

by Clayton Hickerson

Dallas, Tex., Nov. 25 (AP) - Jesse Curry, Will Fritz, Glenn King, N.N. McDonald, J.D. Tippit ... these are the names of the "old pros" who helped make the Dallas police feared by the underworld.

And District Attorney Henry Wade, in asking the death penalty for 24 defendants, heard the jury grant his request in 23 cases.

With men like these enforcing the law in Dallas, it has not been a healthy place for criminals in the 40 years since the small, stout Fritz joined the force.

Fritz and Curry and their men brought the old southwestern outlaws like Raymond Hamilton, Clyde Barrow, Buck Barrow and Clyde's cigar-smoking gun moll, Bonnie Parker, to either death or prison.

When President Kennedy was shot to death, they had the alleged killer behind bars within two hours.

Wade says Fritz' homicide bureau had enough evidence to "prove beyond a shadow of a doubt" that Lee Harvey Oswald killed the President. The tall, graying and handsome D.A. told a press conference: "I've sent many men to their death in the electric chair with less evidence."

He said most of the evidence was uncovered within a few hours, and called it "amazing."

McDonald, who made the actual arrest of Oswald, says he is "an ordinary cop." But "he's much better than that," says Capt. Glenn King, administrative assistant to Chief Curry.

J.D. Tippit, 39, slain by Oswald, was no ordinary officer. In 1955, he was cited for bravery in disarming a person. About six years ago, he was attacked by a man with an ice-pick. He was stabbed twice but made the arrest.

"These are no 'hick cops.'" said Wade. "They are dedicated professionals and they work like it."

Fritz, who is shy about his age but whom officers say "must be around 64," works wonders with criminals, Curry says. He noted that although Oswald was arrogant and uncooperative when first arrested, Fritz soon brought him around to an attitude almost friendly toward his interrogators.

"He often gains the confidence of his prisoner by convincing him that he's going to play square with him," said Curry. The veteran homicide chief is nearly always smiling and looks like the genial rancher that he is in his off-time.

Curry is a big man with a soft voice. Football fans remember him as a 1933 star tackle called "Bull" Curry. He joined the police department on May 31, 1936.

His first assignment was traffic and he rode a motorcycle. His rise was fast and he became Chief of

Police on Jan. 20, 1960.

"I've always wanted to be Chief," he said.

"He's a great Chief," one lieutenant said. "Nobody can prevent a murder, I guess, but if anybody could it would be Jesse Curry."

Working with press, radio and television newsmen is Glenn King, a former reporter with the Dallas News. He knows reporters, their problems and their troubles.

Newsmen found the Dallas police, as one put it, "the most cooperative bunch of cops I ever worked around. They'll do anything for you."

This comment was made as a policeman held a chair for a Japanese photographer trying to get a "shot" of the crowd around Fritz' office.