

## The Lane brief—and after

**F**EW ISSUES OF THE GUARDIAN in years have created such a stir as the Dec. 19 issue with the five-page brief by attorney Mark Lane on the Oswald case. One charter subscriber called to say: "This may well one day rank with your opening gun in the Rosenberg case." Another said: "This is in the best GUARDIAN crusading spirit; it brings to mind the stories on the Trenton Six."

Our biggest publicity breakthrough came in the New York Times Dec. 19, with a full column story under the byline of Peter Kihss, a reporter of the old-fashioned digging school, which sent many New Yorkers to the newsstands for their first copy of the GUARDIAN. (We increased our press run and newsstand deliveries in anticipation of just such a demand.) By week's end several newsstands had called for additional copies, and phone calls and letters were coming in for bundle orders, single copies from new people and extra copies from regular subscribers.

The press reaction was interesting. Except for the Times, no New York newspaper printed a line on the Lane brief. The

developments in the Oswald case (in its news columns) are the New Republic, which in its issue of Dec. 21 carried a most disturbing article on the assassination called "Seeds of Doubt," by Jack Minnis and Staughton Lynd; and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, which has given its Washington correspondent, Richard Dudman, a free hand in his coverage of the assassination aftermath.

The Warren Commission has a formidable task, but one which, if pursued with integrity, could help elevate justice in the United States to a more honorable estate. It goes without saying that the extreme Right in America will attempt by every means, now that the 30-day mourning period is up, to make the job harder for its favorite target, Chief Justice Warren. But there are many elements within the Establishment itself which have a big stake in relegating the assassinations even now to dead history. In this category are the federal agencies previously named and the politics-as-usual crowd both in the Congress and the White House which doesn't want to disturb the profit-and-plunder pattern of our way of life with any revelations that might reveal the underlying ugliness of the pattern.

The GUARDIAN'S publication of the Lane brief in the Oswald case—a brief which has been submitted to the Warren Commission—is just the kind of public service for which this newsweekly was founded. In the new year ahead we hope to persuade more and more Americans who share our hopes and aspirations to become subscribers. Will you help us toward this goal by starting the year 1964 with a gift subscription for a friend? You can do it by filling out the coupon below today.

—THE GUARDIAN