

Transcript of Steve Jaffe tape 12/16/68  
Those present: Fred & Marlynn Newcomb, Ray Mardus & Maggie Field

Beginning of interview: SIDE 1.

Jaffe: "I'm all for this".

Ray: This was triggered by Vince's charges. Ray is open on the question of Jaffe's being an agent.

Jaffe: "I understand that".

Ray says he has not seen the basis of Vince's charges. Weisberg has seen some of them and doesn't respect Jaffe's work but doesn't agree with Vince's charges.

Steve: LaMarre had got a room for Steve at the Pontchartrain Hotel; he had arrived in N.O. before Jaffe. LaMarre had 'phoned Jaffe in L.A. and had asked, "Can you meet me in N.O. and help make student contacts to show the film?"

Jaffe: "I can't because Jim Garrison has asked me to disassociate myself from the film". (Jaffe says Garrison had told him about his desire for J.'s disassociation from the film the day before the film had been scheduled to be shown at U.C.L.A. in November. Garrison was concerned that Jaffe's connection to the film could bring about a legal trap for Garrison.

Jaffe is then asked why he showed up at Dixon Gallery (U.C.L.A.) on the day the film had been advertised as being shown (about 1,500 had gathered to see it due to ads in the Free Press & announcements in the UCLA Daily Bruin, but the film did not materialize that day and no explanation was forthcoming).

Jaffe's answer: "I showed up to watch it like everyone else". (At that point he had not yet seen it.)

Jaffe, however, had not told the rest of us that Jim had asked him to disassociate himself from the film; this information did not come forth until the day of this taped interview.

It was some two weeks later that LaMarre called Jaffe, & explained that he had been very ill in Paris (this was his excuse for not having appeared at the appointed day at UCLA; he did not explain why he never bothered to get word to Jaffe or anyone else that he would not appear.) It was during this call that LaMarre told Jaffe to meet him in N.O. Jaffe, once in N.O., called Ivon and asked him to obtain a projector so that LaM. could show the film to Jim. Jaffe arrived at the hotel on a Sunday night and dined with LaM. Weisberg was in town. Ivon tells Jaffe that Jim is out of town. Weisberg advised not showing the film. (Jaffe says he was then engaged in working on the Jim Braden aspect for Garrison). Sciambre was in the office and asked LaM. if the Z. film was included in his film. LaM. says "yes". At this point, Jaffe talks about the time, when he returned from Europe and stopped in N.O. en route home, that Ivon roughed him up because he felt Jaffe to be a liar. Ivon didn't believe Jaffe's stories about being followed and about the items having been stolen from his car and about the 2 car

(SIDE 1 cont'd)

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thefts. Sciambre, Harold, Alcock and LaMarre all together in the office on Monday. LaM. says he'll pay Jaffe's fare and expenses to New York to accompany LAM. in order to meet people from Ramparts & Edwards of the FREE Press. Now, the question arises from one of those present at the taping as to why Jaffe would accept having his expenses paid by LaM. when he had been told to disassociate himself from LaM. and his film. Jaffe's answer: "Because I wanted to see the film and he owed me some film and some money". Jaffe says that before accepting Lam.'s offer, he secured permission from Moo Sciambre, primarily because he was going to work with Sid Zion of the N.Y. Times on a lead (concerning Jim Braden) furnished by Mary Farrell of Dallas. Ray: "Did JG know that Jaffe was with LaM. in New York, after he had been ordered to disassociate himself? Jaffe: Jim didn't mind my seeing the film. Moo talks of possible reaction of LIFE mag. on the film. Now Jaffe talks about his credentials having been taken away in N.O. He says LaM. tried to comfort him about Vince's attack on both of them. LaMarre: "Don't worry. How can he (Vince) fire you?" Jaffe: "Yes. JG said only he could fire me". He and LaM. flew to N.Y. In N.Y., Jaffe immediately phoned Alcock. Alcock says he doesn't consider Jaffe fired - Salandria has no position in the office. Alcock says Jaffe's right to worry about carrying JG's credentials while traveling with LaM. and the film. Jaffe: "I wasn't going to exhibit the film; I just wanted to see it personally". He hadn't seen it in N.O. LaM. rented a private screening room to show the film to Mark Stone of Ramparts. Jaffe then called Sprague and said: "I want you to see the film". Jaffe tells Sprague about Vince's charges against him, and says that Sprague thinks Vince is "nuts" to have made such charges against Jaffe. LaM. had departed for Canada after the screening. Jaffe remained in N.Y., trying to get photos of Jim Braden and stories on him in the Public Library. Braden had been called Eugene Hale Braden prior to September of 1963. Rose and Turner think he's very important. (The implication here is that Braden may really be Bradley-mcf). (End of SIDE 1)

SIDE 2:

Jaffe talked to Mark Lane on the 'phone. He had been trying to locate Lane for Thornhill. Jaffe: "I was the only one who knew where to find Mark". Lane was in Tulsa, Okla. Jaffe called Tulsa and a news reporter gave Lane Jaffe's message. Jaffe: "I finally reached this girl who knew where he was" and who gave J. the number where Lane could be reached. (This was on a Wednesday night following the Monday in N.O.) Jaffe told Lane what Vince had said about him. Lane said to Jaffe: "Well, Vince has said that about me, too." (Vince, however, denied ever having said that about Lane when he had a conversation with Ray Marcus.

Lane doesn't take Vince seriously, according to Jaffe.

Ray: "Let's talk about the book, 'The Plot'. How did you first hear about it, etc.?"

