

Director, Federal Bureau of  
Investigation

March 13, 1967

129-11

The Attorney General

Assassination of President John F. Kennedy  
Warren Commission Records

This is in response to your February 24 memorandum regarding public disclosure of 55 pages of Warren Commission Document No. 75, which have been excluded from public disclosure under guidelines approved by McGeorge Bundy, Special Assistant to the President. Your memo states that the Bureau has no objection to public disclosure of these pages.

We understand that in addition to these 55 pages there are another approximately 50 pages of Commission Document No. 75 which have been excluded from public disclosure under the same guidelines. We would appreciate your advising us whether the Bureau has any objection to public disclosure of these remaining pages.

Further, it is requested that the Bureau furnish to the Department copies of all FBI investigative reports (except Commission Document No. 75 and except information which has been furnished in the series of memos beginning about February 20, 1967) which relate to the investigation now being conducted by New Orleans District Attorney Garrison or to any alleged New Orleans area plot to assassinate President Kennedy.

For such assistance as it may be there is attached a list of the names which have been noted by the Department as having been mentioned in connection with the Garrison investigation.

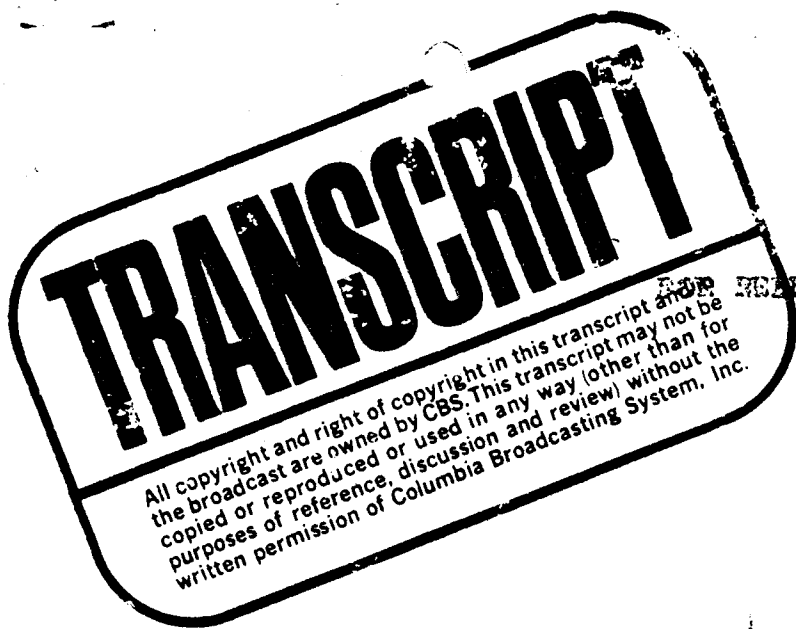
cc: Records  
Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division  
Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division

129-11

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
6	MAR 15 1967
H.C.	

List of Names of Persons Connected with the  
New Orleans Investigation

Andrew, Dean Adams, Jr.  
Bantister, W. Guy, Jr.  
Barringer, Alvin Roland  
Barringer, Clay  
Blackmon, Andrew  
Brinkley, Carlos Jose  
Coffey, Kevin Stacey  
Cummings, Raymond  
Duenhafer, J. B.  
David, W. Hardy  
Feltz, David William  
Fox, Lawrence  
Garrison, James  
Gill, W. G. Gray  
Gonzalez, Pascual Enrique Eudolo  
Gonzales, Manuel Garcia  
Gold, Clay  
Gutlich, William  
Hub, Josephine  
Ivan, Louis  
Lawless, James H.  
Lewis, David Franklin, Jr.  
Marschall, Dante  
Martens, Layton Patrick  
Martin, Jack S.  
Owens, Lee Harvey  
Galtos, Carlos  
Niley (Nelly) William B.  
Hess, Betty Raymond  
Santone, Robert Milton  
Seeling, Kevin  
Shaw, Clay H.  
Smith, Sergio Archana  
Stanley, Carl John  
Steele, Charles  
Tortez, Bernardo  
Tortez, Miguel  
Voebel, Edward  
Wegman, Edward F.  
Wegman, William J.  
Zelden, Sam "Honk"



CBS NEWS  
2020 N Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

RELEASE: 12:30 PM EST  
SUNDAY, MARCH 12

**FACE THE NATION**

as broadcast over the  
CBS Television Network  
and the  
CBS Radio Network

Sunday, March 12, 1967 - 12:30-1:00 PM EST

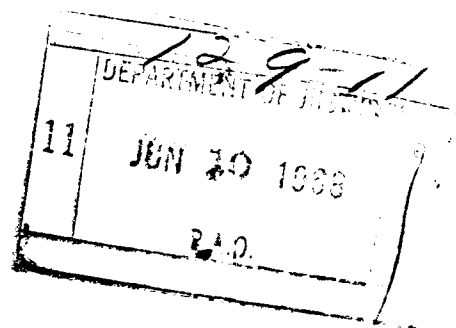
**GUEST: THE HONORABLE RAMSEY CLARK**  
Attorney General of the United States

**NEWS CORRESPONDENTS:**

Martin Agronsky  
CBS NEWS

James Clayton  
Washington Post

George Herman  
CBS NEWS



**FILE**

**DIRECTOR: Robert Vitarelli**

**PRODUCERS: Ellen Wadley and Prentiss Childs**

**NOTE TO EDITORS: This broadcast was pre-recorded at CBS,  
Washington, Saturday, March 11.**

MR. AGRONSKY: Mr. Attorney General, the District Attorney of New Orleans, James Garrison, declares that there is new evidence in the assassination of President Kennedy. From your knowledge, does such new evidence exist?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: We certainly have no knowledge of new evidence, Mr. Agronsky; and I will be very much surprised if any exists.

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ANNOUNCER: From CBS Washington, in color, FACE THE NATION, a spontaneous and unchoreographed interview with the just-appointed Attorney General of the United States, Ramsay Clark. Mr. Clark will be questioned by CBS news correspondent George Harman, James Clayton of the Washington Post and CBS news correspondent Martin Agronsky.

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MR. AGRONSKY: Mr. Attorney General, one of the first arrests that has been made by the District Attorney of New Orleans, Mr. Garrison, is of a gentleman called Clay Shaw, which the Attorney General says is an alias for a man named Clay Bertrand, who is mentioned in the Warren Report.

One of your first statements, when you became Attorney General, was that the FBI had already investigated and had cleared Clay Shaw of any part in the assassination of President Kennedy; yet, Shaw's name is never mentioned anywhere

in the Warren Commission report.

Why is that, and is there an identity between Shaw and Bertrand?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: Under the circumstances, that is, in view of the fact that there will be a hearing in New Orleans Tuesday, I really think it would be inappropriate for me to comment on the case. Mr. Garrison has not offered us any evidence that he may have. I am unable to say why he hasn't done this. It would seem to me the natural thing for any prosecutor to do. But, as of this time, and without real doubt, I would stand by Mr. Hoover's remarks in November of 1966, that not one shred of evidence links any other conspirator to Oswald in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

MR. CLAYTON: General Clark, have you asked Mr. Garrison for the evidence that he has in this case?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: We have had no direct communications, in view of the attitude that he has taken.

