

## FILM TO EXAMINE KENNEDY INQUIRY

### 'Rush to Judgment' Assails Warren Group Findings

A 150-minute documentary film called "Rush to Judgment," dealing with the assassination of President Kennedy and the findings of the Warren Commission, is in the final stages of preparation here.

The movie is being co-produced by Mark Lane, the New York lawyer and author of the new book of the same title, and Emile de Antonio, who also directed the film. The book by Mr. Lane, a former New York assemblyman who was hired by Mrs. Marguerite Oswald as her legal aide before the Warren Commission's investigation involving her son, was published Aug. 15 by Holt, Rinehart and Winston. Mr. de Antonio was last represented on the local screen by "Point of Order," the successful documentary on the McCarthy hearings in Washington.

The director describes the forthcoming movie as a "strictly visual microcosm" of Mr. Lane's lengthy book, which "questions the investigational procedures of the commission under Anglo-Saxon jurisprudence, with cross-examination as the cornerstone."

#### Oswald's Guilt Left Open

The film, he said, asserts

neither the guilt or innocence of Lee Harvey Oswald as the killer of the late President.

"But we attempt to illustrate that certain key witnesses and pertinent areas were bypassed," he added.

Eighty per cent of the film was photographed last March and April in and around Dallas, with Mr. Lane and Mr. de Antonio supervising a camera unit recruited from San Francisco. The remainder of "Rush to Judgment" utilizes stock footage on the assassination and its aftermath. That part was bought from station WFAA-TV in Dallas.

According to the director, one major and one independent American movie company have already expressed interest in exhibiting the black-and-white documentary, whose budget was \$80,000. He said:

"Unsolicited bids have come come from the three major television outfits in England, headed by the British Broadcasting Corporation, that nearly total our entire budget."

#### 18 Hours of Film Shot

The original footage, totaling nearly 18 hours of running time, was shot in 16-mm. "to allow greater freedom of movement." A final, 35-mm. print, as edited into two and a half hours of playing time, is expected in three weeks.

The format of "Rush to Judgment" is that of a courtroom investigation, with Mr. Lane speaking a prologue and a resume. Among the persons interviewed for the documentary were 18 witnesses to the shooting.

"Six of them," Mr. de Antonio said, "were railroad workers standing on the overpass who were never even interviewed by the commission and who claim to have heard one additional shot from behind a wooden fence."

Key subsidiary roles are taken by five Dallas people, never summoned for testimony, who had vital evidence about Jack Ruby. Another person prominent in our film is Penn Jones Jr., the outspoken editor and publisher of The Midlothian (Tex.) Mirror."

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*NYT 8/25/66*

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**Speculation Not Halted** *Phil Inquirer 1/20/67*

# Warren Report Failed Main Task, Lane Says

Mark Lane, author of a controversial book attacking the Warren Commission report, said Thursday night the commission suppressed the truth for fear of massive public speculation that Lyndon B.

Johnson was the "intended beneficiary of the crime."

"If you say that (Lee Harvey) Oswald did it and did it alone, and that it was an irrational act, then that is the end of the story," Lane said.

"If you say there was a conspiracy, you are saying that people planned it in advance," he said.

### HIRED BY MOTHER

The next natural question, Lane said, is "Who planned it?" Lane, in Philadelphia to pro-

mote his book, "Rush to Judgment" addressed 500 persons, mostly students, at Drexel Institute of Technology's Activities Center.

The attorney, hired after the Kennedy assassination by Oswald's mother in an attempt to clear her son's name, contended that Oswald was innocent of the crime and that the Warren Commission has been "unable to find out who did it."

"One can easily see why a government would feel that a matter of national security was involved, in quickly closing the case," Lane said.

### 'MUST HAVE REALIZED'

"The final irony is that an obviously false report (the Warren report) has led to even greater speculation. It has added the question of why the government has put out a false report."

Lane said whoever did plot and effect the assassination must have realized what the result would be—that Mr. Johnson would become President.

The attorney said one-third of the evidence in the assassination is still in the National Archives under top-secret lids. It is imperative, he said, that this evidence be made public to still the "grave doubts aroused by a clearly false report."

