

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

TO: SAC, DALLAS (100-10970)

DATE: 8/3/64

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-117844)

SUBJECT: MARK LANE
SM - C

(CO:NEW YORK)

Identity of Source:

[REDACTED] who has furnished reliable info in past (conceal)

Description of Info:

MARK LANE Public Meeting held at Theatre Four, NYC, 7/22/64

Date Received:

[REDACTED]

Received By:

SA HENRY E. NACHLE (written)

Original Location:

[REDACTED]

A copy of informant's written report follows:

- 2 - Dallas (100-10970) (MARK LANE) (RM)
- (1 - 100-10461) (LEE HARVEY OSWALD)
- 1 - Los Angeles / 100- [REDACTED] (STERLING HAYDEN) (RM)
- 1 - NY [REDACTED] (30)
- 1 - NY (105-39431) (LEE HARVEY OSWALD) (312)
- 1 - NY (100-135294) (DEIRDRE GRISWOLD) (45)
- 1 - NY (100-133485) (JESSICA MITFORD) (43)
- 1 - NY (100- [REDACTED]) (THEODORE MANN) (43)
- 1 - NY (100- [REDACTED]) (FLORYNCE KENNEDY ESQ.) (43)
- 1 - NY (65-16832) (ARTHUR GROSS) (43)
- 1 - NY (100-93572) (NATIONAL GUARDIAN) (41)
- 1 - NY (100-117844) (MARK LANE) (45)

HEN:bam
(13)

100-10461-71/64

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FBI - DALLAS	

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Vol 63

NY 100-117944

7/23/64

Theatre Four - 424 W 55 St. NYC - July 22, 1964 8:30 P.M.
Sponsored: Citizens Committee of Inquiry
Speaker: MARK LANE
Topic: Who Killed President Kennedy?

Approximately 175-200 people present

Introduction to Citizens Committee of Inquiry by
DEARFORD (sp.) GRISSWOLD. Office located at 156 5th Avenue.
In existence 4 months. Publicity hard to get. However this
Committee is being backed by sister organizations in England,
France and Denmark so far. The American press quotes doubts
about the OSWALD case from European sources by people of
prominence.

In England BERTRAM RUSSELL Chairman. On the
committee is TOMY RICHARDSON movie director of picture "Tom
Jones" Also KENNETH TYMAN.

In Denmark Leading Attorneys.

In France JEAN PUELSARDT.

LANE has been working full time. Has made 5 trips
to Dallas, two cross country lectures and 2 European trips to ful-
fill requests and interested people from Europe.

In order to get news releases in America it is
easier to have it come from foreign press sources.

LANE had been arrested as a freedom rider in Jackson,
Mississippi.

Elected to Assembly as a reform Democrat.

MARK LANE 8:55 PM.

Quoted Lord ERSKINE of England in 1800 in defense of
an assassinator. "Assassination is an act of Patricide - Let
us have a solemn pause before we rush to Judgement". OSWALD
never even had an attorney.

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The pretrial prejudice was overwhelming. The information given out by local, State and federal agencies was so great, OSWALD could never have a fair trial.

An analysis of the District Attorneys WADE of Dallas final statement and compared to the contradictions issued to press while OSWALD was still alive.

LANE originally planned just to write a review for a law journal and never anticipated his complete involvement in this case.

His article was submitted to all liberal publications which refused to even read it. The National Guardian was the only one.

Press releases were sensational at the time of Dallas assassination - Facts were not considered important. An example;

AP carried a story about a former Marine Sergeant who called OSWALD "hot headed" etc. 3 hours later the sergeant corrected & retracted story. The retraction was never printed.

However the whole incident has had decent coverage by

The National Guardian
The National Enquirer
The NY Journal American particularly CONSIDINE & KILGALLEN

The Gallup poll conducted ten days after the killing showed citizens believed it was a conspiracy - Almost all thought it right extremists.

Photograph on cover of Life Magazine showing OSWALD with the rifle & pistol compared with NY Times picture & Detroit Press and Newsweek. All showed evidence of retouching the picture of rifle.

On Nov. 22 DA WADE stated the rifle found was a German Mauser 7-65 mm. Officer who found it stated this in affidavit. (Photostatic copy shown on projector).

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LANE had "some one who was kind enough to get all the DA files, have them photostated and swiftly returned".

Rifle found on the sixth floor at 1:22 PM.

When WADE made his first important statements he said (Nov. 22)

1. It was a Mauser
2. OSWALD a Communist Party member
3. Alias "LEE"

By Nov. 23 it was changed. It was not a Mauser but an Italian Carbine 5.5mm. Also his alias was HEDGELL. Evidence by FBI WADE admitted a card was found in OSWALD wallet the day before but this had not been made public.

The question is "Was the rifle switched?"

The witness taxi driver DANIEL CLICK as stated by WADE - never existed - But a WILLIAM WEALEY suddenly was identified.

"Were these named individuals switched?"

Parafin test was stated to be conclusive evidence of OSWALD's guilt. (Head of Dallas office of FBI). This was a lie. Parafin tests can prove innocence but are rarely acceptable as proof of guilt.

DA file photostat revealed Examiner. No parafin positive on face - Some nitrates on hands. (The Dallas Book Depository had recently been painted and may have given a positive nitrate test).

The statement made that many witnesses placed OSWALD as killer of Officer TIPPIE.

Actually there was ^{only} one witness to the TIPPIE slaying. It was HELEN LOUISE MARKHAM.

DA affidavit (photostat) listed Mrs. MARKHAM as saying the slayer was a young white male. On the DA File and office phone number was listed. LANE called her.