MR. HERMAN: I can understand your reluctance to get involved in the case which is now to be heard, but I think perhaps it is fair enough to look back. You say the FBI has investigated, and yet you did say in the statement after your confirmation, the FBI had investigated him; and yet there is no documentation of that in the Warren Commission

Report and we are just trying to find out how and when it happened.

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: There was a comprehensive investigation by the FBI involving these New Orleans allegations and such, in fact most of those reports have been made public and they support the conclusion of the FBI that Oswald acted alone.

MR. HERMAN: Was this FBI investigation for the Warren Commission, sir?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: Yes, it was.

MR. HERMAN: I see.

MR. AGRONSKY: Go ahead, George.

MR. HERMAN: Well, the other part of it I want to understand -- presumably this part of it then, is part of the secret material of the Warren Commission documents which have not yet been released which are kept confidential in the Archives?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: Well, some of the information developed by the FBI in that investigation at New Orleans has been released, and many of the people whose names have been in the newspapers recently from New Orleans have been, their names are in these earlier FBI reports -- all of the information that was developed there as is true in all of the aspects of the investigation, have not been released

for a broad variety of reasons.

MR. HERMAN: That brings up just one other case, if I may. Immediately after Jack Ruby's death, in fact within less than 24 hours after Jack Ruby's death the Ruby material was released in the Archives. Now, Mr. Ferris has been dead several weeks, and the Ferris material is still classified and I wondered if that is at the order of the FBI and the Department of Justice?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: No. Those documents are under the general jurisdiction of General Services Administration at this time. There has been a policy, and I think a wise one, not to release data about individuals that might affect their character or reputation where it has no relevance to the Warren Commission investigation or to the assassination of President Kennedy, and this we have followed.

MR. HERMAN: That implies that you believe, then, that the Services Administration believes that the Ferris material has no relevance?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: That is true.

MR. AGRONSKY: And can you clear up this Shaw-Bertrand thing for us? Is Shaw an alias for Bertrand, as Garrison contends it is?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: As I said earlier, I don't think it would be fair for me to really comment in any way on that in view of the State proceeding. We certainly don't want to interfere in any way with the State proceeding. It's absolutely essential that history know the truth in this matter. I am disturbed and saddened that so much publicity, so much agitation, so much doubt is created. I think that is unfortunate for this country because this is a matter that affects us all so that the assassination of President Kennedy has left a deep mark on the lives of all of us and is something we should be highly sensitive about and we should seek the truth in the most circumspect and cautious methods.

MR. HERMAN: Does the Federal Government have any role or any interest, directly, in this business in New Orleans? Is it a friend of the court, should it be in attendance, should it have some presence there?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: No. I think not. I think our State-Federal system is adequate to every type of matter that arises that I have ever seen, including this one. I think this is something for the State and I hope they will proceed with dignity.

MR. CLAYTON: In the last couple of weeks there have



been stories out of New York as well as in New Orleans about assassination teams allegedly sent by Castro in efforts to kill President Kennedy. Do you know anything about FBI reports on those teams?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: There have been studies of these matters. We have nothing that indicates any evidence of a conspiracy, and we stand on that on the basis of our investigation.

There is a morbid fascination about the assassination. There have been rumors running rampant ever since the assassination and I suppose it has been historically the case when a great man dies under such circumstances there will be doubt and intrigue and inquiry for a long time.

I believe that the Warren Commission investigation was the most comprehensive and definitive investigation of a series of facts ever undertaken and there is overwhelming evidence in it to support its conclusion that Oswald acted alone. Until there is evidence to the contrary, I will stand with the Warren Commission.

MR. AGRONSKY: Don't you find it curious, sir, that the District Attorney of New Orleans, having all of the evidence that is at your disposal persists in this investigation and indicates that he has new evidence which he has not turned over to the Federal Government or to

you, as you requested?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: Yes. I find it curious  
and I find it disturbing and I find it saddening.

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MR. AGRONSKY: Mr. Attorney General, to lead you to another area, an area I know that concerns you very much too, the area of wire tapping and electronic eavesdropping, from your knowledge of the Justice Department operations, and you have been in the Department for six years, I believe, would you say that the blame for wire tapping when Robert Kennedy was Attorney General should be allocated to Mr. Kennedy, or, as Mr. Kennedy has said, should be laid at the door really, of the FBI Director, J. Edgar Hoover?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: Well, I am not in the business of blaming anybody. I am happy to say that I was in the Lands Division for four years, the first four years of my service to the Department of Justice, and we have yet to find any wire tapping in any Lands Division case. I don't think any will be revealed.

I am not sure beyond what we have filed in Court that there is any relevant evidence on who was responsible for the degree of wire tapping and electronic surveillance that recent disclosures have indicated.

MR. AGRONSKY: What is your position on wire tapping and electronic eavesdropping?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: My position is, that it is incompatible with what we want for this country, and that there is only one exception, only one area where it is

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justified, and that is in the area of national security where there is a direct threat to the security of this nation.

MR. CLAYTON: You said recently that there are no wiretaps by the FBI today that you have not approved of, and those that you have approved are all national security cases.

Over the last ten years the three men who held this office before you testified quite similarly on Capitol Hill that they had approved all the wiretaps, and they were national security cases.

We have now had fourteen cases in which wiretaps were held on non-security cases.

How can you be sure there are no other wiretaps than those you mentioned?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: Well, in any such matter you have to go forward in confidence. I am absolutely satisfied, I have discussed the matter with Mr. Hoover and with other high officials in the FBI and it is my judgment today that there are thirty-eight wiretaps, there are no electronic surveillances otherwise, and that all of these are in the national security area.

MR. CLAYTON: Have you changed the procedures through which the FBI establishes wiretaps?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I think it is fair to say that

we have changed the procedures. I think we have a much tighter procedure now that calls for a regular inventory so that I can keep currently abreast of where we are at a given time.

AGRONSKY: Mr. Attorney General, would it be possible for the FBI Director, Mr. Hoover, or anyone who directed the FBI, to direct a wire tap or an electronic eavesdropping operation without your knowledge? Does he have the authority to do so?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: He does not have the authority to do so. When you say is it possible, why, anything is possible. I think in terms of Mr. Hoover's character, it is not possible for him to do so because he knows of the regulation and he would not violate it.

MR. HERMAN: Just so we understand it, if he does feel that it is required that a wire tap be established, you have to be informed specifically about the case, is that correct?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: That's correct, it requires my written approval.

MR. HERMAN: The names and the people involved?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: That's right.

MR. CLAYTON: In each individual case?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: In each individual case, that's right.

MR. HERMAN: What about other kinds of electronic crime detection? The wire tapping and surveillance seems to get most of the publicity, but the President's Commission suggested that the United States police departments around the country are

behind the times in the use of computers and other electronic devices which help in crime -- in the apprehension of criminals, not by surveillance but by amassing evidence and by deductive processes and so forth. Should that now be stepped-up under your leadership?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I think very definitely so. As you know, the FBI has moved forward just this year in that field with its national crime computer operation and I think it is awfully important to police departments throughout the country that we have the highest degree of coordination and cooperation so that we can exchange vital facts involving commissions of crime.

MR. HERMAN: How close does this come to sort of "Big Brother is watching you", through its computers and its keeping track of where people are, that the Federal government or the Department of Justice and the FBI will know where all American are and what they are doing and how legitimate their business is, and so forth?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I think they are two essentially different things. The type of information that we are talking about is crime statistic data, it is a serial number, identification of stolen automobiles, data on felons who are fugitives from justice. It is nothing relating to the character of individuals or general intelligence about individuals.