"If Oswald were alive and had to come to trial it would have to have been made public," Lane said.

Princeton,

## Mark Lane on Pearson

On Nov. 10 you published a column by Drew Pearson consisting of a personal attack upon me and a defense of the Warren Commission Report: The column consisted of a series of false statements:

One, Mr. Pearson alleged that I refused to return from Europe to testify before the Warren Commission. The fact is that I twice testified before the Commission, once flying back from London immediately upon hearing that the Commission wanted me to testify again.

Two, Mr. Pearson states that the autopsy photographs and X-rays, essential documents to be examined even by a Commission conducting a cursory examination, were locked away so that they might not be employed in "a traveling museum to be shown at county fairs." Nonsense. No one ever suggested

such an idea. We do continue to suggest, however, that the Commission should have looked at the evidence before writing its report and that the evidence should now be available to competent pathologists, scholars and qualified nongovernmental investigators.

Three, Mr. Pearson states that the evidence has now "been turned over to the Archives Office." This too is untrue. It is presently under the supervision of the Department of Justice and may not be seen by nongovernmental persons for years.

Four, Mr. Pearson states that "it did not take much of an expert to fire three shots at the President's slowly moving car" and adds "This is not difficult shooting for an average hunter." First of all the evidence suggests that at least five shots were fired. Secondly the Commission secured the assistance of three of the best professional rifle experts in America. Two were unable to fire at a stationary target as rapidly as Oswald is alleged to have fired at a moving one and not one of the 18 shots fired by the experts struck the head or neck portion of the target—a feat allegedly accomplished by Oswald twice.

Five, Mr. Pearson writes "The Commission did not suppress anything." That statement is also false. Many of the documents submitted to the Commission have been sealed for 75 years. Photographs have been suppressed and mutilated. The original autopsy notes have been burned. The autopsy X-rays and photographs cannot be seen. The physical evidence, until recently entrusted to the local and Federal police, cannot be examined. Even the original transcripts of the witnesses' testimony is classified and unavailable for examination.

Six, Mr. Pearson continues "Commission members even put their work sheets in the final report." That statement is false. Even the official minutes of the Commission's meetings have been suppressed and are unavailable for examination.

Seven, of less significance

is Mr. Pearson's statement that I am the attorney for Lee H. Oswald's mother. I am not nor have I ever been. In the interest of the adversary system of jurisprudence I was asked to represent Oswald's interests before the Commission. The Commission refused to permit that representation. Mrs. Oswald was represented by another attorney, one chosen by the Commission.

MARK LANE.

The writer is the author of "Rush to Judgement," Paris, France.

# Dead Man Not Inv Probe Figure Says

From Our Wire Services  
NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 23. — President Kennedy showed up in Garrison's office Thursday. He said David W. Ferrie, the

"What would be the purpose of seeking Federal aid?" he said at one point. "To delay the investigation three more years? We've done more in three months with a small staff than the Government did in three years with 5000 men."

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER. FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 24, 1967

## Involved in Assassination Plot, Oswald

airline pilot found dead Wednesday, was not one of the "possible members" of a conspiracy Garrison believes existed in New Orleans.

### DROPS FROM SIGHT

David Lewis, 26, who handles baggage at a Continental Trailways bus depot and claims to have been a private detective who knew "four or five" members of a 1963 plot against the President, dropped out of sight Wednesday night.

He showed up again late Thursday morning at Garrison's office to say he did not believe Ferrie was one of the group he knew.

The nude body of Ferrie, a 49-year-old former Eastern Air Lines pilot, was found in his apartment Wednesday.

Garrison used the occasion to call a news conference and declare the dead man was "involved in the events culminating in the assassination of President Kennedy."

### MURDER RULED OUT

Dr. Nicholas Chetta, Orleans Parish coroner, ruled out murder in Ferrie's death. Chetta said he made the decision because there was no evidence of tissue damage which would have resulted if the brain hemorrhage that caused death had been due to a blow.

