

Lane

- 12/19/63** New York - a former New York Assemblyman has urged Chief Justice Earl Warren's investigating commission to appoint a defense counsel for Lee H. Oswald in its inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy.
- Mark Lane ... Submitted a 100,000-word brief to the Warren commission by mail Tuesday night [12/17].
- ... Yesterday, Mr. Lane said in response to a question that he would be willing to take on such a defense role', but was "not offering" to do so. *New York Times*
- 12/19/63** Defense brief for Oswald, by Mark Lane. *National Guardian*
- 1/3/64** Notes made when broadcast by *KPFA*, Radio interview of Mark Lane, by Chris Koch and Robert Potts, *WBAI*, New York, no date; broadcast by *KPFA*, Berkeley, 1/3/64.
- 1/14/64** Fort Worth - Mrs. Marguerite Oswald said today she has retained New York lawyer Mark Lane to represent her late son before the special Washington commission. *AP*, Mike Cochran
- 1/15/64** Background feature on Lane. *AP*, 343 pcs, Raleigh H. Allbrook
- 1/15/64** New York - Mark Lane, the attorney retained to try to clear the name of accused presidential assassin Lee Oswald, said tonight he will form a committee, including newsmen, to dig into the Oswald case.
- Lane said he could not reveal the names of the newspapermen yet, but hoped "all four would be free to start their investigation into the case within the next 10 days."
- Lane said two of the newsmen are employed in the Dallas area and the other two are working in other parts of the country as a public relations counsel and a management consultant. *AP* 1054 pes,
- 1/29/64** Dallas - ... At today's news conference both Mrs. [Marguerite] Oswald and Lane made public letters from J. Lee Rankin ... saying that it was riot advisable for Lane to have access to the material the Commission has or to represent Mrs. Oswald at the committee sessions. *AP*, 7:42 p.m. CST, Marshall Comerer [See Warren Commission, 1/21/64, *AP*, 9:09 p.m. CST
- 2/11/64** Washington, 2/10 - Chief Justice Warren said Mrs. Oswald had telephoned Mr. Rankin last week, requesting that she be permitted to testify and that the commission name counsel for her. Mr. Rankin suggested, Mr. Warren said, that she bring her own lawyer but she replied. that her lawyer was unable to be in Washington because he was engaged in other matters.
- Mrs. Oswald has said that Mark Lane of New York had agreed to represent her son before the Presidential commission without

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fee.

[Warren Commission appointed John F. Doyle, a former United States Attorney.] *New York Times*, William M. Blair

**2/11/64** Washington - ... Chief Justice Warren told reporters that [Marguerite Oswald] appeared today "with two lawyers," [John F.] Doyle and [Mark] Lane.

Warren said he asked Lane if he was representing Mrs. Oswald in the proceeding; that Lane looked at Mrs. Oswald and she stated that he would be in the city only a few hours and asked if he could remain beside her.

Doyle at that point said he had been appointed to represent her in the absence of her own counsel and that if she now had a lawyer he would have to ask to be excused.

Warren then asked the witness which lawyer she wanted. She left the hearing room for a talk with Lane and returned to say that Doyle would represent her. Lane still said he would like to remain just to hear the testimony and not to participate. This, the commission refused. *AP*, 7:44 p.m. CST, Sterling F. Green

**2/13/64** Washington, Feb. 13 - .... The *Dallas News* reported on Tuesday [2/11/] that one of the witnesses who might soon be called was a janitor in the *Texas School Book Depository* ...

... The *News* said the janitor has reported that Oswald spoke to him on the fourth-floor stairway landing, saying he was going upstairs to eat lunch.

... When advised of the Dallas report, the chief justice paused and smiled before replying: "Well, maybe they know - I don't." *AP*, 131 a.m., Sterling Green

[See *National Guardian*, 5/9/64]

**2/18/68** New York - [At an airport news conference, Mark Lane] said that he would be willing to testify to the Warren commission on his own investigation, which he estimated might take two months more. *New York Times*, Peter Kihss

**2/18/64** New York - [At a meeting billed as "An inquiry into the Lee Harvey Oswald case" Mark] Lane said he had found an "eyewitness" to the assassination who claims to have heard between four and six shots at the time the late President was killed. The FBI has maintained that only three shots were fired.

Lane said the "eyewitness" was a Dallas school teacher but did not give her name. He amplified a recording in which the Dallas

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woman purportedly recounted hearing four or six shots fired from the opposite direction of the building from which Oswald is alleged to have fired the fatal shots.

**2/19/64**

New York -- Mark Lane, attorney for the mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, claimed last night that he has a "mystery witness" who heard four to six shots fired at the late President Kennedy from a different direction than the *Texas Book Depository Building*.

The New York attorney said the witness who heard the shots said they came from the left (?) of the Presidential car and from the direction of the grassy plot opposite the *Texas Book Depository*.

