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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

(Per State letter 2/21/84)

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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

USIA

INFO RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY PARIS

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JAN 9 1967

CIA

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Intelligence Liaison Section

U.S. Eng

NSA

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

DOD

British Broadcasting Corp

JUS

1. BBC WILL SHOW FILM PRODUCTION OF MARK LANE'S "RUSH TO JUDGEMENT" JAN. 29 ON BBC-2 CHANNEL. IN EFFORT TO BALANCE FILM BBC IS GOING TO HAVE EXTENDED DISCUSSION PROGRAM TO DISCUSS FILM AND PRESUMABLY WARREN COMMISSION REPORT. PROGRAM IS TO BE FOUR HOURS LONG. FILM TAKES TWO HOURS AND SAME AMOUNT OF TIME BEING ALLOCATED FOR DISCUSSION.

RSR

2. EMBASSY HAD EXPRESS ITS FEELING TO BBC RE SHOWING OF FILM (WHICH ONE-THIRD FINANCED BY RUSSELL PEACE FOUNDATION), WE HAVE EMPHASIZED THAT BE USING MARK LANE FILM AS ITS "BASIC" DOCUMENT, PROGRAM WILL INEVITABLE BE SLANTED AGAINST WARREN COMMISSION REPORT. DEFENDERS OF COMMISSION WOULD IN EFFECT BE TRYING TO ANSWER QUESTION "HAVE YOU STOPPED BEATING YOUR WIFE?" BBC REPLES, NOT VERY CONVINCINGLY, FILM WILL SHOW LANE UP FOR WHAT HE IS AND SINCE BOOK HAS BEEN ON U.S. "BEST SELLER" LIST BRITISH PUBLIC SHOULD SEE IT. BBC WANTS TO GET ARLEN SPECTER ON PROGRAM, PROBABLY IN DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH LANE, AND HAS WRITTEN TO EMBASSY "SEEKING ADVICE" AS TO HOW TO GET "BLESSING" OF CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN FOR SPECTER TO COME TO LONDON.

3. EMBASSY HAS TOLD BBC THAT DESPITE OUR RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE PROGRAM, WE WOULD INFORM WASHINGTON OF BBC'S DESIRE TO GET SPECTER OR SOME OTHER HIGHLY QUALIFIED PERSON TO REFUTE MARK LANE'S THESIS. WE EMPHASIZED HOWEVER THAT WE COULD NOT SEEK BLESSING OF CHIEF JUSTICE BOR BHC.

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4. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY DOES NOT LIKE BBC FORMAT, WE FEEL THAT IT IS DESIRABLE FOR SPECTER OR SOME OTHER QUALIFIED PERSON TO PARTICIPATE. COPY OF BBC'S LETTER MAILED ATTENTION JUDD.

NOT RECORDED

JAN 14 1967

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NAT. INT. SEC.

Janice Bell
James A. [unclear]

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-2- LONDON 5295, JANUARY 4, 1967

5. KENNETH HARRIS, LEADING BRITISH TV PERSONALITY AND PERSON SCHEDULED TO BE MODERATOR OF 2 HOURS DISCUSSION ON LANE FILM, IS NOW IN US TO SEE ARLEN SPECTER AND OTHERS IN PREPARATION FOR PROGRAM. HE WILL BE IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEKEND AFTER SPENDING A FEW DAYS IN NEW YORK CITY AND DALLAS. BRUCE
BT

D.C.

Texas

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