A LOT TO REMEMBER

McComb Army Officer Big Part In Kennedy Funeral

By KENNETH TOLLIVER

The military orders governing President Kennedy's inauguration filled a manual containing 54 pages, but, according to a McComb Army officer who helped conduct the President's funeral, the orders for that ceremony covered only one page.

"Actually the orders covering both rituals have been passed down with certain changes," said Capt. Richard J. Cloys, an aide to President Kennedy's brother Robert. "The military orders governing from McComb will not be known until the grave was filled," Capt. Cloys said while he was in McComb on leave.

The military staff which wrote the manual regarding honors due to a deceased Chief of State.

The ceremony, which started from streets, that I could clearly hear the bugle sounding taps at Arlington while I was nearly a mile away," he said. "The mass of mourners were so quiet that orders could be passed to the men at a whisper and still be heard.

When queried about any special requests that Mrs. Kennedy may have made, the captain said that she had requested the accoutrements from the U.S. Army school.

The accoutrements such as the saddle, boots, sabre and bridle were delivered by Capt. Cloys to the White House following the funeral.

"Another wish of Mrs. Kennedy," he read, "was to have the Irish horse headgear, which we had to fly in for the funeral.

Capt. Cloys said that the First Battalion was called the "Old Guard" and that they conducted most of the ceremonies of state in Washington such as guarding the tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

"One duty we did not have," he said, "was protecting any of the officials. That job was in the hands of the Secret Service.

When asked about special problems which arose concerning the state funeral, the captain said that making sure that all the military personnel arrived at the various points at the correct times caused him the greatest concern.

"There were so many cars that they were still leading at the White House and as the procession arrived in Washington and at least one officer was in constant attendance until the grave was filled.

Then," he commented, "we supplied the guard over there with a man that he could personally handle the situation and that we were sure that the men at the grave were handled properly.

"After," he said, "the body was moved to the cemetery and when we looked up from the phone we could already see the flags flying from the parade cases from the grave.

When asked about the state funeral it is among the most moving ceremonies that one can be a part of in his life."