The district attorney already had said Ferrie's death apparently was suicide. But there was no official ruling as to whether the hemorrhage was natural or had been caused by a drug.

The coroner's toxicological re-

crepancy which Garrison termed "one of the mysteries" of the investigation.

A Washington Post reporter, George Lardner, Jr., said he interviewed Ferrie from 11 P. M. Tuesday until nearly 4 A. M. Wednesday and Ferrie "was certainly living when I said good-by to him."

Ferrie, a bookish person of startling appearance, had his hair and eyebrows burned off in an explosion and wore a toupee and mascara. He was mentioned several times in the Warren Report but never linked with the assassination.

### OFFERS NEW DATA

American lawyer Mark Lane, a leading critic of the Warren Commission version of the assassination, said in Paris the death of Ferrie "may break the case wide open."

Lane said he would telephone new information on the New Orleans aspect of the assassination to Garrison.

Part of the information Lane said he would send to Garrison concerned Mrs. Sylvia Olympia, an anti-Castro Cuban who said, according to Lane, that a man looking like alleged assassin Lee Harvey Oswald spoke of assassinating President Kennedy two months before Mr. Kennedy was shot. Oswald, Lane quoted her as saying, was accompanied by two Cubans when he made the threat.

The Warren Commission investigation showed Ferrie and his plane were in New Orleans at the time Mr. Kennedy was shot in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963. A New Orleans policeman subsequently told the commission he thought the plane was in no

condition to fly.

Garrison has refused to cooperate with Federal authorities throughout the investigation.

port, which could shed more light on the cause of death, will take a week to complete.

### NO RELATIVES SHOW UP

Chetta said pills in more than 15 bottles found in Ferrie's apartment could not have combined to produce the hemorrhage, even if taken in overdoses.

No relatives had as yet turned up to claim Ferrie's body.

There were varying reports of the time of Ferrie's death, a dis-

*Outren Journal*  
8-31-67

## Sees Conviction In Garrison Probe

NEW ORLEANS (UPD) — Mark Lane, an original critic of the Warren Commission's report, said Thursday he has reviewed New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's evidence of a Kennedy assassination conspiracy and predicted Garrison will get a conviction.

"They are going to be embarrassed when the jury says guilty," Lane told about 400 persons. His talk was sponsored by the Crime Committee of the New Orleans Young Men's Business Club.

BY "THEY," Lane meant news magazines, newspapers, wire services, television and radio which, he said, were trying to discredit Garrison's investigation.

"I have seen the evidence," Lane said. "The water has been poisoned. If he disregarded the evidence he would deserve the criticism he has received for following it.

"THE FOUNDATIONS of the country will be shaken when the evidence is disclosed in court.

"There are some in high places who will do all they can to prevent that day coming."

THE ORLEANS Parish grand jury, at Garrison's behest, has indicted retired businessman Clay Shaw, 54, on a charge of conspiracy. Shaw is free on \$10,000 bond. His trial date has not been set.

Lane, in his talk, derided Dallas, Tex., Dist. Atty.

Henty Wade, the Dallas police and the Warren Commission. He said President Johnson, Warren and Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark are involved in suppression of evidence in the case.

ONE OF the five Delta Airlines pilots killed Thursday in the crash near New Orleans was an attorney and represented a witness in Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's Kennedy assassination investigation.

He was George Piazza II, 30, who represented James Lewallen when he was subpoenaed to Garrison's office last month. Lewallen was a former roommate of the late David W. Ferrie, a former Eastern Airlines pilot, who Garrison has named as one of the three men who plotted to assassinate the president.

St. Item 4/1/67

## Court May Tell Lane to Keep Quiet on Probe

By JACK DEMPSEY

Clay Shaw's attorney has complained that public statements on the Garrison probe by "Rush to Judgment" author Mark Lane are hurting his client's chances of a fair trial.

As a result, Lane reportedly may be summoned before Criminal District Judge Edward A. Haggerty and warned to stop discussing the case.

F. Irvin Dymond, attorney for Shaw, talked to Judge Haggerty yesterday about what he considers to be a breach of legal ethics by visiting author-attorney Lane.