Jaffe: first heard of the book the day Martin Luther King was assassinated. He had gone to the Beach. Hill's Hotel bungalow with Jim Lawrence to see JG. JG was looking at the #1 of the case files on the 'phone to Turner, reading a page of it. Jaffe heard JG comment that the book is "beautifully written". Jaffe says: "Maybe this is something we had tried to get hold of before". At this point Jaffe speaks of his allegiance to certain secret things which transpired between himself and JG and says his allegiance is to the office and he does not want Vince to have the tape because of certain private things known only to JG and Jaffe. Ray assures Jaffe that Vince reached his conclusions about Jaffe based primarily on a study of the material turned in by Jaffe to JG's office.

(End of SIDE 2)

SIDE 3: The talk switches now to a man named Ed. Foley, whom Jaffe had known as a disc-jockey when he (J.) was attending college there and who happened to be present at JG's address to the Radio-TV group at the Century-Plaza Hotel in L.A. in November of 1967. Foley and Jaffe had a conversation on this occasion and Foley said that he could help with certain conservatives he knew in the Santa Barbara area who had been involved in the Bay of Pigs invasion and who had hated JFK. Foley felt he could give JG information about these people. JG asked Jaffe to follow through on it. It was Foley who brought Jim Rose to Jaffe's and JG's attention, at that time. Jaffe, then, met with Rose twice. Rose told Jaffe that he could get information from Russian Intelligence sources on the assassination. Inasmuch as Rose was totally unknown to JG, he wanted Rose to meet Turner and to be checked out by him. Apparently, Turner gave the OK on Rose because, soon thereafter, JG asked Jaffe to send Rose to Mexico City. Jaffe assisted Rose in the venture by giving Rose money for the trip from the office. (The time, here, is the early part of '68). Getting back to the book, Jaffe times it with the King assassination and says that Jim Lawrence was in on the whole thing (and could verify, presumably). Jim Rose reported that the Russian Embassy in Mex. City would be helpful. During the interchange about the Russ. in Mex., no notes were written or sent; everything was done through pay telephones. JG and Sciambre knew about it. Codes were used. (At this point, Jaffe began to relate the codes to us, but I intercepted him-mcf). Jaffe tells us that the Russians in the Embassy in Mex. were very careful to protect Rose. One month later Jaffe talked to Turner in San Francisco, when he brought Turner the 133A & 133B overlays. Turner was of the opinion that something would come of the Rose visit to the Russ. Emb. in Mex.

So that when "The Plot" suddenly appeared in JG's office and he told Jaffe about it on April 4th (at the Seaballs Hotel), Jaffe immediately connected it with the MS and, he says, JJ agreed with him. JJ and Jaffe then went to see Dominic Field and JJ and Jaffe talked to JJ and Jaffe then went to see M.F. asked, "What do you think of the book?" JJ said, "I don't know. I've never seen it. With Dallas we've been looking for material to use in the book. The circumstance of the book's sudden appearance in his office and of how he had paid little attention to it, until just before he boarded the plane for L.A., when he decided to take it along and read it on the plane. Lawrence who came in briefly took the MS to be xeroxed and JG requested that MF read the book that night and submit an opinion on it the next day (which I did-~~not~~). JG then sent a cable to the publisher in Geneva (the next afternoon, 4/5/68, requesting 50 copies of the book and more communication with them. JG was apparently not concerned with the book's lack of documentation. JG subsequently received a cable from them which said: "Send representative immediately to exchange documents, etc." JG was convinced that Russian Intelligence was behind it, just as Rose had indicated that something would be forthcoming from that source. (Rose had said he believed something would be forthcoming from them in printed form). Jaffe took JG to Palm Springs & returned to L.A. JG told Geneva to contact Jaffe, his West Coast representative. Jaffe dispatched another cable to Geneva asking them to answer. Jaffe received a cable and 'phone call from LaMarre in Geneva saying, "Please come to Geneva right away". (End of SIDE 3)

SIDE 4: During 'phone call, LaM. didn't identify himself by name; he merely said, "Wanner calling", and gave Jaffe a 'phone number where he could be contacted. Jaffe then called JG, telling him that he had been asked to make the trip and asking for expense money (\$750.00 round-trip). Jaffe says JG thought he was going to Mexico, at that point, and wasn't thinking in terms of a European trip. (Only the sum of money required for the fare would have indicated the destination). Jaffe left (in the company of a girl-friend) and was headed for Paris but, because of the May riots, he was obliged to land in Brussels and make his way by bus. LaM. picked him up "in a beat-up Citroen". "We're interested in your documentation for the book, said Jaffe to LaM. Jaffe also tells LaM. that he thinks the book is the work of an Intelligence operation. Jaffe and LaM. go to Soroquiere's office at 26, Avenue Kleber in Paris, in order to discuss the case, etc. Soroquiere is an attorney who represents the FRONTIERS company in Paris. Jaffe's impression is that Soroquiere is LaM.'s superior. Soroquiere was not there; they met a Jean LeMarchand, who is an assistant to Soroquiere and who was involved in the Ben Barka scandal, according to Jaffe. Jaffe tells LeMarchand why he is there. LeMarchand doesn't appear to know very much about the subject

hand and asks, "What do you plan to do for us?". LaM. offers Jaffe a part of the contract if Jaffe succeeds in finding them a U.S. publisher. Jaffe says LeMarchand is a partner of Soroquiere and takes no part in FRONTIERS, while Soroquiere did help with the book financially, as well as personally. They want a publisher in the U.S. and Steve wants the documentation. He shows them the Korman photo. LaM. takes Jaffe to lunch. J. finds him "very elliptical". LaM. tells J. that the documentation for the book is in a vault in a bank in Lichtenstein. That night J. dined with LaM. and the conversation was about JFA. LaM. takes him to St.-Germain to see the student uprising. The next day they both drove to Geneva together. There, Jaffe says he went through the book, point by point, with LaM., all the while asking him, "where did this come from, where did you get that, ?" etc., etc. No answer was forthcoming, according to Jaffe. LaM. tells J. that he worked for "pseudo-intelligence" during the war in Indo-China. (The book-jacket description of Hepburn is LaM.) Jaffe thinks LaM. put the book together and hired certain people to fill in and assemble it. There's talk of an American girl (Shirley McKinley, he thinks) who had some part in the assemblage of the book.

