that Officer 2 was looking for Crooks as per the message that he went towards Sheetz.

18:10:27 - People show an Officer Crooks on the Roof

- A video licensed by ABC News³⁴ picks up almost immediately from a different angle where the video by Associated Press ended (3 seconds later to be precise). A man, with a white hat, grey shirt and white shorts show Officer 4 where Crooks is lying on the roof. Officer 4 leaves the screen on the left towards the north.
 - The sound of the footage is ruined by the commentator, but you can faintly hear Trump talk about "going off the teleprompter" to help synchronize the video to a centralized timeline.
 - It is unclear where Officer 4 went after this and why he left a position with a clear line of sight of Crooks. The officer was a few inches taller than the person in the white hat, so he should have been able to see Crooks.
 - In source 4 you can't see Officer 4 anywhere and this footage shows almost everyone at the west side of the AGR Building.

18:10:54 - Police officers are hoisted up

- In the BCSU bodycam footage Officer 1 is hoisted up with the help of SP 1 at the east side of the building in the nook where Building 6 and Building 2 connects. When Officer 1 crested the lip of the roof, he apparently sees Crooks with a weapon. The officer lets go of the roof and drops down.
 - The officer claimed later that Crooks pointed a gun towards him.
 - o It is unclear if Crooks had pointed his weapon towards the officer, since it can't be verified in the BCSU bodycam footage.
 - o It is also unclear if Crooks did indeed react or notice Officer 1 or not.
 - o Officer 3's name seems to be Tedeski as seen in the bodycam footage.

³³ https://rumble.com/v5ahd5p-maga-rally-in-butler-pa-bodycam-footage-bwc2-122104.html

³⁴ https://abcnews.go.com/US/trump-rally-gunman-thomas-matthew-crooks-shooting/story?id=112027831

- Witnesses on the ground, among them Greg Smith, claims that no confrontation took place as reported by The Gateway Pundit.³⁵
 - Greg Smith: "I saw him [the sniper] right before he shots happened, and I didn't see him turn around and confront anyone. I never saw that and it didn't happen."

18:11:03 - Radio message about the weapon is sent

- In the Stewerd video you can faintly hear someone shouting something.
 - It could be "He's got a gun!"
- That Crooks has a gun was apparently reported over the radio. You can see Officer 1, while running away was talking into a radio as seen in the Stewerd video.
 - o "He's armed," Officer 1 said. "I saw him, he's laying down." (WP Timeline)
 - o "He's got a long gun," Officer 1 said again into the radio.
 - o FBI Deputy Director Abbate testified that Officer 1 was the person who reported this.

18:11:13 - Officer 5 starts to run

- At 18:11:29 in the BCSU Bodycam footage [18:11:13 CT] Officer 5 starts to run northwards. He passes Hercules 1 on his right-hand side and the middle stand to his left.
 - o It is unclear if Officer 5 communicates anything to the people in the area. In a cellphone recording of a rally goer at the top left of the middle stand, you can't hear any alarm being raised behind the stands.

18:11:21 - People start to panic at the AGR Building

- According to source 2, the rally-goers hear that a man has a gun and people start to panic.
- In source 4 no uniformed officers is seen at the west side of the AGR. There was an undercover LEO with a long white beard there seen typing/looking on a Cellphone
- According to interview of civilian Greg Smith, they could clearly see a rifle³⁶. Quote: "He had a rifle, we could clearly see him with a rifle. Absolutely."
 - Greg Smith also said: "...the police are down there running around on the ground we're like 'Hey man, there's guy on the roof with a rifle."
 - Greg Smith is seen at the beginning of source 4 pointing towards the roof as mentioned in the interview.
 - o It is unclear at what time the Rally-goers first see the weapon and who was first, the officers or the rally-goers.
 - o It is unclear if the witness was exaggerating or not and at what time he saw the rifle first, but his testimony contradicts the police officers.
- Sgt. Lenz radioed the Butler County quick response force, a team responsible for responding to any potential coordinated attack on Trump. (WP Timeline)
 - "QRF from command. You need to deploy to the AGR building," Lenz said. He added, using shorthand for Butler Township police, "BT has a male on the roof with a long gun. They have made contact with him."
 - As he was passing on the directive, Sgt. Lenz interrupted himself: "Shots fired,"

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³⁵ https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2024/07/assassin-eye-witness-police-are-lying-about-rooftop/

³⁶ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FtFABFnNXtE

18:11:33 – First Shot Fired

- According to video evidence (Source 3) Crooks seems to be lying still on the roof and aiming
 his weapon downwards towards Trump for a few seconds, before shots were fired. In this
 footage the weapon was clearly visible.
 - When the first shot was fired there seems little to no recoil from the weapon Crooks was wielding. The camera moved away after the first shot.
- The first shot nicks Trump's Ear. Trump flinched and a short moment later touched his ear.
 - o The same shot wounds a spectator on the right stand and hits the Hydraulic pipe.
- The Acting Director of the Secret Service Ronald Rowe has shown images what the south counter sniper team possibly could have seen before the first shot was fired.
 - This was done by Rowe to illustrate how small Crooks seemed, but in my opinion it does not take into account that these counter sniper teams had high magnification scopes and they were actively searching for Crooks to the north.

18:11:34 - Two more shots fired

- Trump realizes the danger and goes down with SS tackling him to safety.
 - Another spectator is wounded on the right stand.

