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A Renewed Charge in JFK's Death

Associated Press

Political activist-comedian Dick Gregory has given the Rockefeller Commission what he contends is new evidence that President John F. Kennedy was the victim of a CIA assassination plot.

Gregory's argument was based on amateur movie film of the assassination and on a newspaper photograph made soon afterward. Both had been examined by the Warren Commission, which conducted the official government investigation of Kennedy's death, and by other investigators.

A SPOKESMAN for the Rockefeller Commission, created by President Ford to investigate allegations of domestic spying by the CIA, said "we will consider every bit" of evidence presented by Gregory and two associates.

Meanwhile, in a development related to the CIA controversy, House Democrats yesterday agree to create another special committee to investigate the CIA and other U.S. intelligence agencies.

The panel will join a newly created special Senate committee and at least four other House units which have already started investigations of the CIA and other spy activities.

In the assassination presentation yesterday, Robert Groden, 29, who identified himself as a "photographer and photo optical specialist" working

with Gregory, showed the movie at a news conference. Ralph Schoenman, also a Gregory associate, displayed a still photograph which he said showed convicted Watergate conspirators E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis at the scene of the assassination.

THE MOVIE consisted of film made by Abraham Zapruder as Kennedy was shot while his motorcade passed by the Texas School Book Depository in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, with some footage splices in from film Groden said was made by another amateur, Orville Nixon.

The Zapruder film shows Kennedy clutching at his throat and beginning to lean forward after he is first hit, when suddenly the right side of his head explodes and he rocks violently backward and to the right.

Groden said this clearly shows that Kennedy was killed by a shot from the front and not from the book depository to the rear, as concluded by the Warren Commission. The same argument has been made by critics of the Warren Commission report since it first appeared.

Groden also said the movie film showed a rifleman hiding in a clump of trees and another man pointing a rifle from a grassy knoll near where Zapruder was standing.

OTHER CRITICS in the past have made the same argument in contending

that Lee Harvey Oswald, identified by the Warren Commission as the sole assassin, did not act alone. Frames purportedly showing men in blow-ups from the movie film were indistinct, and reporters at Gregory's news conference — as in the past — could not tell whether the film showed hidden men or shadowy effects caused by leaves and poor lighting in the jumpy amateur film.

The Warren Commission examined the original film. Time magazine owns the original Zapruder film and has never shown it publicly. Groden declined to say where he obtained a copy.

Schoenman said the still picture showed Hunt and Sturgis in custody with a third man shortly after the assassination. He said the third man is a "dead ringer" for an FBI sketch of a man wanted in the slaying of Martin Luther King.

- The Washington Post _____
- Washington Star-News A-10
- Daily News (New York) _____
- The New York Times _____
- The Wall Street Journal _____
- The National Observer _____
- The Los Angeles Times _____

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SCHOENMAN SAID the men he identified as Hunt and Sturgis were CIA operatives and were disguised as tramps.

"These pictures were made available to the Warren Commission and they attached no significance to them," said Lt. Wayne Posey of the Dallas Police Department's Intelligence Division. "We don't, either."

"They were bums, winos, taken to the county jail. They had been in a box car down by the Houston Street viaduct and somebody called the police on them ... I'm sure they were talked to and turned loose because there was nothing to hold them on."

On Capitol Hill, the 24-member Democratic Steering and Policy Committee voted unanimously to create the new select committee similar to the one established earlier in the Senate.

The new 10-member panel, virtually certain to be approved by the full House, will investigate charges that the CIA and the FBI spied illegally on Americans. The committee also will investigate the need for overt and covert intelligence agencies at home and abroad.



Dick Gregory holds pictures he says link CIA to John F. Kennedy assassination.

—Associated Press