

Two 'Tramps' Identified

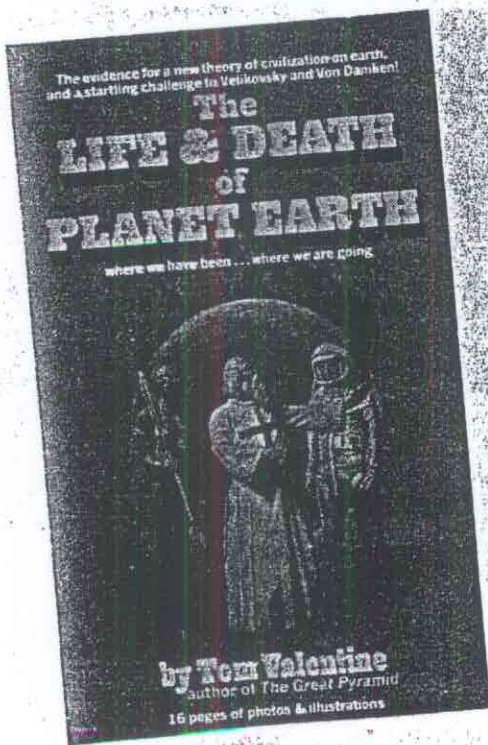
ONE of the biggest mysteries concerning the assassination of President Kennedy has been the identity of three men, commonly called "the tramps," who were picked up in the railroad yard in back of the Book Depository the day of the murder.

The men were taken to the Sheriff's office, questioned and released. No record was kept of their names.

Two assassination writers identified two of the men as E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis. They were, of course, wrong.

Three CIA sources have now told this magazine that the lead man in the group often called "Frenchie" (because of the European cut of his suitcoat), was a full-time Naval Intelligence officer who was assigned to the Miami area at the time Alpha 66 Cuban exiles were training in the Everglades for an invasion of Cuba. That man's name is believed to be Ted Slack. The man immediately behind him has been identified as a St. Louis Minuteman named John Bloomer.

According to one CIA source, it is not surprising that a man from Naval Intelligence was on the scene. "There had to be 20 different intelligence organizations that were in on the deal," he said.



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