**SHAW IS CHARGED** with conspiracy to murder President John F. Kennedy.

Lane has been quoted as saying Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison has "an iron-clad case." He reportedly told a recent luncheon meeting that "the very foundations of this country will be shaken when the facts are disclosed in a New Orleans courtroom."

Sources close to Judge Haggerty say the jurist agrees with Dymond and feels Lane's remarks are "inflaming a public from which we must select a jury."

**IT WAS LEARNED** that Haggerty promised Dymond he would look into his complaint and reportedly is considering calling Lane into court to determine if the statements attributed to him were reported correctly.

In a set of preliminary guidelines Haggerty issued

See Haggerty—Page 2

# Warren Report *St. 3/24/67* Critic Lane, Garrison Talk

Attorney Mark Lane, whose best-selling book "Rush to Judgment" assailed the findings of the Warren Commission on the John F. Kennedy assassination, said today he is conferring actively here with Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison.

Lane, a New Yorker, said the New Orleans DA gave him "full outline" of his assassination probe during a two-hour meeting last night and added:

"When it is presented in court, it will shake this country as it has never been shaken before."

Lane, who said he was scheduled to meet Garrison and his staff again today, declared he was "impressed by the fact that the district attorney's case is put together with such carefully detailed documentation."

He said he expects to be in New Orleans through Saturday and "probably will see Garrison every day."

IN AN INTERVIEW at his hotel here, Lane raised the possibility that Lee Harvey Oswald did not fire the shots which killed President Kennedy at Dallas.

Further, he said, it "is possible" that that man identified by star Garrison witness Perry Russo as Lee Harvey Oswald "was a man posing as Oswald."

Russo testified during a pre-

liminary hearing that he overheard David Ferrie, Clay L. Shaw and a man he called "Leon" Oswald plan the assassination of the President.

"I SHOULDN'T answer whether this is the theory of the district attorney's office," Lane answered in reply to a question.

But he asserted: "The evidence is persuasive that Lee Harvey Oswald was set up as a fall guy in advance of the assassination."

Queried on whether he believed the Garrison investigation would succeed in proving a conspiracy, Lane said:

"Garrison won't be stopped. I have never met a man who was so confident or so courageous, in my estimation."



*NY Dispatch*

4-24-67

## New Orleans Probe Figures Differ on Who Plotted What

By JOHN CHAMBERLAIN

The Russian nihilists of pre-Communist days would presumably find themselves right at home in modern New Orleans, where District Attorney Jim Garrison is attempting to prove that a conspiracy pushed Lee Harvey Oswald and/or some other killers into assassinating President John F. Kennedy in Dallas.



Chamberlain

Garrison's case is still a mystery to everyone but himself. But Mark Lane, the lawyer who contended in a book called "Rush to Judgment" that the Warren Report was wrong in pointing to Oswald as Kennedy's sole killer, has been going around boasting that he knows what is in Jim Garrison's mind.

Lane says categorically that "no foreign power played any part in planning or executing the assassination."

He thinks it was a home-grown conspiracy, a possible right-wing job, and he adds that "anti-Castro Cuban forces played a vital role in the execution of the assassination."

**BUT PERRY RUSSO**, one of the witnesses in the Garrison hearings, claims that the recently deceased Dave Ferrie, the air pilot who was allegedly a prime mover in a conspiracy to kill Kennedy, "was obsessed, more or less, with the idea of Kennedy and what he was doing to Cuba — or, to Castro."

So what we seem to have in District Attorney Garrison's foray is a problem of deciding between opposites.

Lane is suggesting that anti-Castro Cuban refugees helped kill Kennedy, presumably because he didn't permit U.S. forces to take conclusive part in the Bay of Pigs invasion.

And Perry Russo, supposedly

speaking for the dead Dave Ferrie, is implying that pro-Castro plotters did the horrible deed.

**AS A FASCINATED** onlooker who was disappointed that William Manchester didn't investigate Oswald's New Orleans background for his "The Death of a President," I wish I knew what Garrison has up his sleeve.

How can he handle the split between Mark Lane and Ferrie? Well, it could be done.