(End of SIDE 4)

SIDE 5: At this point Maggie Field raises the question to Jaffe of why he thinks LaM. has not released the documentation and gives no promise of doing so in the future. "Does it exist?", she asks.

Jaffe: "I have a rather negative opinion of his (LaM.'s) ability - not of his contacts". Jaffe says he agrees that LaM. is evasive, negative but doesn't really deal with the question. He explains that LaM. feels that in the U.S. it's impossible to develop witnesses without their being destroyed. Hunt, for example, can't be touched, he maintains. J. says LaM. plans to bring the documentation out later, in order to promote the book.(!) The book will either be ignored or attacked, but never accepted, says LaM.

"I cannot defend the book", says Jaffe. Fred Newcomb asks: "What does JG think of the book now?". Jaffe: "JG thinks LaM. has honest intentions" and said so at the time that Lane and Jaffe brought Rev. Broshears to N.O. and LaM. was also there. At that time, LaM. gave the french editions to both JG and Lane. JG, according to Jaffe, thinks LaM. represents a French government Intelligence apparatus and can't be of much help to us.

Ray: "What do you believe motivates LaM.? Have you discussed this with him?"

Jaffe: "I think he is motivated by 3 things:

1. politically by the French gov't., whatever involvement he has in it.

2. a deep belief in what JFK stood for and in what RFK might have done had he become President.
3. a strong financial interest in the book & film; he wants to make money.

Jaffe claims that LaM. has a personal attachment to the Kennedys and to the Kennedy "aura".

M.F.: "LaM. asked me what I thought of the film; I told him that only the Z. portion of the film was worthwhile and that the rest had no interest and could be detrimental."

Ray: "What do you think of his character?" Jaffe: "...extraordinarily intelligent; fast socialite type of life; concerned with beauty, fashion, women; lonely individual; suffers from experiences in Indo-China where he was injured in combat; extremely nervous; lots of drive to work on projects; a bit of a bluffer; leads people on; inconsiderate; frustrated by certain laws which may limit his actions; doesn't expect to live long."

Ray: "What do you think of his integrity?"

Jaffe: "He's very self-serving and will keep his word when he interests his cause". Then J. speaks of LaM.'s not having sent the \$400. to the photographer in Geneva (\$300. was to have been contributed to Truth & Consequences).

Jaffe: "I've also said I want to charge you (LaM.) \$200. for the use of my motion picture". J. explains that LaM. has prints and some of his (Jaffe's) black & white pix, as well. LaM. incorporated in the film, "Farewell America" "about 3%" of Jaffe's film, and used the DCA film, of which he had a copy. Jaffe complains that LaM. never returned any of these things to him. Also, there was the matter of a \$71. 'phone call for which Jaffe sent a cheque & for which LaM. was to have reimbursed him but, to date, had not done so.

Ray asks how much time did Jaffe spend with LaM. during the time that the latter was in L.A. recently. (Jaffe was with LaM. most of the time, day & evening-mcf). Jaffe goes on to say that he wanted his name cut out of LaM.'s film (Jaffe gets screen credit!-mcf) and that he, Jaffe, wanted LaM. to cut out of the film all of "the libelous stuff" which could be dangerous to the trial. "I told him I wasn't going to work for him", says Jaffe. M.F.: "Did he ask you to work for him?"; Jaffe: "Well - yes, he wanted to set up a team of people - like 3 or 4 students to go to different universities and show the film (because he couldn't stay here - he had to go back to Paris and couldn't do it himself) and to distribute the book at that time. I said I'm not going to do it - I'm not going to have anything to do with the film or the book" (!) "instead of paying me the money he owes me, LaM. said I could have 200 copies of the book to sell and keep the money - that they didn't have any money to pay me. He gave me \$100. for the 'phone call." While Jaffe was still in N.Y. with LaM. he told LaM., "I'm going to leave now - you can pay my ticket back to L.A. because I've put out

the money for all these expenses".

(End of SIDE 5)

SIDE 6:

Jaffe: "I don't want to make anything more to do with him, (!) but I felt a little bit obligated to him because he did take me to dinner and he introduced me to all those people. (!)"

Ray: "Would you describe him as trustworthy?"

J.: "Not a bit".

Ray: "When did the subject of a promotional film first come up between you?"

J.: "When LaM. said, 'You have the most important evidence - the Z. film; why not show it?' Then there apparently ensued a discussion between the two as to why JG couldn't manage to get hold of it, with Jaffe telling LaM. that JG, in his position, could not and would not engage in breaking the law.

LaM. then asked Jaffe if he could get a copy of the Z. film or if JG would give him one. JG said NO. Then, M.F. asked, "Where did the copy come from?"

Jaffe: "From sources within RFK's office". (!) M.F.: "he definitely told you that?" Jaffe: "I have personal knowledge about that but I refuse to say it on tape or here. If you want to indict me for that, o.k." (Goes off the record). Jaffe continues, "I'm only too happy to see this association (with LaM.) finished". Ray: "When did you first hear of a promotional film?"

Jaffe: "When he was here in October. He said, 'We're going to show it all over'. Marlynn Newcomb: "You knew before you went to Europe - you asked for Fred's film". Jaffe: "You're confusing film with the overlays I asked Fred for". Jaffe says LaM., when he was in N.O. in August had spoken of showing the Z. film on TV. Ray: "Then the suggestion for the film came from LaM.?"