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She said she could not talk to him because she was forbidden by FBI, Secret Service and Dallas Police. LANE said as an American citizen she was free to talk. She refused again. He said he was to testify before the Warren Commission and could use help.

She said well if you are an official investigator for the Warren Commission that is different.

He said he was not an official but was to testify. She went along.

"The man wore a grey jacket". Yet OSWALD had a brown shirt when he was at Book Depository and a Brown shirt when arrested in the theatre.

Mrs. MARGHAM - She claimed to describe the killer as short - heavy - bushy hair. Yet OSWALD was taller - slender & thin hair with receding hairline. She claims to have given her description yet the DA affidavit just says "Young white male". This is a very rare short description.

He said at first he had no tape recording of an interview with Mrs. MARGHAM of a phone conversation because no one asked him. When asked by Warren Commission he refused saying it was a clients material. (His client Mrs. OSWALD mother of HARVEY would have to be consulted first).

Mrs. MARGHAM denied an interview or talking to LANE at all.

LANE asked for Attorney General to charge Perjury so LANE could introduce evidence in court.

Attorney ROZIN asked LANE if Mrs. MARGHAM knew her phone conversation was being taped. LANE said at this point he could not give them the tape.

Chief Justice WARREN accused LANE of Perjury. LANE was shocked because it seemed out of character for this wonderful civil libertarian to be cruel. WARREN had concluded that LANE had no tape.

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LANE claims he wrote to WARREN asking that he would not be prosecuted if he gave up the tape.

An assistant answered that there was a good chance there would be no prosecution!

LANE says he has sent the tape to Chief Justice WARREN.

He played the tape recently on the BARRY GRAY Radio Show.

Two investigators from LANE's office contacted the MARKHAM home. Mr and Mrs. MARKHAM refused to cooperate because they are under constant harrasement by FBI and Dallas police.

Their twenty one year old son went out to the car and talked to the LANE investigators. This material cannot be divulged at this time.

The next day JAMES MARKHAM, the son was arrested for burglary. While in jail requested to go to the bathroom. They told him to use the one upstairs which just happened to have no bars on the window. He fell to the concrete and has been critical in Dallas City Jail Hospital. All attempts to get to see him or get him attorneys have failed.

On Feb 23 1964 in the NY Journal American BOB CONSIDINE describes the plight of WARREN REYNOLDS. A witness to the flight of the TIPPIE killer.

He tells of how a man attempted to kill REYNOLDS (Almost succeeded).

The accused was broughtⁱⁿ for questioning. His alibi was his girl friend who swore he was with her at the time of REYNOLDS shooting. The man was released before REYNOLDS regained consciousness. The accused girl friend was a strip teaser working in RUBY night club. She was arrested. She was found hung in jail, suicide? The accused disappeared. REYNOLDS wants to testify - but has not been invited.

LANE accused the FBI, the Secret Service and Dallas police for failing to do the job of protecting the President.

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It was also a sloppy job of investigation yet WARREN must rely on these sources of information for his judgement.

LANE described why the Commission was formed Senator RUSSELL wanted to stop public hearings by Congress etc. He had President JOHNSON choose all the men. WARREN did not want to lead commission.

Legally he has ruled himself out of an appeal by JACK RUBY to Supreme Court.

These members have granted no lawyer for OSWALD. The head of Bar association has failed to appear. The members of the Commission are government employees and therefore disqualified

LANE told of being stopped by FBI agents who accused him of taking files. He replied is there one missing? The weather was bad and he was annoyed. He says there are two agents present whenever he speaks.

Intermission for ten minutes.

LANE (cont.) The scene. The description of the killer went out 12 minutes after the slaying. It was based on a roll call at the Book Depository & OSWALD was the only one missing. This is a lie. There was no roll call. The newspaper of Nov 22 carried a picture of the route of parade. For some unknown reason it was changed to nearer to the Book Depository. Who made the change? The FBI? The SS?

The medical testimony of doctors describing wounds. "The one in the throat was a point of entry coursing down to lung." The second shot entered the head. How could he be shot from behind and enter the throat.

Mrs. CRONLEY claims the shot entered the throat because Kennedy was looking forward. Her article in Mc Calls is coming out.

The Drs. were not examined for one month and it is inferred they had to along with the autopsy report which they were not allowed to examine. The throat wound has been changed to one of exit not entry.

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A school teacher named HILL claims shots came from other direction. Bullet fell at her feet. Four reporters of Dallas Morning News claim shots from other direction. Mrs. HILL claims 4 to 6 shots.

A woman making a movie felt she had a picture of Texas Book Depository 6th Floor. The FBI have seized the pictures.

Mrs. HILL claims she has been threatened by the FBI & Dallas police & will no longer talk to LANE.

LANE has a tape recording of his conversations with Mrs. HILL. Not played at meeting.

LANE described the political atmosphere of Dallas as dangerous. Showed anti-Kennedy propaganda pictures.

Why was FBI so inefficient? Here there number one suspect worked on the route of march etc etc.

Why did the parade slow down while they went past the potential killer. They knew he had a rifle.

The man who drove OSWALD to work has affidavit that package supposedly holding the rifle was only two feet long. The rifle is four feet long.

Question: Did LANE feel there was a conspiracy with Government personnel involved?

Answer: As a politician he knows this cannot be answered. He wants to work for truth. Gather information and not theorize. Only work on facts.

Meeting concluded 12:06 a.m.

P.S.

Some members of the Citizens Committee of Inquiry.

1. STERLING HAYDEN
2. JESSICA MILDRED
3. TED MANN
4. FLORENCE KENNEDY
5. ARTHUR GROSS