

Ball I'd like to make an~~o~~ observation. Mr Lane has referred to something known as the establishment and I don't know what he is talking about. I'm a country lawyer from Long Beach. I was asked to go to Washington a year ago this time and so a job as senior counsel for the Warren Commission. I stayed there, gave up my practice and went back there, and handled the job as a lawyer would handle it, and let me tell you something. I never received one bit of instructions or orders from any member of the Commission including the Chief Justice. I never received an order from Lee Rankin, the counsel. I was given a certain area to investigate and report on and I did it the same as I do every other law suit that I have handled in my practice. Now, I don't know whether Mr Lane is ~~insulting~~ assaulting my honesty or my integrity when he says that this is a fraud but it just so happens that the things he's talked to you about tonight were in my field. I had charge of the investigation. I personally examined Dr Humes at Bethesda and then Mr Specter who worked with me presented his testimony before the Commission. Sidney Wiseman Mrs Markham Howard Brennan Frazier and Randle--this was only a group of MANY witnesses that I have talked to, in Dallas and examined before the Commission and took their depositions. I took over a hundred depositions in Dallas...I examined EVERYONE who knew, who I found out when I got down there knew anything about this, because I wanted to find out what were the facts. It didn't make any difference to me whether I discovered that Oswald was the assassin or someone else was. As I told many people, it would have been fine if I could have discovered somebody because I could probably have gotten my name in Time Magazine. So the only thing I wish to assure you of is that everyihing I discovered in Dallas I put down on paper and it's there. And when he talks about these conclusions, I wrote them--I wrote Chapter IV in which these witnesses are discussed. And when he talks about speculations, I attempted as a lawyer to draw the same inferences from <sup>the</sup> evidence that I discovered in Dallas that I would from any other law suit. Now let me tell you something about this procedure. I was not assisted in the field, and I made field investigations, or when I brought witnesses to Washington, or when I brought them into an office in (inaudible) I was not assisted by any FBI agent. I never talked to an FBI agent about my investigations. In Dallas I was, a Secret Service agent drove my car, and brought witnesses in for me to talk to. I never ~~ex~~ talked to a witness in the presence of a S<sub>e</sub>cret S<sub>e</sub>rvice agent or an FBI agent. I and the group of men that worked with me tried to make this as impartial an investigation as possible.

Ball (continued)

Now, with that <sup>FOREWORD</sup> ~~forward~~, I would like to ask Mr Lane some questions. Now this is a question-and-answer session. I want to bring out facts. If a speech is made, I'll make it myself. Now Mr. Lane, (inaudible)...

Lane

I'll just nod ~~my head~~ yes or no. (LAUGHTER)

Ball

There is such a MASS of evidence. Mr. Lane has just picked out two or three pieces. Like Mrs Markham, who is an utter screwball. And he picked her out and shown the difficulties with her testimony. I can assure you that there were TWELVE people who have identified Oswald in one way or another in connexion with the murder of Tippit...

Lane

Is that a question, Sir? Because I have a yes-or-no answer: That's Not True. There were two persons who said they saw the shots fired, Domingo Benavides, ~~and~~ who ~~who said he~~ ~~Markham~~ could not identify the person, and Helen Louise Markham, the only witness ~~Markham~~ produced by the Commission who said that she <sup>actually</sup> saw the shots fired who said she could identify Oswald...

Ball I must ask for more time if Mr Lane makes a speech. What he just said is not true. Now...what about Scoggins who saw...

Lane Give me the name of one witness who saw the shots fired who...

Ball What about Scoggins, the taxi-driver?

Lane He was not (inaudible)...

Ball He saw...he saw.....well, anyway...(LAUGHTER)

Ball Mr Lane makes a technical distinction. This man saw Oswald on the sidewalk. He saw him walk to the car, he heard the shots, he saw Oswald flee toward his car, and he identified him. There were 12 people who identified him.

Lane Identified him not at the scene...a block away, two blocks away, are those the people...?

Ball Let me ask some questions. First: do you believe the evidence is sufficient to prove that Oswald bought this Mannlicher carbine from a mail order house in Chicago?

Lane Klein's advertised it in the February 1963 American Rifleman, is that the rest of the question?

Ball This rifle...

Lane Absolutely not. This is the Feb 1963 issue of the American Rifleman which the Commission speaks about. This is the only advertisement put in there by Klein's, and the rifle before the Commission is not offered for sale in that issue, and you know that, and you know further that Mr Klein does NOT believe that the weapon which Oswald had came from his store, and you know further that the Commission refused to call Klein as a witness.