Lane also said he had information that a meeting involving several principals in the case was held in Jack Ruby's night club in Dallas two weeks before Mr. Kennedy was slain last November 22. Lane said among those at the Dallas meeting were Bernard Weisman, author of an anti-Kennedy advertisement that appeared in a Dallas newspaper the day of the shooting, and patrolman J. D. Tippit, the policeman slain while pursuing Oswald.

Lane said a third person prominent in the case also was in attendance but he would not reveal the name until later. *San Francisco Chronicle, New York Times Service*

**2/19/64**

Town Hall acknowledged yesterday that it had sought to cancel a public meeting involving Mrs. Marguerite Oswald on the ground that her appearance "could be incendiary." The hall, a part of *New York University* since 1958, allowed the meeting to go on last night only after the *National Guardian* weekly, sponsor of the meeting, deposited \$25,000 in cash to cover any damages to Town Hall premises.

... Fifteen hundred persons were reported to have bought all available tickets for last night's meeting ...

... [Town Hall's] slogan, "You Shall Know the Truth and the Truth Shall Make You Free," appears on the front of the building.

[James Aronson, the weekly's editor] said *National Guardian's* \$600 rental had been confirmed by a letter and check on 1/14 ... Town Hall confirmed that its director, Ormond J. Drake ... wrote in a letter on 1/28 that the understanding had been Mr. Mark; Lane would speak, but that an article in *The New York Journal-American* had then announced Mrs. Oswald would appear ... "The terms of the proposed lease have been materially altered," Mr. Drake wrote.

... Mr. Drake insisted on a bond *The National Guardian* ... submitted a one-day \$25,000 insurance policy on 2/12, but this was rejected. After rejections from bonding companies, Mr. Aronson reported, \$25,000 in negotiable bonds and cashier's checks was raised from four persons he preferred to leave unnamed ...

.... Queries to the Police Department, Town Hall and *The National Guardian* yesterday afternoon brought disclaimers from all

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quarters on knowledge of any threats to disturb the meeting. *New York Times*, Peter Kihss

**2/20/64** Full account of efforts to cancel meeting at Town Hall in New York, 2/18/64, at which Lane spoke. *National Guardian*

**2/26/64** (New York) - Former Assemblyman Mark Lane ... said here yesterday that his "fullest cooperation" was available to Mr. [Walter E.] Craig.

Mr. Lane said, however, that "the appointment of the president of the ultra-conservative *American Bar Association* may raise more questions than it resolves" in the light of past commission statements.

... The New York lawyer said he still considered himself to be counsel for Oswald. *New York Times*

**2/26/64** (New York) - [Mark Lane] said he had been discussing with professors at leading law schools a potential court action in Oswald's behalf on the ground he had been denied his rights by local law-enforcement authorities. *New York Times*

**2/26/64** Buffalo - A hotel owner was ordered today to show why he should not grant use of a hotel room for a talk by [Mark Lane] ... [He was to speak Friday night in a room at the *Hotel Buffalo* about the assassination. Justice Matthew J. Jasen of State Supreme Court instructed Joseph Radner, owner of the hotel, to appear before him earlier Friday. Jasen's order came on an action brought by *The Committee to Hear Mark Lane*.

Mrs. Maryann Weissman, a committee member, said she had made a \$15 deposit for the room for Lane's talk and confirmed arrangements two days later. She said that after publicity was given to the scheduled talk, Patrick J. Carroll, executive assistant manager of the hotel, notified her that the room would not be available.

She said Carroll asserted he had not realized at the time the committee rented the room that another organization had rented it earlier for the same time. The committee contends that the other body, the *Committee for the Preservation of Family Life*, had no arrangements to rent the room.

Mrs. Weissman said she asked if other accommodations were available and was told none were. *AP*, 12:07 a.m. CST

**2/27/64** On appointment to the commission of Walter Craig, to represent Oswald's interests:

Mark's Lane told the *Guardian* that the appointment would not alter his own endeavors on Oswald's behalf. Lane noted that he had written to the commission in December urging that counsel be appointed for Oswald. "Since then," Lane said, "the commission had taken the position that no counsel was necessary because Oswald was not on trial. Now that the commission feels Oswald needs counsel during the second half of the inquiry, I suggest that he also needed it during the first half and now

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urge the commission to start proceedings from the beginning." *National Guardian*

**2/28/64** Buffalo, NY - ...Lane said... he had evidence that Oswald might not be the killer. ... he felt the commission was conducting the investigation on a false premise: that in fact Oswald was the killer. He said the commission should instead be attempting to ascertain who actually killed the president. *AP*

**3/4/64** Lane's testimony before Warren Commission (transcript from *Folkways Record* No. BR 501).

**3/4/64** Mark Lane's testimony before Warren Commission. [Transcript filed Lane] p. 7 - Renews request to represent Oswald's interests before Commission.

