

11/20/68 The "Tramp" Pictures.

From Sprague's memos, it seems the series of pictures of men in the hands of the police were taken 11/22/63 by George Smith of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, William Allen of the Dallas Times Herald and Jack Beers of the Dallas Morning News.

Allen is no longer with that paper. There I spoke to Bill Beall, in the absence of the man in charge, John Manziotto. According to Beall, these and related pictures had just recently been moved from the photographic dept. files into "other hands". After saying this he said that at this time of the year they "always get a flood of calls" for pictures. "Other hands" seem to be those of the managing editor or management, I forget which he said.

He promised to talk to Manziotto this morning and have Manziotto phone me if he can find anything out. I asked for the lefts to rights. Note that I am not certain Allen got the tramps. I am reasonably confident he got the Latin and Negro in his lens.

At the News Jack Beers was out sick. The photo department referred me to the biological (morgue), where Miss Barger also said she would speak to Beers. She said they are in a "bad situation" because they do not have these pictures in the morgue anymore. This means they did have them at one time. She referred me to the managing editor. She said they are in his office. They are. They had gotten so many requests for copies they have stopped making them because they fear the negatives are wearing out.

I spoke to Maurine Loebel (approx), secretary to Managing Editor Kreuger. He was not in. She switched me to his assistant, Tom Sommers (Sommers). He says Beers alone would know. The negatives are locked in Kreuger's safe. According to him, they do not have any prints of these negatives, which seems hard to believe.

The reason given for transferring these pictures to Kreuger's safe is "safekeeping". Kreuger was not in. The morgue, Sommers said, has only what the paper printed. This, I note, is not consistent with what Miss Berger told me.

George Smith, then a photographer at the Star-Telegram, is now on the city desk, his shift beginning 6 p.m. However, this question had been checked out when Life or Look got the pictures, some time ago. My information comes from Miss Shipp, who is in charge of the negative files. Her files disclose no names. She spoke to Smith, who told her that, like just about all the other photographers, he was then "shooting at everything that moved", without taking time to get the names. This is credible, if you have had news experience. He does not have the names. He has no knowledge of whether these men were arrested or not. He has no reason to believe they were taken in for anything other than questioning.

Star-Telegram: 817/ED6-9271; T-H:214/~~RI1111~~ R11-4355; News 214/RI7-4611.

Beers still out sick p.m. 11/20. Left word for him to call.

FF

*Mrs. Paul*