

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Oswald on Trial on 74th St.

By PAUL HATHAWAY
Of the World-Telegram Staff

Each night in the air-conditioned darkness of a theater on the Upper East Side, John F. Kennedy dies again.

Each night Mark Lane, lecturing on "Who Killed Kennedy?" takes his audience into a never-never land gone mad, where the American dream of justice and fair play is destroyed.

Lane, former New York Assemblyman who once served as unpaid defense counsel for Lee Harvey Oswald, the President's accused assassin, testified be-

fore the Warren Commission in July.

What he tells audiences in the 300-seat Jan Hus Theater on E. 74th St. is virtually a replay of what he told the commission, which investigated the President's assassination.

Lane's three-hour lecture is a fantastic adventure and it is all his adventure. He is the fellow who sets the course, steers the ship. This is Lane pleading for truth, Lane searching for truth, Lane finding truth.

Then it is Lane pulverizing the arguments of the

Dallas police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Secret Service, and the Warren Commission. It doesn't matter to Lane that they can supply evidence that Oswald was the killer. They have their truth and he has his.

Mark Lane is a dragon-slayer with horn-rimmed glasses. He is fighting logic with logic, and night after night, behind the lectern, he is the winner. There is something so compelling, so forceful about his argument, he is able to hold his audience

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 NEW YORK WORLD-
TELEGRAM AND SUN

Date: 9/3/63
Edition: METRO
Author: PAUL HATHAWAY
Editor: RICHARD D. PETERS
Title: ASSASSINATION OF
PRESIDENT KENNEDY 11/22/63

Character: INFO CON

Classification:

Submitting Office: NYC

ENCLOSURE

even after he has gone over a path for the umpteenth time.

The audience gets it up. They came to be persuaded. Lane does not disappoint them. They leave bemused, bewildered, angered and frustrated. If only there was something they could do, they say. And it is difficult to determine whether they are talking about the Oswald case in particular or about American justice in general. To the audience, this case is part Sarco, part Vanzetti, part Dreyfus.

They wonder about Lane's contention that Kennedy was shot from the front. They wonder about the Italian carbine which Lane says could not have been fired in the quick succession suggested by authorities. They wonder about a woman's description of the man who shot Officer J. D. Tippit as short and stocky and they recall that Oswald was slim.

Whence the Shot?

They wonder about the mysterious deaths of at least two possible witnesses who might have proved Oswald innocent. They wonder about the statements by 17 witnesses that they heard shots come from the railroad overpass in front of the Kennedy car and not from the Book Depository.

A physician who attended the lecture the other night with his wife and two children said he had seen in the theater "puzzled and curious."

"This is the most weird, fantastic story I've ever heard," he said. "It sounds like something out of Hitch-

cock. It's almost too melodramatic. I can't help thinking that this murder had been committed by one disturbed man. Now I'm not so sure that it was Oswald."

Many members of the audience admitted after the lecture that they always had had doubts about Oswald's guilt.

Doubt Stilled

"My sense of fair play brought me here," said James L. Nusser, a medical journalist. "This lecture has reinforced my feelings that Oswald may have been innocent. This is a frightening story."

John Walsh, a member of the Citizen's Committee of Inquiry, who sells books and records on the assassination in the front lobby, said that last week the lectures were moved to the Jan Hus because the audiences were outgrowing the 150-seat Gramercy Arts Theater, 138 E. 27th St. Tickets are 25 cents and Lane has been giving the lectures for four months.

William Weiss, a teacher at Lincoln High School, said he had traveled to Europe recently.

"Everywhere I went, people asked me who killed Kennedy?" he said. "And when I told them Oswald, they laughed at me."



Photo by Ford
Former Assemblyman Mark Lane emphasizes a
point in his lecture at the Jan Hus Theater.