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January 10, 1965

Mark Lane in Denmark.

ACTION:

USIA CA-1817, December 31, 1964;
USIS Copenhagen Field Message 23, Apr. 11, 1964.

NOTE ACTION:

JOINT STATE-USIA MESSAGE

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ACCTG:

MARK Lane, former counsel for Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, has married a Danish girl named Annelise Dabelsteen, whom he met on the occasion of his first appearance in Copenhagen in April, 1964, when he lectured before the Students Association (Studentforeningen). (Miss Dabelsteen is the bearer of a valid U.S. non-immigrant visa issued on July 23, 1964. She is required to apply for an immigrant visa should she return to the United States to take up residence.)

The Danish newspapers Politiken (Radical Liberal) and Aktuelt (Social-Democratic) both reported Mark Lane's marriage on December 30 to Miss Dabelsteen in her hometown at Nykøbing, Falster. Among the wedding guests was Bertrand Russell's secretary, Ralph Schiømann. Aktuelt states that the bridal pair in the beginning of the new year will visit a number of countries in which Mark Lane's new book, "Rush to Judgment", will appear, and that later the couple intends to settle in Paris. Politiken states that they are still trying to decide whether they should settle in Paris or in Denmark. Politiken adds that Lane likes life here in Denmark, where he met his wife as a "lady escort" (selskabsdame) along with some other young Danish girls with whom Mark Lane and a number of his friends were shown around in Denmark during his first visit to this country. According to Politiken, after Mark Lane had proposed to Annelise they

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W. J. Kramer, Public Affairs Officer

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From Copenhagen

traveled in the United States together while he was on a lecture tour.

Ekstrabladet, the sensational tabloid which originally sponsored Lane in Denmark, gave even heavier coverage to the wedding and dramatized the fact that the bridegroom's automobile slid into a ditch during a snowstorm and that the first passing motorist jumped out with a shovel to help. "This would never happen in the United States," said Mark Lane during his speech at the wedding banquet. Ekstrabladet further indicates that the Lanes will depart on a honeymoon tour to Africa, where the lawyer will talk about the Kennedy assassination at various universities. First, however, according to Ekstrabladet, he is completing his book which will be printed in the United States, England, Germany and, reportedly, also in France, Italy and Denmark.

Lane lectured at a Copenhagen restaurant on the evening of January 6 and received a double-page spread in Ekstrabladet. (This paper also recently carried three full-page articles in Danish translation by Hugh Trevor-Roper.) The Ekstrabladet report on Lane's January 6th lecture is headlined: "Warren Report stands on Feet of Clay - Photographs of President Kennedy's Wounds hidden by FBI--even from the Warren Commission." The article further states that Jørgen Jacobsen, a lawyer and chairman of the Danish Mark Lane Committee, will bring a rifle similar to the assassination weapon to Denmark and will construct a tower and shooting range for a reconstruction of the President's murder. Mark Lane, during his talk, reiterated his familiar accusations about the Warren Report, the Dallas police, and American news media. He accused the latter of maintaining total silence about the Warren Report. He said that he had discussed the assassination before 4000 people in New York without receiving a line in any newspaper. According to Ekstrabladet of Thursday, January 7, Mark Lane said that in New York's airport, when he last arrived from Europe, it was made clear that his name had been put into the black book of the passport controllers under the provisions of Directive C 5, which requires the passport control to instantly inform the FBI whenever Mark Lane enters or leaves the USA. "The novel of the future in 1984" seems already to have become a reality in USA," the article concluded.

Comments and Conclusions:

Ekstrabladet has a circulation of about 80,000 daily and is well-known for its "yellow journalism". The independent

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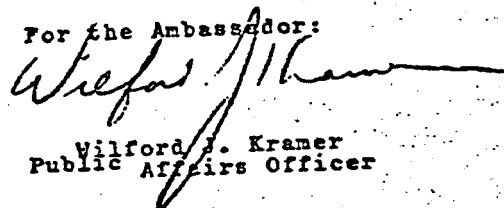
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Information, which carried the Buchanan report and coverage on Mark Lane's initial appearance here, also printed on January 7 a relatively restrained news report on his appearance on January 6. Information notes that he spoke for four hours. Information and other Danish papers have carried very little in recent weeks about the assassination, and USIS distribution of the Warren Report may have contributed to this. The only coverage of the Trevor-Roper articles to appear in Denmark outside Ekstrabladet was a straight, factual news summary of the articles picked up by Conservative Jyllands-Posten's London correspondent, and given straight newsplay on an inside page.

Although past experience with Ekstrabladet suggests that no direct rebuttal or protest would be productive, Embassy-USIS is grateful for the information contained in the referenced USIA circular airgram and for the materials supplied by USIS London. Every effort will be made to discreetly employ these materials in countering and preventing any significant resurgence of credibility in the theories and speculations put forth by Mark Lane and his small band of adherents.

For the Ambassador:



Wilford J. Kramer
Public Affairs Officer

Enclosures:

Tearsheets and clippings from Danish press regarding Mark Lane's activities (in duplicate). Also tearsheets on Hugh Trevor-Roper articles in Ekstra-Bladet.

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