Jaffe: "Yes, I thought it was his personal project. LaM. went back to Paris and phoned me to say that the film was almost complete and that he wanted to show it in N.Y., Berkeley, Harvard, etc. He asked for photos of the men in Dealey Plaza, my film and Ramparts!" Jaffe speaks of the fact that the film was to be developed in slow motion at different speeds but says he did not know the other portions of the film, dealing with personalities and implications would be included; all Jaffe knew, he says, was that his film, plus the Moorman photo, plus the Z. film would be incorporated - nothing else. There was a slim possibility that the "walkie-talkie" man would be in the film. He speaks of Newcomb's sketch - he showed it to LaM. and despite the fact that it is purely sensationalistic, LaM. put it in the film, nevertheless. (J. says this with a certain amount of derision in his tone!).

Fred Newcomb now makes the comment that the solid quality of the #5 man stands to be completely invalidated because of the fact that LaM. has made an equally solid case for a #2 man in the Nix film, - this, despite the fact that the critics, while firmly agreed of the invincibility of the #5

man, have never agreed upon the validity of the #2 man in the Nix film.

Ray: "What did you send him (LaM., after he made the second call to you?"

Jaffe: "the pictures of the men being arrested (Beers & Wm. Allen) - the Allgens and Korman pix - he had pictures of the guy with the hand thing. Then there were two more calls from him. During the last of the two, he told me to arrange showings of the film with Mike Farrell for U.C.L.A. and with Charles Palmer for Berkeley. I was being very careful to arrange everything through Burton. LaM. and I had no contact between these calls and the time that he was scheduled to arrive with the film"(for the UCLA Dixon Gallery showing in November-mcf)"In October, LaM. had gone to Montreal to get the film processed. He 'phoned me from Montreal, then, to say that he was returning to Paris to work on the production of the film and to finish it and that he would 'phone me later from Paris".

(End of SIDE 6)

SIDE 7:

Jaffe: "I sent him a wire a day later with Palmer's and Farrell's addresses. I contacted Palmer but not Farrell. I told Farrell and Burton that it would be a very important, historical film (underlinings mine-mcf) and that I guessed that the Z. film was in it - I said I guessed it was. Two weeks after it was to have been shown at UCLA, he called me from New York. That was my first contact with him(since he had not shown up for the UCLA presentation-mcf) - I had not seen the film, of course. He said, 'Go to N.O.; I'll pay your expenses and flight there and we'll show it to JG". Ray: "Did he pay your expenses?" Jaffe: "Yes". Ray: "What attempts did you make to contact him after the UCLA flop?" Jaffe: "I called the hotel where I knew he had stayed, and his friend, Bergot, and a place at 4, Avenue Hoche. He had been in the hospital but had left no word for me." At this point, someone raised the question about the article in the Dec. 5th Free Press, written by a "Jay Singer", concerning the so-called mystery of the whereabouts of the film and its "Courrier". Jaffe explained that Paul Eberle of the Free Press had wanted to write a story about the mysterious circumstances of the film's not appearing at the scheduled time and place, but it was Jaffe who wrote the story under the by-line of "Jay Singer". (The story stressed the fact that the so-called "courrier", meaning LaM., might have met with government interference, upon his entry into the U.S. or Canada with the film and that there might be cause for concern about his whereabouts and that of the film-mcf) Ray: "Didn't you begin to conclude, by now, that he wasn't reliable?" Jaffe: "Yes". Then J. goes on to say that from the time of his return to L.A. from abroad, he had typed up all accounts of what transpired during his visit and had given them to JG. Ray: "Didn't you think it might be



hazardous for you to set up the film, knowing LaM.'s unreliability, - whether your name was connected with it or not?"(At this juncture, Jaffe asked that the tape be stopped.)

(Tape continues) Jaffe: "I met with LaM. in N.O. He had said he would pay my way - I had asked Ivon if that was o.k. and he had said yes and that he would get a projector."(Bordelin was still his friend). Jaffe says, again, that he arrived in N.O. and dined with LaM. and that LaM. had arranged for the room. He says Weisberg never saw the film because the projector and cord were wrong. J. stayed at the Commodore Hotel in N.Y. with LaM. and arranged for a showing of the film for the next day. (J. says he was then still reeling from his encounter with Salandria in N.O.). They showed the film at a "small place". Mark Stone of Ramparts and Jaffe were the only ones present. LaM. wanted to hire a public relations man. Stone was recommended by Weisberg. Jaffe's first impression of the film was that the Z. portion was well presented (this, despite the fact that the head shot was not pointed up or explained in any way for the average viewer, whereas much less important points in the film were accentuated-mcf). When J. was questioned as to why he didn't have a much stronger, negative reaction to the total film, he said he was so "wary" of everything by then that he didn't say a word. Stone said there could be concern about the law - that it should be shown to press (!?) and students. "No one knows if you're credible - how can you convince anyone - the press will either ignore or attack you", said Stone. Jaffe says he asked LaM., "why show all these men if you have no proof?" and LaM. answered that he had the proof. Jaffe then says that he urged LaM. not to show the film and reminded him that it could be detrimental to the Shaw trial, "but", says Jaffe, "if you have to show it, you can cut the damaging part out because it could prejudice a jury and I don't feel good about using my name".(Jaffe ~~xxxxxxx~~ gets screen credit in the film-mcf). LaM. told Jaffe, "We put Shaw in the film as a courtesy to JG"(!) and Jaffe is purported to have said "He doesn't need that kind of courtesy - also, we've completely disproved that the man in Dealey-Plaza is Bradley". (A point is made in the film of the "striking resemblance" between the man being arrested in D-P and E.E. Bradley-mcf). Then Jaffe relates that when JG was at the International Hotel in L.A. in December of 1967, Boxley, Turner, and others were present when Boxley convinced JG of the so-called striking resemblance; J. maintains that Boxley was a strong exponent of that theory. Jaffe outlines his position on the resemblance. Ivon had told him to take a good look at Bradley to ascertain if the resemblance really existed. Bradley came on TV, and J. found the resemblance even more striking. "When I got to N.O., Ivon showed me the other pictures of the man in D&P and then I no longer thought it was he and told JG so; JG said he had more pix but still felt they were