MR. AGRONSKY: Mr. Attorney General, the majority of the

President's Crime Commission said that to fight organized crime effectively we need legislation to allow wire tapping and electronic eavesdropping by police officials. Do you agree?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: No, I do not. I do not feel that we need this. I think an illustration of our effectiveness without it is the statistics for 1966. During 1966 more indictments were brought under our organized Crime statutes involving more individuals by 25 per cent than in any preceding year, and no electronic surveillance was used in developing these cases.

MR. AGRONSKY: Then you can have adequate law enforcement by an efficient police department, in your opinion, without the use of these devices?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: Far more adequate by training, by setting standards, by giving full support to police departments; this is the key to protection of the public safety and not use of devices.

MR. CLAYTON: Since the enforcement of most criminal laws is in the hands of the state and not of the Federal government, what can the Federal government do about crime?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I think the Federal government can do a great deal. We have to recognize that crime is a national responsibility, even though law enforcement is a local responsibility. We have always practiced that, and we preach that. The thing the Federal government can best do in my judgment is

demonstrated by the President's Crime Control Act of 1967. This Act provides the opportunity to offer great uplift to law enforcement throughout the United States. If the funds that we seek under the guidance that we seek are available in 1969, we can triple the rate of investment for excellence in local law enforcement throughout the country and that will make a tremendous difference.

MR. AGRONSKY: Mr. Attorney General, the Crime Commission, the President's Crime Commission touched on another really basic controversy that I know concerns you a lot, when some of its members held that the recent Supreme Court decisions on confessions, such as the Miranda case made the job of the police too difficult, that they had given defendants in criminal cases more protections than they should have and some have been urging Constitutional amendments to redress the balance. What is your position on that?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: My position is that it is much too early to know the full effect of Miranda today. I am personally quite skeptical that it has any really deterrent effect on effective law enforcement and as an illustration, I would offer this: Since 1948 the Federal Bureau of Investigation has given a warning, essentially equivalent to the Miranda warning, to all people that it has under interrogation, and this has not really in any way impaired its effectiveness. I think far more important than interrogation of witnesses is excellence in personnel,



training, and standards for personnel.

MR. HERMAN: In trying to solve the whole problem of the crime wave, where do you put the emphasis, General Clark? Do you put it on prevention, on detection and jailing? I believe Mr. Katzenbach in the course of interviews that followed the publication of the President's Commission said that the problem is, you put them in jail but sooner or later they are going to get out again and they are going to be the same people back at large unless you have done something about their characters in the meanwhile. Where should the emphasis in the country go today?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I think we have to have a comprehensive approach. I think it would be quite unfortunate for us to look for a single, simple answer. None exists. My personal view is that in terms of public safety, that is, not the underlying causes of crimes, so to speak, but public safety today, the two most important areas are in improving the quality of our police departments and giving them adequate support from all levels of the public and in providing them with ample manpower of high quality.

I think corrections is a major key that we greatly neglect. I think we have got to recognize the fact that four out of five people convicted of felonies in the United States today were convicted of a misdemeanor before that and usually while they were a kid. And, there is a tremendous

opportunity missed, certainly if we devoted our hearts and our hands and our minds to help those kids when they come before a misdemeanor court on their first brush, we could save a tremendous amount of repetition of crime, of crime that injures so many of our people and we could salvage lives and save dollars.

MR. BERMAN: The report speaks very sharply about the rate of crime among young teenagers, quite young teenagers and it says since that is the major source of crime at the moment and the percentage of teenagers in the country is rising rapidly as our age graph changes, that we are in for a pretty tough time. Is there a crisis coming up on us in crime?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I don't think we should take a crisis approach to crime in the United States at all. I think we should take a firm determination approach. We can do something about this. A simple illustration is automobiles. We permit the theft of 400,000 automobiles in the United States a year. 64 percent of these are stolen by kids; 42 percent had the keys in the ignition at the time of theft, and many of the kids who picked up these keys and turned on the ignition and drove off, have led themselves or have been led into a life of crime that could

have been avoided.

I think public neglect, public negligence and the lack of support and concern is something that is hampering us here.

MR. AGRONSKY: Mr. Attorney General, have you made any determination in the case of Adam Clayton Powell?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: In what -- in what way?

MR. AGRONSKY: Well, there was referred to the Justice Department much of the material in the Powell case and talk of a possible indictment of Mr. Powell by the Justice Department after it had studied his case. Have you had an opportunity to study it and has any determination been made about it?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: There has been no final determination. We have received the records and files of the committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives and they are under very careful care, scrutiny and study at this time. We will probably not proceed until the Congress has finally determined the major issues before it in the case.

MR. HERMAN: Does the Congress have a voice in whether you will take final action or is that entirely your own determination?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I think under separation of powers we, as the Executive branch, have to make the final discretionary judgment as to how to proceed.

MR. HERMAN: These are on the specific issues of whether there was fraud or misappropriation of funds as opposed to whether he should have a seat in the Congress?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: Yes. I assume we are talking about the cases that have been referred to us.

MR. HERMAN: Now, have you formulated any policy or do you have your mind prepared as to what you will do if the Justice Department and the Executive branch becomes involved in the question of seating or not seating this Congressman-elect?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: No, we would have to view that as it came to us. It now appears, as you know, that the Congress will be represented by private counsel.

MR. AGRONSKY: Well, the point that George is getting at, and I think perhaps is still unclear is, suppose that the Congress decides to seat Mr. Powell, and at that point does the Justice Department step out of the case completely?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I assume you are not referring to the case of the seating because there would be no such issue then. You are referring--

MR. AGRONSKY: No, I am not--

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: You are referring to these matters of alleged misconduct.

MR. AGRONSKY: Exactly.

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: No. We would have a continuing responsibility to study those and see whether there has been a violation of Federal law, and if there has been to act upon it, and if there has not, to close the matter out.

MR. HERMAN: How long is that likely to take.

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: It is awfully hard to predict a case like that, and you hate to do it. It depends on how quickly the Congress is able to resolve the issues before it, and at the very least it would take some weeks for us to go through the data before us.

MR. AGRONSKY: But first the Congress must act, then you would act, that would be it.

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I wouldn't say must. It is certainly most desirable, unless there is some delay that we cannot foresee at this time, for the Congress to conclude its efforts first.

MR. CLAYTON: Moving to a slightly different subject, you have expressed your view that capital punishment is

no longer acceptable in this country. Are you going to direct the representatives of the Justice Department not to seek capital punishment in any cases in which it may be possible?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: Well, I think unacceptable, the word you use, is a little further than we have gone. We have directed our comments only to the Federal responsibility in the Federal area.

In answer to your question specifically, I think we have an obligation to enforce the statutes on the books and we will do so, and when Congress changes those statutes we will enforce them as changed. There are provisions for death penalties on the books today.

MR. CLAYTON: Will you ask Congress to change the statutes?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: We have recommended to the Congress at least in the area of D. C. crimes, that the death penalty be abolished and that further study on the method of going about it to protect the public be made.

