

BBC Looks at Assassination

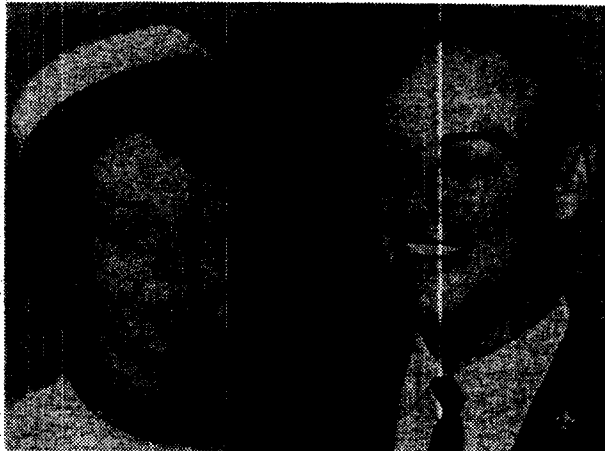
London, Jan. 30 (AP)—A television marathon on the Kennedy assassination ended early today with an eminent British judge saying drily: "Even a dead President is entitled to some bodily privacy. Let him rest in peace."

Lord Devlin, 61, had the final word in a program that lasted 4 hours 35 minutes and took up an entire evening on BBC's second channel, BBC-2.

The Warren Commission's verdict that Lee Harvey Oswald was Kennedy's sole assassin was defended by two counsels to the commission—Arlen Specter, now district attorney of Philadelphia, and David Belin, an attorney practicing in Des Moines, Iowa.

The doubters were represented by Mark Lane, New York lawyer and author of "Rush to Judgment." His 100-minute film of the same name was shown on the program—its world premiere.

Several times Lane clashed with British chairman Kenneth Harris, complaining that he



Associated Press Wirephotos

Mrs. J. D. Tibbit, widow of the Dallas policeman killed by Lee Harvey Oswald, President Kennedy's assassin, revealed that she has married another policeman, Lt. Harry Dean Thomas.

was not given the same hearing as Specter and Belin.

Harris justified this by rul-

ing that Lane had to let the movie do most of the speaking for him. Many viewers called the TV studios to back Lane's complaint that he was being unfairly treated.

In the film Lane outlined his case against the Warren Commission and interviewed witnesses of the Dallas assassination who disagreed with the report, particularly on where the fatal shots came from.

In rebuttal, Specter gave a lengthy exposition of the theory he first propounded and the Warren Commission accepted — that a single bullet from Oswald's rifle hit President Kennedy and Gov. John Connally.

There were two assessors to sum up as the program overran its schedule and drifted past midnight — Lord Devlin and Alexander M. Bickel, professor of law and legal history at Yale.

Bickel said the commission did "a good honest job" but failed to convince on the single-bullet theory. He suggested a small, full-time body be convened to reopen the investigation officially — possibly made up of two or three retired judges.

Devlin, on the other hand, argued there was no reasonable doubt that Oswald was guilty, and he added:

"Leave things where they are. The public interest has been served. The rest can wait for history."