Ball I ~~don't~~ know <sup>NO</sup> ~~anything~~ such as <sup>THING</sup> ~~that~~...what you have said is an utter falsehood.

Lane Did the Commission call Klein?

Ball Just a minute now, let me ask you this...

Lane DID the Commission call Klein, Sir?

Ball Let me ask you this...did not...was...did not...was there not found in the files of the Kleins store the order for Oswald for this Mannlicher carbine?

Lane Absolutely not, Sir, you know that the only thing Klein's uncovered was an advertisement clipped in which had been sent in order a DIFFERENT rifle in the first place, in the name of A Hidell, and Klein's said that he never HEARD the name of Oswald, he never said anything to Oswald, and there is a list of witnesses prepared by your Commission, Appendix V, page 491, does the name Klein appear on there as a witness?

Ball Don't confuse the issue, we're trying...we're trying... wait a minute, we're trying...I've never heard such a major distortion of what is actually a conclusive fact. Now was there not found in the Klein's files an order for a rifle, signed A Hidell, that was identified as the handwriting of Hidell, of Oswald...

Lane No, sir, it was hand printed, it was not handwritten, and there are experts who have looked at that and said that is not Lee Harvey Oswald's writing...

Ball Name one..

Lane There are scores of them, the Commission would not hear them (garbled, both talking at once)

Ball Name one witness the Commission would not hear...

Lane One witness the Commission would not hear? ~~in~~ In any area?

Ball Well they called YOU. Mark Lane appeared before the Commission, with a bunch of NEWSpaper clippings (dripping scorn)...

Lane That's an outrageous lie, because you know the Commission called Jean Hill the Dallas public school teacher, wrote her a letter and said, you have talked to Mr Lane, and Mr Lane has said you have this testimony, so we are calling you... You know that you called (her) because I told you what she said...

Ball If we resort to a cat and dog fight...

Lane That's all right, its about time there was a dialogue in America on this question...(APPLAUSE)

Ball The facts...the facts are...in the Klein's files was found an order signed by A Hidell...

Lane NOT signed sir, hand printed. Ball Handwritten... (APPLAUSE) ...this hand writing...hand printing...identified by several ~~w~~ experts, not FBI experts, but different experts... as the hand printing of Oswald. The post office box to which it was shipped by Klein's was the post office box that was rented by Oswald in his own name.

LANE Is this a cross-examination?

BALL I can't cross examine you because you don't tell the truth.

LANE I don't give you the answers you want, that's for sure (APPLAUSE)

First of all, Mr Ball takes the position that Mrs Markham is some kind of a nut. He may be right. What does the Commission say? One page 168, "Addressing itself solely ...(etc)....reliable." She's a nut, says Mr Ball---but she's a reliable nut, because she says Oswald did it...(LAUGHTER) (APPLAUSE)

Now we are told that a whole bullet was found somewhere...Now is that whole bullet the bullet which crashed through the President's head? and shattered into pieces? Is that the bullet which went <sup>thru</sup> the Governor, smashed his rib, and ended up in his thigh--a fragment of it--was that the whole bullet which struck the curb and shattered into smithereens? Or was that an additional bullet? It was an additional bullet, obviously, so that FOUR shots were fired, and the Commission concedes that that rifle is not capable of firing four shots in the six seconds...Perhaps we'll hear about that later...No amount of rhetoric can change hand printing to hand writing, no amount of ~~main~~ rhetoric can prove that hand printing is uniquely identifiable, This is the Feb 1963 issue of the AmRifleman, the weapon before the Commission is not advertised here, so Oswald could not have ordered it from this....The Commission should have read the catalogue before they so (inaudible) made the allegation...They should have called Mr Klein as a witness and questioned him, the way WE did...very friendly...~~asked him~~ <sup>anxious</sup> to give testimony but the Commission ~~did not~~ <sup>did wish to</sup> hear him, they'd rather reach the conclusions, they did not want to have their minds cluttered up by the facts. He's (Ball) willing to stand on his questioning of Mrs Markham, after she said, no no no no, I did not see him there, does he say, "Was there a number two man there?" .... I'd like to have a procedural lesson on why those questions are proper...

(Interruption and discourse on I F Stone,  
highest integrity (almost like Warren),  
(left off center) (Stone knows all)