MR. CLAYTON: Is the President in agreement with your view on the death penalty?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I have not had any specific discussion with him. My judgment is, although he should speak for himself, is that he would agree

MR. HERRMAN: I have one, before we get too far away from it in point of time, I have one further question I want to go back to on the Powell case. That is, this is a constitutional problem of the separation of powers. The Congress has been known to say the Chief Justice has made his decision, now let him enforce it; but the enforcement usually falls to the Executive Branch. If the Judiciary should say that Powell must be seated and the House says that Powell shall not be seated, it is likely to fall back to you to find the legal precedents and help the President make up his mind. Have you done any studying and do you have any ideas on what your position ought to be?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I think it is very unlikely that such a confrontation will develop in such a hard and fast manner. If it did, certainly we would have to explore all of the facets of it most carefully at that time. I don't think there is going to be such a serious conflict between the Judiciary and the Legislative branches. I think we will support the law as it developed at the time.

MR. AGRONSKY: You have said that you plan an



intensified antitrust drive to combat local and regional price-fixing conspiracies. Now, have you decided yet on your first target, and when you are going to undertake this investigation?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: My comments were in an interview that appeared in one of the major newspapers, and I was commenting really on the fact that I felt that we had an enforcement resource, the United States Attorneys' offices, 93 of them involving over 600 attorneys scattered throughout the United States who could be effectively devoted in price-fixing cases because of their experience in presentation of simple fact issues to courts, and we plan, as we really have for some time to explore this fully and to see whether we cannot utilize this resource to prosecute law enforcement in local and regional areas.

MR. HERMAN: Mr. Clark, your father has been a potent and eloquent voice on the United States Supreme Court. Are you going to add more to the good of the country than your father's resignation is going to subtract from it?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: It would be very difficult for me to say that I could. I don't believe I can. I am very proud of my father and our family has always been proud of his career.

MR. AGRONSKY: Mr. Attorney General, have you made any determination on the antitrust case against the ABC-ITT merger, American Broadcasting Company merger with International Telephone and Telegraph Company?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: You say have I made a personal study of it?

MR. AGRONSKY: Yes.

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: I have certainly reviewed it at some length and with care and with Don Turner, the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division and we work together in formulating our positions. I was involved in the two letters that were written earlier and have reviewed the briefs with him. As you know, the matter is now under consideration by the Commission.

MR. HERMAN: Do you think that you might revive it if the Commission once again approves the merger?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: Well, it would be impossible to comment now. It depends on what evidence they hear, and what facts they cite to support their conclusions.

MR. HERMAN: But you retain an interest in it?

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK: We certainly retain an interest, but we would want to very carefully consider the action of the Federal Communications Commission before we made any judgment as to how we might proceed.

MR. AGRONSKY: Well thank you very much, Mr. Attorney General, for being here to FACE THE NATION.

A word about next week's guest in a moment.

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ANNOUNCER: Today, on FACE THE NATION, Attorney General Ramsey Clark was interviewed by CBS News Correspondent George Herman, James Clayton of the Washington Post; CBS News Correspondent Martin Agronsky.

Next week, Senator William Fulbright, Chairman of the Senate

Foreign Relations Committee, will FACE THE NATION.

ORIGIN ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

# AIRGRAM

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AIR POUCH

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

FROM : Amembassy DUBLIN

DATE: March 10, 1967

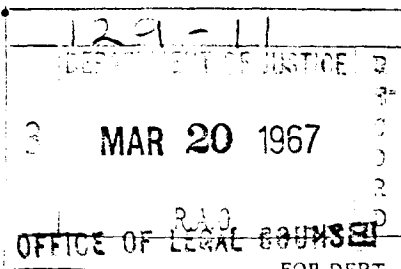
SUBJECT: TV Show Embodying Film and Discussion on the Warren Report

REF

On the evening of March 7, Radio Telefis Eireann screened an unprecedented program running from 8:25 p.m. to 12:40 a.m. with only one break for a 15-minute news report. The program consisted of a showing of a film presented by Mark LANE, author of the book "Rush to Judgment", in which he interviewed a number of persons in and near Dallas who are reputed to have special knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy. Lane's contention is that these persons were not called by the Warren Commission although they should have been, that the Warren Commission was made up of politicians (two of whom were Southerners) and a former CIA Chief "whose business it was to deceive." He maintains that the Commission's aim was to conceal a conspiracy involving more persons than Oswald and possibly some subversive elements.

At one point, Lane came very near to suggesting that the persons engineering the assassination knew that the then Vice President would succeed to the Presidency and would naturally hope to profit from it.

Enclosure:  
Press Clippings on TV Show



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In  Out

1967 MAR 13 PM 1 22

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FORM DS-123

Prepared by: DCM:RPChalker:ey:3/10/67

Contents and Classification Approved by:

Clearance:

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Participating in the program were two Dublin lawyers, Liam HAMILTON and William FINLAY, who attempted to question Lane on many of the points. Lane constantly interrupted them and it was only in the few closing minutes of the program that one of the lawyers was able even so much as to finish a few sentences without interruptions.

The program has excited considerable press comment and one newspaper makes it appear that the doubt as to the probity of the Warren Commission and of the Report itself is now very widespread. Naturally, following this program, the Report has an increased number of both advocates and detractors. The moderator, Brian FARRELL, was better as a commentator in favor of the Report than he was as a referee attempting to insure that each side of the controversy had an opportunity to be heard.

Lane made no secret of his feelings that he had been denied an opportunity to present his case before the American public. Indeed, he said that his film had been banned on American television.

A sampling of the press coverage in Dublin is attached.

CHALKER

RPE

UNCLASSIFIED

THE IRISH PRESS, March 9, 1967

And in today's  
**TALKING POINTS**

W. A. Newman says

**MARK LANE  
HAS A CASE**

**T**HELFIS EIREANN'S presentation of "Rush to Judgment?" was a mammoth performance by any standards, and surely its longest individual programme except the general election broadcast. Scheduled to end at approximately 11.50 p.m., it actually ran until 12.40 a.m.—which, when you allow for a break for the news and sport, represented almost four hours. I wonder what the participants felt like at the conclusion.

Mark Lane's film, which occupied well over half of the presentation, became more absorbing as time went on. This is extraordinary, inasmuch as virtually the whole of it consisted of the interviewing of witnesses—or, more accurately, of people who should have been summoned as witnesses by the Warren Commission, but—for one reason or another—were not. By all the tokens, it should have been dull. It was anything but.

Since there must have been thousands of Irish citizens who failed to see the programme, either because they do not possess TV sets, or were out on other business, or preferred to tune in to lighter fare from across the channel, I should perhaps mention what it was all about. Mark Lane is one of several Americans who have written books in support of the belief that Lee Harvey Oswald was not the sole assassin of President Kennedy, that there were at least two assassins, and that, consequently, his death was the result of a conspiracy either between those two or between those two and others in the background. Lane contends, further, that the Warren Commission, which was set up to inquire into the facts surrounding the assassination and concluded, in a gargantuan report, that Oswald alone did it, ignored a great deal of vital evidence to the contrary. The conclusion to be inferred is that this ignoring could not have been indeliberate—put it,

if you like, that a consciously dubious verdict was reached for the sake of allaying American apprehensions.

So far as this viewer is concerned, Lane's film left me in no doubt that he has made, at any rate, a formidable *prima facie* case for a re-examination of the facts of that terrible day in Dallas. What good, you may ask, would such a re-examination do? It wouldn't bring JFK back to life. A fair answer to that might be that so long as doubts exist the American conscience will not be at ease. Kennedy's ghost will be there in the background; history will be distorted by a dreadful question-mark; men will mutter among themselves as soon as the affair comes into conversation. That is part of Lane's contention, and I think it valid.