one and the same person. According to J., Boxley had sponsored the idea and Turner was positive or, at least, Turner thought it could or could not be B. but they didn't plan to use it as evidence. Jaffe: "I think I'm the only one of the group who said 'now I've changed my mind'". "I explained to LaM. that, despite the similarity in appearance, we didn't think it was the same man and I advised him to cut it out of the film and he has". Ray: "why did he put it in, in the first place?" J.: "For dramatic appeal". (1) Jaffe: "When we went to Interpol to speak to their photographer, I showed him the pix of Bradley and the guy in D-P and he didn't think it was the same man." Ray; "There was a much simpler way to establish the identity; information on Bradley's height was then available - why didn't you check the height of the two men?" Jaffe: "If you examine the news stories, nowhere do they indicate his height." Ray: "That is gross carelessness - his height would have been very easy to find out". Jaffe: "I talked with Sprague about measuring the size of the blocks (in background of D-P shots-mcf). Sanders had computed the height by measuring the blocks. This was never intended to be published. LaM. was present when the expert said 'it's not the same man' - yet, he put it in the film but has now agreed to take it out." Ray: "Did you offer any advice on the preparation of the film?" Jaffe: "No, none - I had no role other than the contribution of my film and the photos".  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX F.Newcomb: "Where did the idea that the man on the station wagon is the #2 man come from?" Jaffe: "I have no idea"- LaM. submitted it to computer analysis. I undersand your concern and I feel terrible about it". Ray: "Why are you still associated with him?" Jaffe: "My association with him is cordial because I have an obligation because he helped me in Europe". Ray: "How did he ehlp you?" Jaffe: "I met people associated with the book and JG has cooperated with him. I want to put him on to people who can help him show it and to get him to cut those things out of it." M.F.: "LaM. told me that the assassination, itself, isn't what's important, - only the story of the total man (JFK) is important. He said, 'I, personally, am not interested in the assassination'. He also scoffed at hippies who showed interest in th case and at the "experts", meaning the critics; he said he was only interested in meeting important people who could help him promote his film.

(End of SIDE 7)

SIDE 8: Jaffe says Lam.'s position is that the book is written - let people challenge it. He invites courtroom action in France or in an international court, not necessarily in the U.S. - because they have control over European courts. Marlynn Newcomb asks, "What does he plan to do with the film and the book now?" Jaffe: He'll get a public relations man and show the film at universities - Publisher Lyle Stuart told him it would take 6

months before the book could be distributed which is not soon enough, so  
LaM. is doing it from Montreal.

This part of the interview begins with a discussion of the documentation which was never forthcoming from LaM. to Jaffe despite the fact that the real purpose of Jaffe's trip to Europe was to get the documentation of the claims and charges made in the book.

Jaffe: "He's (LaM., that is) half-elliptical about it. Some of the information came from friends they had - for example, in Florida there are two CIA either agents or something and they had people talk to them. During our period in Geneva, he said they had contact with Robert Kennedy's office through Steven Smith, who was a friend of LaM.'s and that the Dallas Police portion - the investigation of the Dallas Police - had come from--" Ray interrupts here with "did Moynihan ever come into it?" and Jaffe continues, "had come from Daniel Pat Moynihan--and that--"(Ray;"LaM. told you this?" Jaffe:"Yeah") "and that Moynihan, who would not wish to talk to any of us -- and I said, 'who are some of the people that we can talk to?'" (Ray interrupts, "did he say 'it came to us from?'" and Jaffe answers, "Yeah, no- he said at the outset of the book --the book, in fact, I believe, started from the contact which LaM. had personally with RFK and indicated they wanted to do something like that and that time he said Kennedy was in a mood to cooperate and to help them and referred them through Steven Smith all the time to get this information from Moynihan". Ray:"referred them -- you mean representatives?" Jaffe:"referred LaM. to Steven Smith". Ray:"LaM. personally Jaffe: "Yeah". Ray:"LaM. said he personally was referred to Rob't.K. - even" Newcomb: "then this is the source of the emissary story?" Jaffe:"No-no, it is not". Ray:"so LaM. has met--according to LaM. -- he has met RFK-?" Jaffe:"Yes, twice." Ray:"...told him--what, did he say when this was?" Jaffe: "If you read in the--no-yes-he has told me but now I can't remember exactly but I think he said it began in either late '66 or early '67--it was late '66." Ray: "LaM. in the U.S. had personal meetings with RFK?" M.F.:"How did he get to know him? On what basis?" Jaffe:"eh-he said he'd met him once before, several years ago and it's in the back of the book - do you have the book?" Ray:"--and RFK referred him to Moynihan--to Steven Smith, I'm sorry". Jaffe:"Yeah, to Steven Smith". (Here there are the interruptions of several voices speaking at once and then Jaffe resumes with): "...gave them even financial help to begin with--that's what he said -- but there is another confirmation of this --in fact, in Paris, now, if you were able to get the Paris papers, FRANCE-SOIR has sort of investigated Frontiers Co. and has talked to some of the aides of Kennedy, like Schlesinger and I think Sorenson, who have denied that they had anything to do with the book--and said that--" Ray:"-is this very recent in FRANCE-SOIR?" J.:"oh, yeah". Ray:"..Last few days?" J.:"yeah-last week and there's an on-going big controversy about it". Ray: "Do you have a copy?" J.:"oh,no".