18:11:37 - More shots fired

- Five rapid shots are fired. A spectator, Corey Comperatore, is fatally hit on the left stand
 - o It is unclear if the spectator was hit with the original 3 shots or the last 5 shots
- There is evidence that the sound signature of the first 3 shot grouping differs from the 5 shot grouping which would imply two different weapons being fired.
 - If true, this would indicate that the assassination was a tightly planned operation, but it is unclear where a possible second shooter could be and logical reasoning for this to be the case.
 - It is unclear if Occam's razor should be applied and assume that there was only one shooter and try to find out an alternative reasoning how the sound signatures could differ from a single weapon.
- A single shot after the 5 shot grouping was fired
 - From media sources a Butler ESU member took a shot towards Crooks and startles him.
 Some media sources claim that the shot hit Crooks rifle and interrupted him and possible wounding him.

18:11:48 – A single shot takes out Crooks

- A single shot takes out Crooks as seen in the video footage Source 4.
- From media sources it seems the south counter sniper team, Hercules 1, took the shot 16 seconds after the first shot was fired
 - It is unclear why Hercules 1 did not take a shot on Crooks earlier. From multiple sources it could be seen that Hercules 1 had already trained their weapons towards the AGR Building or at least northwards.
 - How is possible that Hercules 1 after being alerted to the AGR building and already scouting it out, did not see Crooks or did not fire on Crooks?

• There was confusion for at least 40 seconds at the podium where one agent says "Are you ready, on you, Move!" and nothing happening. This happens numerous times.

18:12:11 - Shooter Down

- A local law enforcement officer reports over the radio that the shooter is down according to the Johnson Timeline.
- At this point of time there were no uniformed officers at the west side of the AGR. There was an undercover LEO with a long white beard there as seen in the beginning of Source 4. The first time Officer 4 is seen at 18:12:17 walking from the northwest of Building 3.
 - Which officer saw that the shooter is down and could radio that in? Officer 4? The officers on the east side had no line of sight.

18:12:14 – SS Agents remove Trump from the stage

A callout is made that the shooter is down at the stage, which energizes the agents to get
Trump off the stage. Trump asks for his shoes and before stepping of the stage he raises his
fists and shouts "Fight!"

18:13:23 – Sgt. Greg Nicol leaves Building no.1

• In the BCSU dashcam footage, Sgt. Greg Nicol leaves the AGR building from exit no.9. He is not wearing full gear compared to other agents on the ground and is wielding a pistol.

18:13:41 - Trump leaves rally site

• Trump and his protective detail left the rally site. He was evacuated to Butler Memorial Hospital.

18:15:02 - Sgt. Greg Nicol attempts to reenter the building

- In the Dashcam footage, Sgt. Greg Nicol attempts to reenter the AGR building by the same exit, but seems to not have an access card.
- In an X post it was said that the second sniper on the second floor of AGR leaves his post to help Sgt. Greg Nicol who forgot his access card.
 - The assumption originally was that this happened before the shooting, but in this footage we can see the issue of the access card happened afterwards.
 - o If we accept the X post at face value and assume that there exists a kernel of truth, then the second sniper was still on his post prior to this incident of the access card. If so, why did he not help with the issue of Crooks?

18:15:07 - Law enforcement officers are helped onto the roof

- Two Camo and two local law enforcement officers are helped up onto the roof of the AGR building, which includes Officer 1. They are hoisted up at the same place where the Officer 1 was first hoisted up and confronted Crooks.
 - The first officer is helped on the roof at 18:15:07 as per the BCSU bodycam footage, 122109³⁷.

³⁷ https://rumble.com/v5a9ahg-maga-rally-in-butler-pa-bodycam-footage.html

 Another Camo officer was on top of Building 3 and seems to be helped up at the side of Building 3.

18:15:28 – 5 People enter through exit no. 9

- Sgt. Greg Nicol, 2 State Troopers, a person with a white shirt and a uniformed officer enter AGR Building 6 through exit no.9.
 - o It is unclear who opened the door or if there was someone inside or not.

<u>18:15:35 – Officer attempts to disperse spectators</u>

- Officer shouts: "If you are not Law Enforcement, get out of here."
- A few moments later a Secret Service agent confronts Dayve Stewerd.
 - According to Grassley bodycam footage, the Secret Service agent saw rally-goers filming both the agent and the gunman and found it suspicious (*unwelcome?*).
 - Stewerd may be the person the agent was referring to in the Grassley bodycam footage and was probably assuming things that was not true.

18:17 - First Officers reach Crooks' Body

- Two Camo and two Local LEOs approach Crooks' Body. It was not captured on bodycam but it seems that the first LEO moved the weapon away from Crooks.
- 18:23 (approx.) and climb black tactical ladder to L of Building 3 door to access roof
- 18:25 Pronounced DOA by Michelle
- 18:25 General clearing by Beaver County ESU with other agencies of surrounding buildings
- 18:32 DOA Photo sent by sent to and
- 18:35 sends confirmation picture to command to confirm dead
- 18:46 from Washington Co. ESU pats suspect down finds cellphone and device
- 18:48 Cellphone and remote found in deceased's right pocket sent to
- 19:45 Device and Face sent by . Number provided by EOD. sent phone number
- 19:46 Facial recognition photo sent by to
 - There was +/- 4 Suspicious Person identified in total according to testimony of Acting Director Rowe

That woman that we see she was the shift lead. The was together with the Agent in Charge, Tim Burke.

- A: She was the agent in charge
- B: She is the one that conducted the Advance, an abbreviated Advance

Why was the counter sniper teams positioned where they were? One thing I will say when it comes to that woman, For Better or For Worse, and whether or not she's competent or not, she was the one that that was able to push for, at the last minute, get the counter sniper teams. They were not originally scheduled to be there.

So that woman from all the information I've gotten within the Secret Service pushed hard to get those folks out there. They were they were actually given permission to get us counter sniper teams out there that Thursday night. The Counter Sniper teams didn't get there till Friday afternoon