They adopted the curious practice on Tuesday night of setting up two unnamed cross-examiners—defined as a harpist and a senior counsel—to dispute Lane's case and, in effect, justify the findings of the Warren Commission. They seemed to me to get nowhere. Lane had his facts and references magnificently at his finger-ends; and the mannerisms of counsel at the bar—more noticeable in the older than the younger man—merely created a prejudice in favour of Lane. (In fact, my faith in the efficacy of legal cross-examination as a means of arriving at truth has been more than somewhat shaken by the forensic technique on display.) The inability of the lawyers to shake their victim, counselled Brian Farrell—whose chairmanship was superb all the way through—to cast himself towards the end in the rôle of prosecuting counsel and ask some really telling questions. Even so, the honours remained with Lane.

# Oswald alone?

BY BRIAN FARRELL WHO WAS CHAIRMAN  
OF RTE'S CONTROVERSIAL PROGRAMME  
'RUSH TO JUDGMENT'

**W**HO killed John F. Kennedy?  
With every passing day and every new story a credible explanation of the events in Dallas during those November days in 1963 appears less and less possible. There have been so many doubts raised, suspicions voiced, extraneous issues discussed that perhaps the simplest basic facts have been forgotten. Certainly, it seems to me, the body of evidence cited by the Warren Commission in support of its conclusions has become obscured.

The Warren Report is, even in paper-back, a massive document. The first chapter is a summary of the argument and the 12 major conclusions and recommendations of the Commission. The next chapter is a narrative of the actual events of the assassination—a story continued in chapter five with an account of the detention and death of Lee Harvey Oswald. But the main evidence relating to the conclusion that Oswald acted alone and that there was no conspiracy is dealt with in four separate chapters:

● Chapter three—dealing with the shots from the Texas School Book Depository—discusses the eye-witnesses' accounts of what happened; the expert examinations of the rifle, cartridge cases and bullet fragments; the trajectory, speed and number of shots and the President's wounds. Further information on the wounds is given in Appendix VIII and IX and the testimony of the ballistics experts in Appendix X.

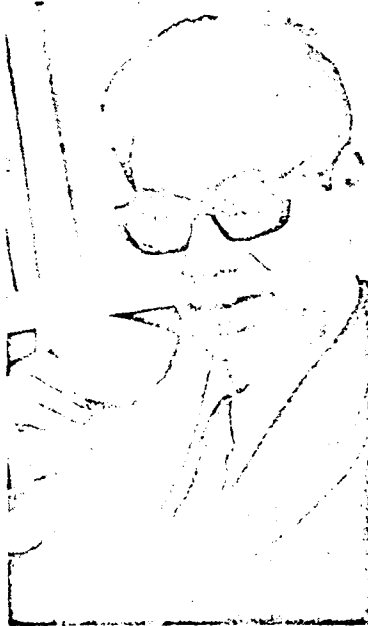
● Chapter four, called "The Assassin", discusses Oswald's ownership and possession of the rifle in the building; Oswald's presence in the building and at the window; the killing of patrolman Tippett; statements made by Oswald and the much-discussed matter of Oswald's marksmanship.

● Chapter six describes the Commission's own investigation of possible conspiracy in regard both to Oswald and Jack Ruby. There is also, in Appendix XII, a summary of a wide variety of speculations and rumours together with the Commission's findings on each.

● Chapter seven (and Appendices XIII, XIV and XV) deal with Lee Harvey Oswald, his history and background, marriage, finances and visits abroad.

● Jack Ruby's story, together with "the lie detector" test taken by him are in Appendices XVI and XVII.

I mention all this detail simply to make the point that there can be no question of the Commission not knowing what it was about when it published this Report. It was not presented as a bare summary outline of what happened in Dallas. It purports to state and co-ordinate all relevant facts and carefully summarises its conclusions derived from the facts in each chapter: the Commission



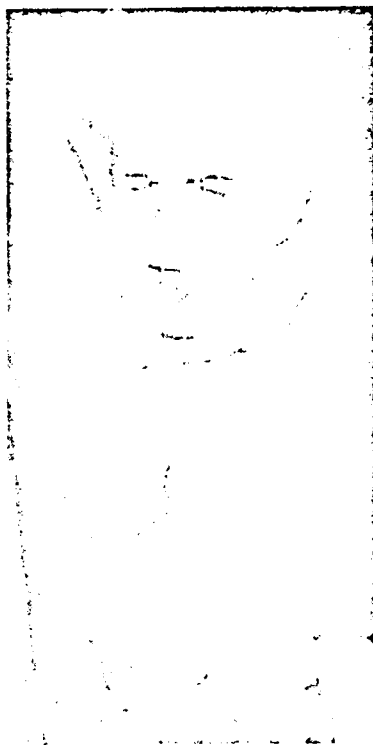
MARK LANE, pictured at the Inter-continental Hotel yesterday.

tells us what it is going to say, says it and then repeats the main relevant points. It is explicit in its statement that Oswald, and Oswald alone, was the assassin and specifically denied suggestions of a conspiracy (whether involving Ruby or not).

This is important because one charge made is that the Warren Commission's inquiries were superficial, dishonest and a cover-off that the members, in Edward Jay Epstein's phrase, were pursuing "political truth"—that is to say that they were more concerned to soothe and pacify American public opinion about the fundamental good health of its public and legal institutions than to tell the truth. In one sense or other, this kind of accusation is central to the arguments of those who reject the Commission's findings. They cannot make their own version of events acceptable without casting the Warren Commission in the rôle of a public conspiracy to conceal the truth.

Yet this Commission included some of the most respected men in American public life. It was bi-partisan—in fact with a pre-





LEE HARVEY OSWALD writhes in agony  
after being shot by Jack Ruby.

ance of Republicans. All the members were lawyers; all were experienced committee men accustomed to evaluating written as well as oral testimony. They published the evidence of their own disagreements on specific issues. They supplied the material for the critics. And yet, we are asked to believe, they deliberately and consciously set out to mislead—not by implication and innuendo but by downright lies.

This is a supposition that I cannot credit. It destroys the possibility of any valid explanation of events. Because if the Chief Justice of the United States—the very man who administered the Presidential Oath to John Kennedy—is capable of bare-faced lying simply in order to avoid “rocking the boat” then all thought of certainty in judicial matters is a myth.

When Epstein's book *Inquest* was published last autumn he produced statements by a number of the lawyers employed by the Commission derived from his interviews with five of the seven members of the Commission, five of the senior counsel and six of the assistant counsel. This constituted, as he said, “the fourth, and most important, source” of his contention that the Commission never really saw the proper evidence, that the investigation was sporadic and that many of those involved were deeply disturbed by the handling of evidence.

### CENTRAL ATTACK

On the basis of Epstein's direct quotations it seemed that here was a really serious and central attack on the bona fides of the Commission. Mark Lane in his *Rush To Judgment* is more circumspect about approaching this question of credibility. But the rather appalling feature of Epstein's work is that so many of those quoted totally deny the statements attributed to them. His new evidence from this “fourth source” entirely crumbles.

And, of course, if there was a conspiracy by the Commission to suppress the truth, distort the evidence and tell lies, one might reasonably wonder why it was not more efficiently done. Even if the view is taken that this conspiracy was no more than a generalised “understanding” among the Commissioners, I wonder that so much awkward evidence was included in the Report.

