



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

105-82555

New York, New York
February 19, 1964

Re: Lee Harvey Oswald
Internal Security - R

The January 30, 1964, issue of the "National Guardian" ("NG"), page 3, columns 3 and 4, contains an advertisement reflecting that the "NG" would sponsor "An Inquiry into The Oswald Case" on the evening of February 18, 1964, at Town Hall, 123 West 43rd Street, New York City, at which the speakers would be Attorney Mark Lane and his client, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, Staughton Lynd, Jack Minnis, co-authors of the "New Republic" article "Seeds of Doubt," and Professor David Haber, Rutgers University Law School, as Chairman.

A characterization of the "NG" appears in the appendix hereto.

On June 10, 1963, a source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that at a meeting of the New York Council to Abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee (NYCAHUAC),

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which was held on May 28, 1963, at 74 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York, Mark Lane was elected to the position as Vice-Chairman of the organization.

A characterization of the NYCAHUAC is contained in the appendix hereto.

In February, 1948, a second source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, identified Staughton Lynd as a member of the Harvard Chapter of the American Youth for Democracy (AYD) as of December 14, 1947.

The AYD has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On February 13, 1959, a third source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, made available a leaflet entitled "Emergency Civil Liberties Committee Program for 1959," which reflects that Professor David Haber is a member of the National Council of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee (ECLC).

A characterization of the ECLC is contained in the appendix hereto.

Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) were in attendance at the meeting sponsored by the "NG" at Town Hall, 123 West 43rd Street, New York City, on the evening of February 18, 1964, at which there were approximately 1500 persons present.

James Aronson, the Editor of the "NG," opened the meeting, at which time he related how the officials of Town Hall

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had attempted to have the reservation for the meeting cancelled on the basis that Town Hall was not advised in the original lease that Mrs. Marguerite Oswald would appear on the program.

Aronson stated the "NG" solicited the aid of the American Civil Liberties Union to force Town Hall to honor the lease and which was finally accomplished when the "NG" did, after considerable expense, raise the sum of \$25,000.00 to be held in escrow for any physical damages to the property as a result of the meeting.

Aronson then introduced David Haber, whom he described as a Professor of Law at Rutgers University and a former law clerk of Justice Hugo Black, as the Chairman of the evening.

David Haber stated that the primary reason for his presence at the meeting was that he believed there was a need for greater publicity of the Oswald case and the aura of secrecy which has surrounded the case.

David Haber then introduced Staughton Lynd and Jack Minnis, co-authors of the "New Republic" article "Seeds of Doubt," stating that Staughton Lynd, currently a Professor of History at Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia, and who would be a Professor of History at Yale University next year, would be the next speaker.

Staughton Lynd, who described himself as a specialist in the period of the American Revolution, criticized the Oswald investigation, stating it was of manufactured information and of changing facts to a degree which made it appear to him as a Madison Avenue and Hollywood production.

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Lynd went into extensive detail on the contradictions of the autopsy reports concerning the President, pointing out how reports differed as to where the bullets entered the President's body.

He drew an analogy between the Dreyfus case and the Oswald case.

Lynd stated the Warren Commission does not intend to investigate how the President was killed, but intends to accept the FBI report without question and added that the FBI was an interested party, and this Lynd called a flagrant dereliction of duty.

He stated that if the Oswald case was a conspiracy, there were certain Government sources who wished to conceal it. He stated the United States lied about the U-2, then the Bay of Pigs, and now the assassination of the President.

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The next speaker was Mark Lane described as a well-known civil rights attorney, a fighter against landlords and a volunteer to defend Lee Oswald.

Lane criticized the investigation made by the FBI, Secret Service and the Dallas Police. He used affidavits alleged to have been furnished him by a source in the Dallas District Attorney's office and a blackboard drawing to give three versions of how the President was shot. He did this in an attempt to prove that the first bullet could not have been fired by Oswald.

Lane related how he talked with a woman who said the FBI had taken film from her, had given her a receipt for the film, but had never returned the picture to her.

Lane played a tape recording of a telephone conversation he had on the afternoon of February 18, 1964, with Miss Hill, a Dallas woman who stated she had heard four to six shots but was told by a Secret Service Agent that they had only three bullets, therefore only three shots were fired. The agent suggested that she may have heard echoes or fire crackers. Miss Hill denied this.

Lane said that a paraffin test made on Oswald's face showed no nitrates therefore Oswald could not have fired the rifle. He also stated the rifle was totally incapable of doing what the FBI and others had stated.

Lane said the FBI's answer as to why they had not followed Oswald on the day of the assassination was that their area of jurisdiction was limited to spies and saboteurs and the FBI was not permitted to move in the area of non-conformists.

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Lane said a two hour meeting was held one week before the assassination at Jack Ruby's Club Carousel, between Bernard Weissman, Patrolman Tibbett, and a third person whose identity he would reveal in about one week. He said he could not amplify on this matter at this time.

Annette T. Rubinstein, described as a former New York University teacher, was the next speaker. She requested contributions for the "National Guardian" and requested those present to write at once to their Congressmen. She explained that the reason for this request was because Congress would vote this week on appropriations for the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA). Rubinstein described the HCUA as an organization which had done almost as much to intimidate "us" as the FBI.

In public hearings before the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 87th Congress, First Session, held at Washington, D.C., on May 31, 1961, Annette Rubinstein invoked the principles of the First Amendment and the protection of the Fifth Amendment when questioned concerning Communist Party membership.

Mrs. Marguerite Oswald was the last speaker and she stated that an injustice had been done. She described herself as a humble layman, a pretty good fighter, an authority on cross-examination, one who has testified before the Warren Commission and held many press conferences.

She said the fact that her daughter-in-law had testified through an interpreter had not endeared her to the FBI or Secret Service.

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She stated that Mark Lane had sent her his brief after which she requested he represent her son. She thanked the "National Guardian" for sponsoring this meeting.

Following the speeches there was a question and answer period in which Mrs. Oswald stated she was writing a book in which all the facts would appear.

During this question and answer period, Mark Lane advised those present that in each city in which he had spoken there had been formed a Citizens Committee of Inquiry. He stated that at the present time New York would be the headquarters for the National Citizens Committee of Inquiry. He requested all those present who were really interested to write their name and address on a piece of paper and give it to the ushers, expressing their desire to form this committee.

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