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'No CIA Link to Kennedy Killing'

Washington

No link has been found to connect the Central Intelligence Agency to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy nor is there believable evidence that he was shot by more than one gunman, the Rockefeller Commission reported yesterday.

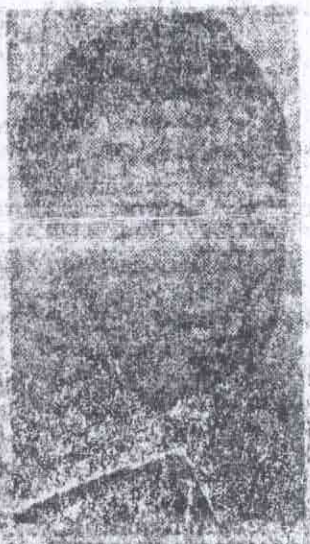
The commission dismissed conspiracy theories surrounding the Nov. 22, 1963, murder of President Kennedy in Dallas, Tex.

A detailed analysis of movie film taken at the moment of the shooting and a re-examination of records of the Kennedy autopsy disprove a claim that the President was shot by a sniper hiding in the right front of the presidential motorcade, the report said.

It also rejected claims that E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis, later to become involved in the Watergate scandal, were placed at the murder scene by photographic evidence.

The Rockefeller commission also said there is no credible evidence showing that the CIA had any connection whatsoever with Lee Harvey Oswald, identified by the Warren Commission as Kennedy's assassin, or with Jack Ruby, the Dallas nightclub owner who shot and killed Oswald.

Critics of the Warren Commission report have long contended that an analysis of the movie film of the murder casts doubt on the conclusion that Kennedy



OSWALD

any bullet coming from any other direction.

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It said three doctors on the panel reported that such a motion would be caused by a violent straightening and stiffening of the entire body as a result of a seizure-like neuromuscular reaction to major damage inflicted to nerve centers in the brain.

One panel member, Dr. Harold G. Oliver, director of the Department of Biophysics at Edgewood Arsenal, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md., said that the violent motion of the President's body "could not possibly have been caused by the impact of the bullet."

He attributed the popular misconception as to this subject to the dramatic effects employed in television and motion picture productions, the report said.

The panel said that Dr. John K. Latimer of New York City, experimenting with test animals, said medical evidence is conclusive that the President was not hit from the front or right front.

Latimer used a Mannlicher-Goergo 6.5 millimeter rifle of the same model found by the Warren Commission to belong to Oswald and ammunition from the same

manuscript and lot numbers found on a box of ammunition by Oswald.

The results, he said, confirmed both the head injuries shown in the autopsy photographs and X-rays.

According to the commission, Dr. Carl H. Wecht, coroner for Allegheny County, Pa., and a long-time critic of the Warren Commission investigation, has previously had changed his mind.

Dr. Wecht testified that the available evidence all points to the President being struck only by two bullets coming from his rear, and that an impact on the back of the head or on the front of the presidential car, the report said.

On another subject, the report said there is no credible basis in fact for the various claims that the movie film shows one or more assassins in the area of the grassy knoll to the front of the Kennedy car.

It said a study by the photographic laboratory of the FBI of the film and of the entire library of photographs taken of the assassination site bears out that conclusion.

A similar FBI photo analysis showed there is little or no similarity between former CIA agent Hunt and Sturgis and the two "derelicts" photographed near the assassination scene in Dallas by police. Among other things, there is a height difference of about seven inches between the two men in the Dallas pictures while there is only a two-inch height difference between Hunt and Sturgis, the report said.

The Rockefeller Commission was charged with determining the extent of illegal covert activities by the CIA inside the United States. The commission expanded its inquiry to include allegations of CIA involvement in the Kennedy assassination that were raised by comedian Dick Gregory and his associates.

Associated Press

1975

Conclusions On Kennedy Slaying Hit

Pittsburgh

Dr. Cyril Wecht, claiming his views of President Kennedy's murder were distorted by the Rockefeller commission, wants the commission to release a transcript of his statements.

"If that transcript shows in any way I have withdrawn or revised my thoughts of the Warren report, I'll eat the transcript on the steps of the White House," said Wecht, a forensic pathologist and Allegheny county coroner.

The report on the Central Intelligence Agency sought to put to rest the theories surrounding the circumstances of Kennedy's death, including claims that more than one gunman was involved and that Kennedy was struck by bullets from two directions. The Rockefeller report said it found no such evidence.

Wecht denied the Rockefeller commission's statement that he "testified that the available evidence all points to the President being struck by two bullets coming from the rear, and that no



AP Wirephoto

DR. CYRIL WECHT
He said he was misquoted

support can be found for theories which postulate gunmen to the front of the presidential car."

Wecht said that was a "flagrant" misrepresentation of what he told commission attorney Robert Olsen.

He said he still maintains that at least two gunmen were involved in the plot and that Lee Harvey Oswald alone could not have inflicted all the wounds sustained by Kennedy and former Texas Governor John Connally.

"Believe me, I hammered this point and made it perfectly clear," Wecht said.

Associated Press