But why should such a varied group of senior public men decide to suppress and distort the truth? The suggestion that the Report was to be published before the November election ignores Johnson's massive victory over DeLoaker. The notion that it was to still the public conscience must be countered by saying that it has not worked. The idea that it was an agreed piece of official history designed to shelter some unnamed interest, individual or group conveniently evades the

fact that the family of the dead President must have become party to the plot.

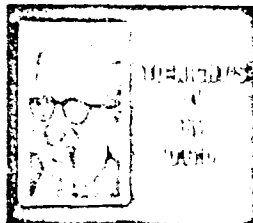
Indeed, the more I look into the great cloud of speculation that has come to surround the Kennedy assassination, the more clearly it seems to me that the Warren findings are justified. Lord Devlin has summarised the absolute agreed minimum facts of the case against Oswald “stripped of everything that does not amount to practical certainty.” He puts the minimum case against Oswald:

“He was in the building at the time of the assassination of the President and could have been on the sixth floor. The President was killed by a gun which belonged to Oswald and which he falsely denied buying or owning. The man who fired it was not unlike Oswald. Three-quarters of an hour later Patrolman Tippit was shot with a revolver belonging to Oswald. Oswald's jacket was found along the path taken by the murderer in flight. Then Oswald was found with the revolver in his possession, and he used violence in resisting arrest. He was a man who had attempted assassination before.”

That is a bare outline, fleshed out fully in the Report and evidence. Every contrary suggestion, innuendo and implication relating to these central facts that I have followed up in the volumes of the evidence is refuted. To my knowledge, no new evidence relevant to these points has been produced. I have gone through the evidence of a number of the witnesses exhibited by Mr. Lane in his book and film and, indeed, read carefully the record of his own appearances before the Warren Commission. This examination has weakened the credibility of Mr. Lane's contentions.

And so to end. Who killed John Kennedy I don't know. But I know no good reason as of now to suppose that anyone other than Lee Harvey Oswald actually shot at and hit the President and I am less convinced than at any earlier point in time by the arguments of those who totally reject the findings of the Warren Commission.

EVENING HERALD, March 7, 1967



## THIS FILM WAS 'TOO HOT' FOR THE U.S.

**N**O event in recent times produced a greater sense of shock than the assassination of President Kennedy. And, in the time which has passed since that sad November day, nothing has been so surrounded with mystery and speculation as the events leading up to and the investigation following that murder.

In the past week or so a new impetus has been given to the belief that the Warren Commission did not uncover all the facts, by the actions of Mr. Garrison.

The world is still wondering what happened before, during and after the moment when the gun or guns spoke their message of death in Dallas.

### Best seller

Tonight, at 9.25, Telefe Espana will be showing a film about the assassination which was considered "too hot to handle" in the U.S. It will run for three hours, and beside it all the other programmes, both on T.E. and the rival channels, pale into insignificance.

The film which you will see this evening is called "Rush To Judgment".

It is the result of an invitation from Telefe to a certain to the distinguished American lawyer, Mark Lane, author of the controversial best-seller, "Rush To Judgment," to present his criticism of the findings of the Warren Commission — and his case for the defence of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused of the murder of the President.

According to Mark Lane and others who have examined the evidence closely, the Warren Commission's report on the assassination leaves some things unanswered. The Commission, for instance, accepted the fact that three shots were fired, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation calculated that the three shots were fired within 5.8 seconds.

Furthermore, a film taken of the event showed that Presidents Kennedy and Governor Connally were hit within the space of 1.4 seconds.

But the rifle which Oswald is said to have used could not be fired twice in less than 2.3 seconds — and, with Oswald out of practice, one can extend even that time.

### Questions

There are still questions unanswered, as Mark Lane and others have said. Mark Lane, however, went further than the others who disagreed with the report of the Warren Commission: he put his views in a book, and the film which forms the greater part of tonight's T.E. programme is based on that book, "Rush To Judgment".

After the facts have been presented in the film, a Dr. Peter will examine the evidence and a senior counsel will assess it against the authority of the Warren Commission report.

Finally, Kevin O'Kelly will trace the growth of the controversy in the world's press since the publication of the Report on September 28, 1964.

To accommodate this unusually long item, other programmes have gone by the board, with the exception of one news item which will be screened at 9.45 and be the only interruption of the three hours of drama promised in this astonishing film.

# T.E. gets full Mark!

By a Special Correspondent  
The chances are that anyone late for work this morning had been watching R.T.E.'s monumental programme, "Rush to Judgment?" (or "Judgment" — we got both spellings last night). One would have thought that the Kennedy murder had now become so insufferably boring, that it would be impossible to face another four hours of film and discussion. But the truth is that the more one probes the subject, the more compelling it becomes, and so the programme emerged as one of the most fascinating television shows we have seen.

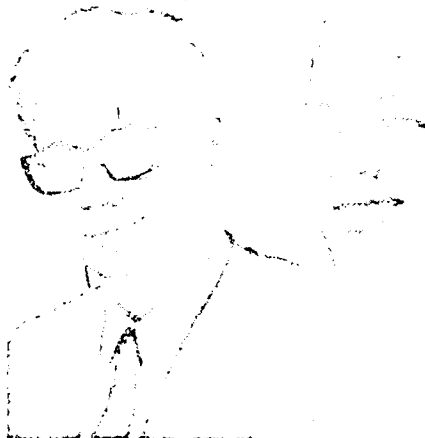
Roughly half the time was devoted to a film prepared by Mark Lane, apologist for the theory that Kennedy was shot by more than one man and that the Warren Commission was a fraudulent white-wash to reassure public opinion.

As Brian Farrell pointed out from the chair, the film is clearly partisan, designed to establish one point of view only. And very plausible and disturbing it is.

## So coy!

The discussion that followed was between Lane and two coyly anonymous Irish barristers (let us hope that the prim rules of the Bar will not result in them being disbarred when we reveal the dread secret that the junior barrister on the left was Mr. Liam Hamilton, the senior man Mr. William Finlay!).

Presumably, the discussion was intended to produce a dialogue on absolutely essential points, but



Mark Lane and his wife pictured at their hotel today.

it didn't quite work out that way. Mr. Lane made a grievous error in tactics early on by interrupting so often to refute so many relatively minor points that it became impossible for mere mortals in search of truth to follow a coherent line of argument.

Brian Farrell's lack of firmness at this stage contributed to the disorder, but his experience was enough to make him realise this. Later, it was his far greater control that produced the most fruitful discussion and gave the

The barristers, on the other hand, have had no remotely comparable opportunity to brief themselves so completely, therefore the programme was wildly in Mr. Lane's favour before it ever began.

The result was that the barristers were often shot down on specific points, but were much more convincing on their general objections.

Again, it was unsatisfactory that the medical aspect of how many bullets were fired was not clearly debated. It's all very well to talk about exit wounds and entry wounds, but at least one viewer longed for an easy diagram which might have illustrated the point of Mr. Lane's argument in simple terms.

## Ludicrous

The marathon finished with a remarkable and quite ludicrous piece of chauvinism when Brian Farrell (obviously discomfited by it) read out the bare details of a "test" by a group in Limerick which claimed to prove that Oswald was the sole killer.

I trust the Warren Commission will be re-opened to consider this stunning affirmation of their conclusions.

But it would be criminal to end on a carping note. By any standards in the world this was a magnificent programme which deserves the highest praise for R.T.E. and everyone directly involved in the presentation.