**3/5/64** Washington Mar. 4 - Lane testified before Warren Commission at its first public hearing, public at his request.

Told commission of meeting in *Carousel Club* 11/14 among Tippit, Weissman and third person whom didn't identify until commission cleared room to hear him in private. Also told commission photographs showing Oswald holding rifle were "obviously doctored" before being printed in newspapers and magazines.

Asked and was refused permission to act as Oswald's counsel with right to examine witnesses and have access to commission's documents.

After dash, *Times* recollects Weissman's denial of attending meeting, or of knowing Tippit, Ruby or Oswald the first time Lane had told of meeting in Town Hall speech 2/18. *New York Times*, *UPI*,

**3/15/64** San Francisco - Lane lists among nine witnesses who say they heard shots from grassy knoll Rep. Henry Gonzalez, D-TX

In Dallas, Gonzales denied making such statement.

Lane said his statement must have been misrepresented to Gonzalez. "I can't comment further until I know what he thinks I said." *AP*

**3/16/64** "There is not a single witness to link Oswald to the Crime."

[Has 9 witnesses who heard shots fired from grassy overpass knoll ... Gonzalez, named as one, denied it.]

Paraffin tests showed Oswald could have fired a revolver, but not a rifle. No nitrates on face.

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Claimed photos showing Oswald holding rifle had been "obviously doctored" before. printed in newspapers and magazines. Some versions show telescopic sights, others don't, and in any event the rifle shown is not the murder weapon as identified by Dallas police. *San Francisco Examiner*

4/2/64

New York - Mrs. Marguerite vC Oswald has announced that she dismissed New York lawyer Mark Lane, who sought before the Warren commission to clear her late son, Lee Harvey Oswald, of the killing of President Kennedy.

Mrs. Oswald told a newsman yesterday at her New York hotel [Beekman Tower] that she wrote to Lane on Tuesday dispensing with his services.

She said Lane had done a fine investigating job but "his services are no longer required because I am able to conduct my own investigation."

She said that she had received no contributions from an appearance she made in Chicago 3/21 for money to pay for an office, investigator and stenographer and she felt this was because people mistakenly believed she was affiliated with Lane's "citizens committee of inquiry." She asked Lane to stop any "organized campaign" on behalf of her son through this committee and to send her a copy of his report to the Warren commission.

Lane, replying the same day he received Mrs. Oswald's letter, agreed to terminate the attorney-client relationship and promised a copy of his report.

(But he said nothing about disbanding the citizens committee.) *AP*

4/5/64

Budapest -- A New York lawyer told the Communist-controlled *Association of Democratic lawyers* today the killers of President John F. Kennedy are still at large.

Mark Lane said he hoped the association's annual congress here "will provide the first step in establishing an international commission of jurors to meet and evaluate" the circumstances of the assassination. ...

"I will appear, if requested, and present all the evidence in my possession," he said. Lane, 37, said there was no evidence that the accused assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, was "in any way involved."

Lane told the group that the fatal shots were not fired from the Dallas book depository but from either a wall or an overpass. ...

... He displayed what he said was a copy of a statement by a Dallas police official which said the weapon found at the book

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depository was a German Mauser rifle caliber 7.65. But after it was found that Oswald had purchased an Italian rifle, he asserted, authorities announced the rifle found at the scene was in fact an Italian carbine caliber 6.5

[See Misc., 4/18, *National Guardian* - story filed Reaction]

**4/18/64** The Human Rights Commission of the *International Association of Democratic Lawyers*, meeting in Budapest 4/5, approved a resolution urging the establishment of an international commission of jurists to evaluate the assassination of President Kennedy.

The resolution was submitted by Danish lawyers after consultation with ... Mark Lane ... The next day in Rome, ... Lane told *Guardian* correspondent Phillis Rosner:

"The resolution urges that members of the proposed international commission be persons whose judgment and views would be respected in western countries; the suggestion was made that it comprise jurists regarded as being objective and of no particular political affiliation. It was proposed to seek members from the Scandinavian countries, from India, Britain, France and Italy."

**4/30/64** .... Mark Lane said yesterday that he had sent a complaint against agents of both the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Secret Service to the [Warren] Commission ...

Mr. Lane said that two FBI agents had accosted him on the street yesterday morning, demanding to know if he had documents from the agency's files on the alleged assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald. He said he replied that the incident "smacked of police-state tactics" and suggested that the agency write to him.