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Ray: "Do you have the dates?" Jaffe: "I know it was last week". Ray: "I'm sure you can get a copy". Jaffe: "...and that they do believe that the original help came from RFK". Ray: "You'll call back later - you'll have a chance and give Maggie the dates of that?" (This reference to M. Field was because she reads French and could translate the articles in FRANCE-SOIR to which Jaffe referred-mcf). Jaffe: "o.k.--well, I don't have them written down because LaM. just told me last week". M.F.: "You say there's an on-going controversy right now?" J.: "Yeah--" M.F.: "What is the controversy?" J.: "The controversy has to do with the fact that they had done a TV show promoting the book--Frontiers, that is--and that FRANCE-SOIR had reviewed the book and had said that this book was the work of the cooperation of many different people and that they were definitely convinced that the cooperation came from RFK but that--Sorenson and Schlesinger denied that RFK.." Ray: "Anybody else?" J.: "...and that Schlesinger and Sorenson on TV and to FRANCE-SOIR denied that Kennedy ever doubted the Warren Report and--you know--" Ray: "well, we know that's reliable". J.: "Yeah-- it was even stronger than denying that he had had anything to do with the book, but just yesterday or the day before LaM. told me about a time when he was with Steven Smith--"(interruption here by Ray on how best to obtain copies of the french newspaper, then Jaffe continues: "...O.K. and they put a full page ad in LeMonde and you have a review from LeMonde and the controversy is evidently going on now..". M.F.: "controversy that it was inspired by Robert Kennedy?" Jaffe: "No, it's not so much a controversy about that--there's a controversy about --eh--he said that FRANCE-SOIR is critical of Frontiers and critical of the book but that they don't doubt a statement which LaM. himself made at a Press Conference, when either the movie was shown or the TV show was shown and he said - uh- that 'we got the Z. film from RFK's office". M.F.: "LaM. said that?" J.: "yeah, that was said in Paris before he left and I told that to Moo Sciambre and Sciambre said, 'well, I hope you'll encourage him to say that over here because we don't want anybody to think he got it from us'-- and--" Newcomb: "...that's where the emissary story started..". Jaffe: "No, the emissary story was Jones Harris and Charles Lind, who's a mutual friend of JG's and Rob't.K.'s, and probably me, a little bit, through Dick Lubick, who would be considered another emissary. I don't know about Jones Harris except that I think that Jones Harris had talked with RFK's aides and had mentioned the statement, 'there are guns between me and the White House'--so, where are we--?" (At this point, Ray had been absent from the room for a few minutes and having returned, M.F. says, "Wait, Ray, missed something important that you said..". Ray: "...about the emissary thing?" M.F.: "no, no--about what Jaffe said about LaM. going on TV..". Jaffe: "About LaM. made the statement in Paris when they showed the film two weeks ago, before he got here--and he made the statement at a Press Conference that they had gotten the Z. film through

Rob't. Kennedy's office and (repeats Sciambre's reaction)--according to LAM., he showed the film in Montreal and he said that they did get it through RFK's office--he repeated that". M.F.: "He didn't say it to the gathering here the other day". Jaffe: "...and he told that to Mark Stone, too". (Here M.F. repeats about LaM.'s not having told that to the L.A. people gathered for the screening of the film and Jaffe says, "No, nobody asked him--or if they did--no, he didn't and he's, you know, he's not so great about this-- I have my reservations about the whole thing and about the film".) Ray: "Well, I wanted to get into that". Jaffe: "Yeah, I'm a little bit--I'm concerned about what association there is between me and LaM. because now I'm the guy that JG sent to talk to him and then, by becoming his friend and having him come here and having him ask me to help him, I've done good and then I've endangered myself, too, you know--the good that I've done is that I've now persuaded him to cut out of the film the references to Edgar Eugene Bradley, all of the libelous indictments of those 5 people that Ray mentioned and I have an appointment today for him to go down and pay for an editor to cut it out---". Ray: "O.K.---getting back to Paris--how long had you been in Europe by this time?" Jaffe: "By the time we'd been to Geneva? I'd been there maybe a week or so". Ray: "Summing up what happened in this time, you'd had various conversations with LaM..." Jaffe: "yeah, on and off..". Ray: "What do you feel you accomplished in that week?" Jaffe: "um--what I accomplished during that time was that.." Ray: "No, during the first week". Jaffe: "During the first week I accomplished merely the fact of sort of gaining his confidence so that he would talk to me. I found out that Moynihan was involved in finding out the information about the Dallas Police". Ray: "...based on LaM.?" Jaffe: "He told me that Rob't. K. had interrogated severely and intensely all of the Secret Service agents immediately when they got back to Washington--that he had set Pat Moynihan on an investigation of the Dallas Police". Ray: "This all came from LaM.?" Jaffe: "Yeah, LaM. said that French Intelligence had had an agent working within the Texas oil establishment and the agent was "Philippe" --I don't know his last name--but I know he told a last name to Larry Bensky (of Ramparts-mcf) who came over there the day I left--and that they had known all along very much information about George de Mohrenschildt and that he was an integral part of the plot and that he had been an agent. So, anyway, I accomplished that and, at the same time, I said, 'well, while I'm over here, is it possible to talk with some of the newspapers here and get them to print the Moorman photo'?" Ray: "Did you have any idea when you left for Europe, how long you'd be over?" Jaffe: "No, no idea--and I might as well say it here, in terms of admitting something --an admission--that I spent probably longer there -- I would say maybe 5 days or 6 days longer there