(What Lane thought himself — page 2)

viewers a chance to reach some conclusions on their own. His was by far the most difficult job in the programme and, on the whole, he did it creditably.

A few points should be made. It is no reflection on the barristers to say that they were simply no match for Mr. Lane. He has devoted over three years to a highly concentrated study of the Kennedy murder. He seems to know every line of evidence by heart, every witness intimately. He is the complete master of his subject.

# •22 rifle test is shot down

## BUT LANE THANKFUL TO RTE

Evening Press reporter

**THE** introduction without warning of a test carried out by what he described as an unknown group of Co. Limerick people with a ".22 air gun", in surroundings in no way comparable to the scene of the killing, was one of the objections which American lawyer Mark Lane had today to the way in which his marathon, almost four-hour programme "Rush to Judgment", was presented on Telefís Eireann last night.

In general, Mr. Lane was satisfied with the opportunity which he got to put over his point of view, which he described as "very adequate". Compared with a five-hour programme which he had to do on "B.B.C. 2" recently, Mr. Lane said that the Irish presentation was "very fair".

When I spoke to him this morning Mr. Lane told me: "There are, however, a number of points regarding the way parts of the programme were presented, which I do not think were quite fair."

### No mention

Mr. Lane said that before the programme yesterday he had lunch with Mr. Brian Farrell, who acted as moderator, and with a Mr. Johnson, whom he presumed was a programme producer.

He added: "Mr. Farrell made no mention to me about the introduction of a test in the programme. Then, without warning, the findings of this test was introduced last night as something conclusive, without any indication as to who the people involved were, what their qualifications or knowledge were, or where the test had been carried out under what circumstan-

"After the programme I asked Mr. Farrell what the test was. When he showed me the paper I saw it had been carried out with a .22 air gun, in an area one-third the size of the area covered in the Warren Commission, and with still targets, as opposed to moving targets in the actual shooting.

### Ridiculous

"I said to Mr. Farrell that this was just ridiculous and asked him who were these people in County Limerick who had carried out this test. I asked him were they riflemen. But he didn't know who they were, or whether they were riflemen. And this test was presented as conclusive on the programme. The conditions under which it was carried out were in no way comparable to those at the time of the Kennedy shooting."

Mr. Lane said he thought that Mr. Farrell in his position as moderator on the programme, should have given a summary of both sides of the arguments at the conclusion, rather than to go off with an outline of his own opinions, which he (Mr. Lane) had no opportunity to answer.

Mr. Lane also referred today to the two Irish barristers taking part in the programme. He said that during the programme he did not wish to introduce the point frequently as it might embarrass them, but their knowledge of the Warren Commission evidence — which they defended — was confined to the one volume summary of the complete report.

### Falls short

This one-volume summary, he said, had been made available to them by the American Embassy for the purpose of the programme, but it fell far short of the complete evidence of the commission which was contained in 26 volumes.

It was a point of deep controversy whether the one volume summary of the findings they were discussing was in fact a fair summary of all the evidence.

"However," Mr. Lane added, "I am very grateful for the television station here for putting out this programme. It is something which cannot be seen on television in the United States, and compared with the programme on the B.B.C. it was very fair."

"I flew to London from Los Angeles specially to do the B.B.C. programme, and when we were on the air I was told that I would not be able to make any point except to reply to a personal attack."

# Warren Inquiry is now doubted

IT'S a long road that has no turning and for New York lawyer Mark Lane the turning point seems to have come in Ireland with his appearance on television last night.

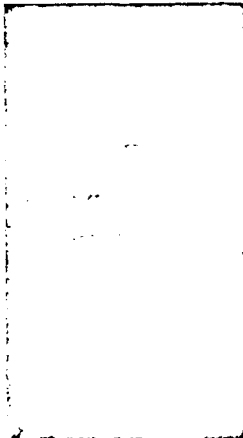
In dozens of interviews the pattern was almost universal. Again and again people told our reporters that their views were changed by what they saw and heard on television — Oswald was not alone and the Warren Commission Report was questionable.

Here is a sample of the views obtained:

Mr. Tadgh Sugrue, credit manager, Rea-Fair Ltd., had accepted the Warren Commission before he saw last night's film. Now he has second thoughts. The cool authority of Mark Lane and his command of his subject impressed him. The fact that so many witnesses were not called was, in his view, a telling point.

Mr. Christy Murphy, Department of Education, has always been doubtful of the validity of the official view of President Kennedy's assassination. Now he is convinced that Mark Lane has destroyed it. "He proved his case to the hilt," Mr. Murphy said.

Miss Pat Martin, a Trinity College



Miss Pat Martin

student, found no difficulty in the past in accepting that the Warren Commission was reliable. Now she has grave doubts. "Ruby's former woman employee made me sit up with a jerk when she gave details of his links with the Dallas

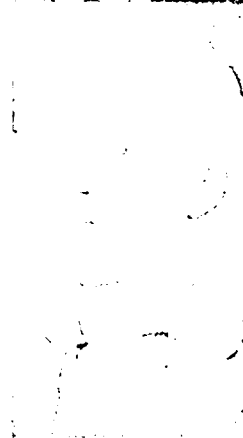
police," she said. She found Mark Lane to be impressive, logical and forceful.

Mr. Harry McLoughlin was another viewer who changed his opinion as the marathon TV programme went on. His faith in the Warren Report had been total, but he felt it could no longer be treated with absolute confidence in view of the number of people it did not call. The deaths of important witnesses in the case was another factor which impressed him and he thinks the odds against such a sequence of events must be astronomical.

## Extraordinary

Mr. Doug Anderson, of Toronto, who is in Dublin on his honeymoon, feels that Lane has at least made a strong case for a review of much of the evidence given to the Warren Commission. He had never felt that Oswald was alone in the assassination, although the image of a vast conspiracy involving leading figures of the U.S. Government was not one he could accept.

Miss Bernadette Magill, of Odeon (Ireland) Ltd., had believed that Oswald was the sole



Bernadette Magill

assassin. She had not realised that so much important evidence existed for the Mark Lane point of view. Like Miss Pat Martin she found the link between Ruby and the Dallas police a most extraordinary feature of the whole thing.

# SMALLER THAN LIFE SHOOTING

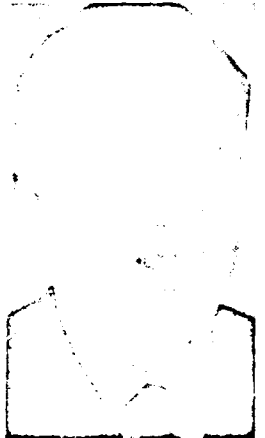
Mr. Des McDonnell, a forestry engineer, of Iona Drive, North Circular Road, Limerick, whose theory on the Kennedy assassination was discussed during the R.T.E. programme, "Rush to Judgment," last night, said this morning, that he first became interested in the Warren Commission report following a series of newspaper articles.

He read every available book on the assassination and finally decided that the Warren Commission findings stood or fell on two points.

The first was whether the rifle held by Oswald could be fired accurately three times in 5.6 seconds or less; and secondly, whether the F.B.I. report of the autopsy was in conflict with the single assassin theory.

## Same action

He decided to test the gun theory himself. He secured a bolt action 22 rifle of Czechoslovakian make with a magazine and



Des McDonnell

a telescopic sight. The bolt action was the same as the gun used by Oswald.

