

FIELD MESSAGE

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U. S. INFORMATION SERVICE

FROM: USIS, COPENHAGEN

23

TO: USIA WASHINGTON

MESSAGE NO.

REF:

April 14, 1964

SUBJECT: Speech by Mark Lane Before Danish Students' Association

DATE

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SUMMARY: DOUBT CONCERNING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM IN U.S. HAS BEEN BELIEVED BY RECENT APPEARANCES OF NEW YORK ATTORNEY MARK LANE IN COPENHAGEN AND BUDAPEST. LANE, A FORMER ATTORNEY FOR THE BROTHER OF JEE OSWALD, HAS BEEN ATTRACTING MUCH ATTENTION BY HIS STATEMENTS IN THE PRESS AND IN PERSONAL APPEARANCES.

During a visit to Copenhagen, at the invitation of tabloid Ekstremtilliget, Mark Lane spoke concerning President Kennedy's assassination before the Danish Students' Association. Copenhagen evening berlingske Tidende (Conservative) commented in an editorial:

"While the Warren Commission is working, there is free scope for more or less well-founded speculations about what actually happened... Both the series in Information (the Fuchanan report) and Mark Lane oppose the so-called 'official version', but there is no such thing, and there will not be until the Warren Commission has concluded its work. They also both directly or indirectly cast suspicion on the American society's will to clear up the murder of its young president. The thought that the leaders of American society, and among them Kennedy's own brother, should be willing to, or apt to, seek anything else than the most complete facts about the events in Dallas, let alone cover up a possible plot, is not only unbelievable, but also unrealistic. A society which is as open as the American and with an aggressive press like the American would never be able to hide a conspiracy, and none other than the accomplices could have an interest in attempting to do so.

"The public debate about the clearing up of the assassinations in Dallas will be more justified when it can be held on the basis of the report from the Commission."

Cleared: PCL:WJdyess
SSCarpenter

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Tabloid Ekstrabladet, which invited Mark Lane to Copenhagen, writes in an editorial:

"There is obviously much to hide, many who must be forced to silence. But the American attorney Mark Lane... is dauntless and fearless. He will probably be among those who, we hope, will get to the truth. And the truth must be found, if we in Western Europe are to continue to recognize the United States as the mightiest and leading country among democracies."

Ekstrabladet carries several full pages on their guest and headlines their report on the day before his arrival: "The truth about the murder of Kennedy not published in America. The U.S. papers will not print the facts."

Ekstrabladet carries a four-column interview with Mark Lane, and the paper's report on the speech has a four-column headline: "Shock Report on Kennedy." Ekstrabladet also states that

"A Danish committee for the support of Mark Lane will be formed on the initiative of Danish lawyer Jørgen Jacobsen. One of the aims of the committee will be to translate and publish the book which Mark Lane is writing about Oswald's part or innocence in the assassination of Kennedy."

Ekstrabladet also reports that Danish TV will carry an eight-minute interview with Mark Lane in its fortnightly foreign policy review.

The Copenhagen morning papers carry straight summaries of Mark Lane's speech without commentaries. But in Sunday's Politiken (Radical Liberal), Columnist Erik Nørgaard warns against

"the formation of an international commission to investigate the circumstances around the murder, as it has been suggested from the Danish side during a congress of predominantly Communist lawyers in Budapest last week."

Nørgaard says

"A committee of this kind would be a vote of no confidence in the Americans' own will and power to clear up the murder."

Tabloid B.T., an affiliate of berlingske Tidende, says that

"Mark Lane is one of those nice men who always wants to do the right thing, which, however, does not always mean

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that they do it. Find one of the things which are near to his heart, and Mark Lane will always be willing to lead a protest demonstration down Fifth Avenue,-- greedy landlords, racial discrimination in the schools, negligence of the poor--Mark Lane will be there.

"He is not without logic and the power of conviction. As the minutes ticked off last night in the Students' Association, Oswald became gradually clear, clearer, almost clearest, and did the audience like it? Wasn't it like one had known all the time without knowing too much? - It might be better to wait until the Warren Commission has made its verdict. There will be an end to the investigation and why anticipate the events?",

R.T. concludes.

Randall S. Jassée
Randall S. Jassée
Acting Public Affairs Officer

Enclosures: *WTT*

Clippings from the
British Press.

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