

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Panel Said Not Pressing To Get 3 Men's Identity

By EARL GOLZ

The Rockefeller Commission apparently is not making a serious effort at learning the identity of three men who were being escorted by Dallas police through Dealey Plaza soon after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Most of the law authorities who had contact with the three shabbily dressed men on Nov. 22, 1963, said no one from the Rockefeller Commission has approached them.

The commission, which is investigating the CIA, showed an active interest in the trio last month. Critics of the Warren Report's conclusions about the assassination had speculated that photographs of two of the men resembled former CIA operatives and convicted Watergate burglars E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis.

Hunt and Sturgis have both denied they are the men in the photos.

Persons who said they have not been interviewed by Rockefeller Commission investigators are former Dallas Police Capt. Will Fritz, Dallas County deputy sheriff Harold E. Elkins and former police officer Billy L. Bass.

Bass was one of two policemen photographed escorting the three men

through the plaza after they were found in a car of a freight train south of the triple underpass.

The men were left with Elkins who turned them over to Fritz, then head of the homicide and robbery branch in the police department.

Dallas Police Sgt. David Harkness was contacted by telephone last month by Robert Olsen, a Rockefeller Commission investigator. Harkness was on his motorcycle in Dealey Plaza when the three men were photographed.

Harkness said he "couldn't help him on that" (the identity of the three men). He said he gave Olsen the names of Bass and Marvin L. Wise, the two police officers who escorted the trio through the plaza. Wise was not available for comment Tuesday.

Olsen has told The News that he has talked to several Dallas policemen who were in the plaza area on Nov. 22, 1963, but he has refused to say to whom or to discuss his investigation.

"All I can tell you is that the commission is limiting its investigation to matters of alleged CIA involvement," Olsen said.

A report summing up all the commission's investigations is due to be released June 6.

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