than I would have had to because I saw an old friend, a girl friend and I spent, I think, 5 days seeing her and, at the same time, I wrote a long article about the case -- Maggie sent me some newspaper clippings about the Federal Court blocking it (the trial, that is; Jaffe had requested that Field send the appropriate press clippings-mcf). You (meaning Ray-mcf) sent me the Moorman negative and I wrote for 6 days--an article about the case, and my girl friend, who used to be a french teacher at Santa Barbara, translated it into french and that took a long time--but all the time that I was there, LaM. kept promising me to give me those documentations and to give me the tape recording of a girl called Shirley McKinley, who was a girl who had given them a lot of information -- and they had a 15-minute tape recording and he was going to give me a copy of the tape recording, which he never did. In other words, I believe he led me on and led me to stay longer than I ever would have had to, by promising to give me these things right up until the last week I was there--and the last day, in fact, he had promised to give me these things and he didn't." M.F.: "In other words, you have never had any documentation, at all?" Jaffe: "No, except a lot of information which he gave me, all of which is there. Of course, he did take me to meet the director of the Secret Service in the Elysee Palace, who, I believe, is the #1 head of the Secret Service and I had his card in those papers and--" Ray: "What did he tell you about the case?" Jaffe: "He was very cordial with LaM. We met for about an hour and 1/2. He said that they had known about the case and that they felt that JG was on the right track - that DeGaulle had made the statement to the guy who wrote a book about it". Ray: "What was his name?" Jaffe: "I have it written down - I can't remember, now - but I have his card and he gave me DeGaulle's personal card". (End of this side of the tape).

(2nd side of tape): Jaffe: "...Dealey Plaza--those 6 shots- I wanted to check those photos with their police agencies to see if they had IDs on any of them and also the IDs that we had that were speculative - John Bloomer, Ted Slack, Skinny Ralph - (Guy with walkie-talkie, says Newcomb.) The Director of the Secret Service called from his office while I was there and got in touch with his brother who is head of the Police. - (Chief of Police in Paris-) and said would they assist us and get us any help- and the guy over there said he would give us assistance but who we should talk to was Interpol - so he made an appointment for me to see a guy named Nepote at Interpol - and that afternoon LaM. drove me over to Interpol and I met with this guy in his office - one of the higher-ups,

I would assume, from the looks of his office and we had a brief discussion and I said that I worked for the DA of N.O. and that we were there to inquire if they had any IDs of certain suspects and, in fact, LaM told me on the way over 'don't say it's about the assassination of President Kennedy - just say you have certain business to go through and could they check their files.' " Ray: "At this point, you'd been in Paris about how long?" Jaffe: "Well, we'd been in Geneva and we were now back to Paris." Ray: "O.k., what about the third week in Europe?" Jaffe: "Third or fourth, yeah - in the meantime, RFK had been assassinated." Ray: "Right - what occupied most of your time in Geneva?" Jaffe: "I would say most of it was either working with this photographer on the Moorman photo or talking to LaM and waiting while he conducted a lot of business because once we produced these photos - you know all the photos that I had - we did better and made bigger prints of them - and I have a set here - and William McEwen Duff and Shaw and some of the expository photos of the case - M.F. asks how Duff comes back in the picture so strongly again?" Jaffe: "Not at all except that I had his photo with me and I thought I would check and see if they knew where he was - - in Europe." M.F.: "Where did you get the photo?" Jaffe: "From the files in N.O. - I got it from Tom Bethel - out of his file. He had about 10 photos of him that were the Dallas Police" ----- (inaudible) M.F.: "From the Archives - or where did they get the photos?" Jaffe: "I don't know where they got them." Newcomb: "Was it an arrest photo?" Jaffe: "Yes, it was a Dallas Police mug shot - two-faced" - M.F.: "Do they feel - LaM and his crowd - that Duff is implicated?" Jaffe: "I think they have only a scant knowledge of his existence by the Report and the Volumes." M.F.: "Then why did they show his picture in the film?" Jaffe: "Because, if you'll notice, the sound track at that point says something about 'from the files of the Dallas Police' - and his picture comes on and says Dallas Police." - M.F.: "Then it doesn't mean anything." Jaffe: "No, it's a very poor film." Ray: "Several times, up to this point, repeatedly you'd be reminding LaM - that you wanted the documentation." Jaffe: "Yes." Ray: "How did he put you off - he kept promising you that he would get it?" Jaffe: "Yeah, he'd say, 'listen - we will get that but I have to get that by having Wanner call Soroquiere and Soroquiere will call Lichtenstein and we have to send somebody up there - a man - with a key, etc.'" Ray: "So he kept putting you off about that." Jaffe: "Yeah - constantly, but then - everytime we would talk, I would ask him more about the oilmen and George de Mohrenschildt and everything - in the meantime, he would be taking me - one day we drove to the German city of Brien (sic) in Switzerland because he had to meet there with an Italian journalist who he said I could



give all the photos to and maybe they would write a story about J.G. - he would be very interested - but mainly he was interested in giving him the photos and publicizing the book. Evidently this guy was trying to get the book published in Italy." Ray: "After you got the Moorman photos and the number five man clarified, what was LaM.'s reaction?" Jaffe:

"Oh - he thought it was fantastic - he had believed in it before - but the work that I did with this photographer came out so great that he wanted to get it published - and he thought it was really excellent and he paid for the Bild - the German newspaper - this night which was June fifth or sixth - we had heard RFK had been shot but we did not know he was dead - and we were in the photographer's office. A guy came all the way from Hamburg, Germany, representing the Alex Springer paper which is the Bild-Sontag, who was going to run a serialization of the book and it was LaM.'s intention to sell them the Moorman photo to print with the story and this guy came. He spoke English and German...so we talked and he talked to LaM. and he signed a paper, sort of a contract guaranteeing LaM. (or Frontiers) \$1,000 - just to take the picture with him and more if it was printed and, at that point, LaM. had said he should sign a contract with me to give half of everything they made from this photo to J.G.'s office - and Truth or Consequences and I have that contract in my briefcase.