Going back to those Russian nihilists who would have delighted in the snarled atmosphere of the beatnik-DuBois Club America of the 1960s where mysterious forces move in the depths, they would have found a way to reconcile Mark Lane's charge that "anti-Castro Cuban forces" plotted to kill Kennedy with Perry Russo's countering suggestion that pro-Castroites did it.

**THE RUSSIAN** nihilists would simply have said that Castroite infiltrators in the Cuban refugee groups — i.e., "Double Agents" — could have been involved in the plot.

Such things happened in Russia before 1914. They became part of the conspiratorial element in Bolshevism.

In the present anarchical atmosphere in the United States, such things could be happening here. The days of our innocence are gone, and God help us.

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"Nothing in my professional career has ever startled me as much, you know, I'm not naive about the function of government and I'm certainly not naive about the possible implications after reading the information that was given the Commission and after questioning witnesses myself, but I sat there stunned, absolutely stunned as the evidence was assembled by Mr. Garrison, who is, in my view, a very brilliant man.

\* \* \* \* \*

"I've been with Jim Garrison, the New Orleans D.A., rather regularly since I've been here. I saw him the first day I arrived. We were together for a couple of hours then and I've seen him at his office since then and I've met with other members of his staff. We haven't gossiped idly, we've exchanged information, he said that he was grateful to me for having written the book and for having raised the question and for having kept the door open until his investigation began, which began about two months after the publication of Rush to Judgment. I gave him the little bit that I knew about the areas in which he has assembled a vast amount of information. The information which is assembled strikes me as being amazing in a number of respects.

"First of all, his whole approach was in terms of studying what the conspirators said, how often they met, who they are, and what it is they were planning in advance, and from that he drew a whole series of conclusions which flow very naturally from all of that evidence. What I find striking is that, of course, I approached the matter in writing the book and studying the case from a different viewpoint entirely, by an examination of the empirical evidence regarding what took place in Dallas on November 22; that is, the study of the ballistics, the study of the eyewitness testimony, the motion picture film, the medical evidence, etc. And, of course, it is my conclusion that shots came from at least two directions--that the fatal shot came from an area not from the Book Depository Building but from an area in front of the limousine behind the wooden fence up on the Grassy Knoll. Garrison has reached exactly the same conclusions by examining the evidence regarding what it is the conspirators were planning before the assassination took place. He has concluded that the fatal shot came from behind the wooden fence. He has a rather good idea as to how the two persons behind the fence were able to escape from the scene. He knows, and this is what was the most startling evidence as it was presented. He presents with great detail and he presents it with such detail that it is impossible not to accept it, indicating that he relies upon various witnesses, not just the one key witness who has testified, called the key witness by the press but he is a cog, an important one, but one of the many, many, many equally important cogs. And not only witnesses but documentary evidence which just cannot be denied. As he presents the evidence, this impossible story which is true is presented. The story is that Garrison knows now and has told me who planned the assassination of President Kennedy and who fired the shots that killed President Kennedy. Garrison, of course, is not talking about this. He cannot present that which he has (the information) to the press or to the public because if he does do that, any conviction which he secures will not stand up based upon the ruling in the Sheppard case and other cases and of course if I were to violate his confidence, and release that information, that would do the same thing, and I'm not going to do that. But the evidence that he has is massively detailed and shows that very powerful forces, I think I can say this, that the evidence is conclusive that no foreign power was involved, none at all, but a very powerful domestic force was involved in planning the events which culminated in the death of President Kennedy and that the persons that actually participated in the conspiracy and in the assassination are known to Mr. Garrison, to his staff, and now to me. The evidence is so conclusive, I believe, that when Garrison walks into that courtroom in New Orleans, and presents it, and when the American people learn for the first time who planned the events, which culminated in the death of President Kennedy, they are going to be outraged, absolutely outraged, and shocked and stunned. Then I think that there are going to be some very important, drastic changes in this country. There will have to be after that evidence is known."

Mark Lane on Mort Sahl's radio program  
on KLAC, Los Angeles 3/29/67