He took the gun to a forest near Murroe, together with a local forester, Jack O'Hara. They could not secure a suitable height of 60 feet, so the distances, heights and target mentioned in the Warren report were scaled down to one-third the size.

The result of a pattern of nine shots showed that the rifle tested could be fired accurately three times in less than 5.6 seconds. The fastest firing time, which included one neck hit and two misses was 4.2 seconds. The slowest test, which included one neck and two head hits, was timed at 5.4 seconds.

Mr. McDonnell said that he was not an active rifle enthusiast but had served some time with the F.C.A. in 1947.

Mr. McDonnell is a native of Dundalk and came to Limerick four years ago.

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3/6  
March 27, 1967

Mr. John Chapple  
Editorial Department  
Ashland Daily Press  
Ashland, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Chapple:

The President has asked this Department to respond to your letter of March 6, 1967, in which you suggested that the stage drama "Macbird" should be closed by police action and that those financing and producing it should be sued for criminal slander. You voiced the view that the people of our country deserve protection from any effort to undermine faith in our nation.

A stage presentation is generally not within the scope of Federal statutes proscribing the mailing or interstate transportation of obscene or libelous material.

As you suggested, such a production may be subject to reasonable state and local controls applicable under the police powers of the particular state where the play is presented, but such controls must accord with basic constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech and of the press.

The President has asked that we express his appreciation for your views and your having taken the time to state them.

Sincerely,

cc: ✓ Records  
Chrono  
Mr. Vinson  
Mr. Sledge

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General

T. E. WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

To: Justice Department

Date: March 10, 1967

ACTION REQUESTED

RECEIVED

- Draft reply for:
  - President's signature.
  - Undersigned's signature.
- Memorandum for use as enclosure to reply.
- Direct reply.
- Furnish information copy.
- Suitable acknowledgment or other appropriate handling.
- Furnish copy of reply, if any.
- For your information.
- For comment.

CRIMINAL DIVISION  
NOTE

*Prompt action is essential.*  
If more than 48 hours' delay is encountered, please telephone the undersigned immediately, Code 1450.

Basic correspondence should be returned when draft reply, memorandum, or comment is requested.

REMARKS:

Description:

Letter:  Telegram:  Other:

To: The President  
 From: John Chapple, Ashland Daily Press, Ashland, Wisconsin  
 Date: March 6, 1967  
 Subject: Author and those financing and producing MACBIRD should be sued.

129-11  
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 MAR 10 1967  
 CRIMINAL GEN. CRIME SEC.

*Am*  
 Harry C. McPherson  
 Special Counsel to the President

(Copy to remain with correspondence)



March 6, 1968

Dear President Johnson:

The author, and those responsible for financing and producing MACBIRD should be sued criminal slander and the play closed down by police action.

This type of criminal inuendo involving assassination would be considered actionable by any jury in the land.

Furthermore, our nation deserves protection from this effort to undermine faith in our nation.

Respectfully,

*John Chapple*  
John Chapple,

Editorial department.

129-11

D. M. B.

129-113

FMV:NEK:al  
t 3/6/67  
ret 3/7/67

**Mr. Edward F. Wegmann**  
National Bank of Commerce Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

**Mr. William J. Wegmann**  
2106 American Bank Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Dear Messrs. Wegmann:

The Attorney General has asked me to respond to your telegram of March 3, 1967 requesting a meeting concerning your client, Clay L. Shaw.

We understand from news reports that Mr. Shaw is being charged with a state violation by the District Attorney for the Parish of Orleans.

I am sure you would agree that it would be inappropriate for the federal government to intervene in a state criminal inquiry.

I regret that for these reasons a meeting with the United States Department of Justice at this time would not be appropriate.

Sincerely,

cc: Records ✓  
Chron.  
Mr. Clark  
Mr. Vinson  
Mr. Kossack  
Mr. Belcher

**Fred M. Vinson, Jr.**  
Assistant Attorney General

*F. M. Vinson*

**FILE**

ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Mr. Vinson			
2.	<i>Adeline - if you should</i>			
3.	<i>get a chance</i>			
4.				

<input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PER CONVERSATION
<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL	<input type="checkbox"/> NECESSARY ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/> AS REQUESTED
<input type="checkbox"/> SEE ME	<input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND RETURN	<input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND FILE
<input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION	<input type="checkbox"/> CALL ME	<input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION
<input type="checkbox"/> ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____		

REMARKS Barefoot suggests that we handle this by telephone; that any letter we send will be published and we will be criticized for being too bold or too cautious--too cagey or too presumptuous. In short, he feels that the brothers Wegmann are trying to steer us into a trap. I'm inclined to lean to the telephone call approach. We can't stop the Messrs Wegmann from misquoting us but, at least, FMV's signature is not on a piece of paper involved in that gruesome mess of Garrison's.

*NEK*

*NA*

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING & ROOM	EXT.	DATE
	N. E. Kossack	2107	2621	3/6

ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Tully			
2.				
3.				
4.				

<input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PER CONVERSATION
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<input type="checkbox"/> SEE ME	<input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND RETURN	<input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND FILE
<input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION	<input type="checkbox"/> CALL ME	<input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION
<input type="checkbox"/> ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____		

REMARKS

Lets try to draft answer for my signature, the general message being

- 1) Meeting, if any, not timely - we dont even know what Show is changed with doing.
- 2) Dont want to impede any legitimate investigation by duly constituted authorities (?)
- 3) Any thing else you can think of as an interim stop - we dont want to give Garrison any reason to charge fed govt impeded his inquiry. JV

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
	ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL Criminal Division		

Form No. G-1N  
(Ed. 2-10-65)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTING SLIP

TO	
NAME	BUILDING AND ROOM
1. Fred Vinson	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

SIGNATURE       COMMENT       PER CONVERSATION  
 APPROVAL       NECESSARY ACTION       AS REQUESTED  
 SEE ME       NOTE AND RETURN       NOTE AND FILE  
 RECOMMENDATION       CALL ME       YOUR INFORMATION

ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE \_\_\_\_\_  
 PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS

I need to discuss this with you.

RC

**SPECIAL**

GPO 16-19064

NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL		3/4/67

*W. J. Wegmann*  
**TELEGRAM  
SPECIAL**

WUB297 (56)NSA141

NS CXAO29 PD CX NEW ORLEANS LA 3 449P CST

HONORABLE RAMSEY CLARK

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC  
WE HAVE BEEN RETAINED TO REPRESENT CLAY L SHAW CHARGED BY THE  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR THE PARISH OF ORLEANS WITH CONSPIRING  
AND ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH OTHERS FOR THE PURPOSE  
OF COMMITTING THE CRIME OF MURDER OF JOHN F KENNEDY STOP IN  
THE INTEREST OF JUSTICE WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST A MEETING WITH  
YOU AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE STOP EDWARD F WEGMANN CA  
BE REACHED AT AREA CODE 504-524-0732 OR 861-3844 WILLIAM J  
WEGMANN CAN BE REACHED AT AREA CODE 504- 524-2206 OR 488-0155  
WE AWAIT YOUR ADVICES

EDWARD F WEGMANN WILLIAM J WEGMANN

504-524-0732 861-3844 504-524-2206 488-0155

*129-11*  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
4 MAR 9 1967 C. P.  
R.A.O.  
CRIMINAL-GEN. SERIAL

(54).

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