Ray: "Why didn't LaM. - did you ask him - include any photos in the book?"

Jaffe: "Yeah - I kept saying, 'can you do this - won't you do this - don't you think it would be a most dramatic thing' and he thought two things:

1) that the book was better not to have any photographs at all." Ray: "Why?"

Jaffe: "Because he felt that too much would be made of the photographs and not enough attention would be paid to the text of the book." Ray:

"Did that make sense to you?" Jaffe: "Not - no, because I kept arguing and I kept saying, 'what you want is attention and this photograph is the most definite proof.'" Ray: "This and others, but I am using this as -"

Jaffe: "Yeah, but he said, 'no, we don't want any photographs in the book.'" M.F.: "The text doesn't mean a thing without any documentation - anybody could write that text."

Jaffe: "Yeah, I agree and also his opinion is that the book is documented except for the charges - but the reason why they did not put evidentiary documentation in was because they wanted somebody to sue them so that they could go to trial and have to prove-" M.F.: "But you say he feels it is documented.

where?" Jaffe: "He feels, for example, all the research is documented - if you look at the lengthy, lengthy footnotes on either references to other books which have been written or references to -" M.F.: "No, but

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when they make a statement of involvement of individuals there is no documentation at all and that is the only thing that is interesting."

Jaffe: "As I say, his excuse is that they want somebody to sue them and make them prove it - he also -" Ray: "Well, what was his excuse at the end of your visit when you said, 'well, you've been promising right along the documentation - and here I am ready to go' - what happened?" Jaffe: "He said, 'listen, I will bring all of that to you - I will give all that to you or to J.G. but he said, 'I could not get it now. I asked Soroquiere to get it and he has not gotten it by now.'" M.F.: "Well, I was there two months after you were. He could have given it to me then."

Jaffe: "Yeah - well, I said, 'will you answer the specific questions that I have' - oh, because one thing very important happened. I made extensive notes on the answers to the questions that I had at the first meeting in the Geneva hotel with him when I went through the book almost page by page of the important pages and I asked him questions - 'where did you get this? Where did this come from?' - 'Richard N. Savitt in Japan, near the Atsugi Marine Base, etc.' - He said, 'Well, Richard N. Savitt had worked for them and had given them this information.'" M.F.: "Is this the tennis player?"

Jaffe: "Well - no - I don't know - No, he led me to believe that this guy was an operator operating for the French government." Ray: "O.K. So now you are back to Paris - and you said-" Jaffe: "Yeah, so I asked him would he give me this meeting and would he answer all these questions and he said, 'yes.' - and the very last day that I was there he said, 'look, I've told you, I've answered all your questions.'" M.F.: "But he hadn't -"

Jaffe: "And you have the information from my answers." M.F.: "But he hadn't answered your questions." Jaffe: "Well, he had answered a great deal and the results are in that report - about Lloyd Hilton Smith and they talked to Richard Lawson - Winston G. Lawson." M.F.: "What I mean is the documentation is the only thing that really matters - and they have not answered that." Jaffe: "Yeah, well they never gave it and they always promised it - and even when J.G. asked him for it in his house when we were there -" M.F.: "How I come there like two months later - and he had a perfect chance to say to me, 'here is the stuff Steve wanted - I couldn't get it then.'" Jaffe: "Well, he was in N.O., I believe, before that, wasn't he? - Before you went to Paris?" M.F.: "Not to my knowledge because at that point he said, 'I'm coming to the States in October' - I gathered from that that he had not been here since he had seen you."

Jaffe: "Well, I don't remember the date." M.F.: "He made a mockery of J.G. to me, did I tell you that?" Jaffe: "No." M.F.: "Well, he said,

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'That is not what this thing is about - what J.G. is doing is just nothing at all - it's just nonsense.'" Jaffe: "Well, he considers-" M.F.: - "And Clay Shaw is not important." Jaffe: "No, he says Clay Shaw is not the most important." M.F.: "No, he said to me, 'that's not what it's about - the J.G. thing and Clay Shaw - that is not important,' he said." Jaffe: "Hm - yeah - well, I don't believe he is at all the type of logical, statistician, researcher, lawyer - like a Mark Lane - he is not-" M.F.: "He says he is a lawyer." Jaffe: "He has said he is a lawyer, yes." M.F.: "O, I think he is very logical and he has a very sharp brain-but-" Jaffe: "But I think his intense feeling about the case was that their information on the oil industry - on the fact that George de Mohrenschildt was involved - that Lloyd Hilton Smith, the oilman was involved - that John Austin, the oilman whose ranch he saw is adjacent to H. Hunt's ranch in Southern California is involved - and that the oil industry is where the motive lies-" M.F.: "Well, we all know that." Ray: "But he was talking about the CIA, too, in the book - wasn't he?" Jaffe: "No - very lightly - they are very light but he said absolutely he told me that George de Mohrenschildt had been working for the CIA since the time he got here - and he says de Mohrenschildt got his pay-off from the Schlumberger Oil Company in Texas and that Lawrence G. Bunker, who is an ex-Colonel and a Bircher and all that - and de Mohrenschildt were the link with the CIA through which the instruction, or the actual carrying out of the plot, were directed." Ray: "Let's talk briefly about what you think about LaM. You have had a lot of contact with him now - up to this point." Jaffe: "Yeah. O.K. - personally I - just a thought comes to mind - one night we - eh - when I saw my old girl friend in Paris, she invited us to come to a cocktail party - at a friend of hers - a young girl with whom she had worked - and I came there having expected to hear from LaM. but not having heard from him - this was the same date that certain generals who had been exiled by De Gaulle were allowed to come back into the country - and I left word where I was staying of where I would be and he came there later that night and I said, 'how come you did not call me?' I expected to hear from him all that day."