

Probe Finds No CIA Link To Kennedy Assassination

WASHINGTON (AP) — No link has been found to connect the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) 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 Tuesday.

The commission discounted all of the major conspiracy theories surrounding the November 22, 1963, murder of President Kennedy in Dallas, Texas.

A DETAILED analysis of movie film taken at the moment of the shooting and a re-examination of the records of the Kennedy autopsy disprove a contention that the

President was shot by a sniper hiding to 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 sole 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 was shot by Oswald firing above and to the rear of the presidential car from a window on the sixth floor of the Texas Book Depository.

"It was claimed that the movement of the President's head and body backward and to the left is consistent only with a shot having come from the right front of the presidential car — that is, from the direction of the grassy knoll," the commission report noted.

THE REPORT said that a freshly assembled panel of medical and scientific experts is unanimous in its finding that Kennedy was struck by only two bullets, both of which were fired from the rear "and that there is no medical evidence to support a contention that the President was struck by any bullet coming from any other direction."

"They were also unanimous in finding that the violent backward and leftward motion of the President's upper body following the head shot was not caused by the impact of a bullet coming from the front or right front," the report said.

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."

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 Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of the film and of the entire library of photographs taken of the assassination site bears out that conclusion.

The Rockefeller commission, which was charged with determining the extent of illegal covert activities by the CIA inside the United States, expanded its inquiry to include allegations of CIA involvement in the Kennedy assassination.

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