He said later that he did not have "the faintest idea what they were talking about," but noted he had had a telephone conversation from San Francisco Tuesday [4/28] with his office here about an FBI question. The FBI's New York office declined comment on Mr. Lane's statement. [Fuller account filed *National Guardian*, 5/9/64.] *New York Times*

**5/9/64** Account of incident when Mark Lane accosted on street by two FBI agents, 4/29. [See 4/30/64]

... [Lane] has been informed that an FBI agent has been following him across the country and attending all his lectures on the Oswald case. *National Guardian*

**5/9/64** Mark Lane ... charged the Secret Service with deliberately planting a false story in the press .... According to Lane, the ... falsification concerned an article in the 2/10 issue of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* .... "The story broke the same day Oswald's mother was to appear as the first witness on behalf of Lee Oswald. It was obviously calculated to prevent press coverage of any witness who was going to raise doubts about Oswald's guilt."

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[Story given by Mike Howard, Secret Service, to Thayer Waldo, reporter for *the Star-Telegram*: a Negro janitor, looking out of a window on the same floor TSBD, heard first shot, saw Oswald and was prepared to identify him. *AP* account of *Star-Telegram* story filed Chronology, 2/9, 8:13 and 1143 pcs.]

[See 2/13/64, *AP* 131, Sterling Green, *National Guardian*

**5/9/64** Mark Lane, in a statement to the *Guardian* 5/4 ... said he has learned that a second rifle, not the one attributed to Oswald, was found on the roof of *the Texas Schoolbook Depository* building the day the President was murdered.

[Lane describes meeting between Thayer Waldo, reporter for *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, and Mike Howard, Secret Service agent.] ... At one point during their meeting, Waldo asked Mike Howard whether there was any truth to the story that another rifle was found on the roof of the schoolbook building, a story that had previously been denied. Mike Howard replied: "Yes, we found a rifle on the roof, but it was dropped by a Dallas police officer earlier in the day and he forgot to pick it up." *National Guardian*

**5/30/64** [Story of picture of Billy Lovelady.]

[Mark] Lane recently recalled that when he interested the *San Francisco Chronicle* in the story last December, the newspaper contacted *AP* asking for pictures of Lovelady. The agency replied that no pictures were available, past or present, because they could not locate him. The *AP* apparently was informed that Lovelady was no longer working at the *Depository*, which is untrue.

... While scores of pictures are available of the obscure Lee Oswald, including pictures of him taken as a child, not one of Lovelady, oddly, is available. *National Guardian*

**6/9/64** London - A *Who Killed Kennedy* Committee was announced Tuesday to publicize and support the activities of [Mark Lane] who is trying to prove that ... Oswald was not the President's assassin.

... Lane ... said he is organizing the committee in Britain because "there is no other way of getting the facts in front of the American public. The American press are reluctant to print anything other than the official view."

[The committee includes Bertrand Russell; playwright John Arden; Carol Wedgwood Benn, American wife of a Labor member of Parliament; Michael Foot, Labor MP and leftwing journalist; Kingsley Martin, former editor of *The New Statesman*; novelists Compton Mackenzie and J.B. Priestly.] *AP*, 2333 GMT [distributed by *AP World Service* but not moved in USA west of Kansas City]



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Committee also includes historian Hugh Trevor-Roper, drama critic Kenneth Tynan, and the Rt. Rev. A. M. Stockwood, bishop of Southwark. [AP, London, 1245 PCS, Richard Kasischke]

*Who Killed Kennedy?* committees also have been in Paris and Copenhagen. [same source as above.]

See *Citizens' Committee of Inquiry* news release, 6/30, filed Lane, for others [John Calder, Prof. William Empson, Sir Compton Mackenzie, Lord Boyd Orr, Sir Herbert head, Tony Richardson.]

See *Minority of One*, 9/64, p. 8 - also includes Victor Golanez, publisher.

**6/13/64** A ... book ... by Mark Lane ... will be published by *Grove Press* in several months. *National Guardian*

**6/13/64** In Paris, [Mark Lane] announced that the *Association of French Jurists* will convene an international conference of lawyers after the U.S. elections in November to hear evidence and arrive at its own conclusions about the "murder of the century."

**6/29/64** London – [Mark Lane] told a news conference here today "We will never get the facts about President Kennedy's assassination from the Warren Commission."

Then, [Lane] announced he had received a telegram from the commission urging him to fly home and give it information on which he has been claiming that the assassination probe is being mishandled.

... Lane, appearing under auspices of the British *Who Killed Kennedy? Committee*; also questioned authenticity of a purported Oswald diary from which a Dallas newspaper has been publishing excerpts.

... Lane claimed that he and a *Citizens Committee of Inquiry* in the United States have been harassed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He also charged U.S. Embassies in London and Copenhagen have been putting pressure on people to quit his inquiry committees.

**6/30/64** London - Mark Lane ... left by plane for New York today to face the Warren Commission investigating the crime.

... Lane told a news conference yesterday:

"We will never get the facts about President Kennedy's assassination from the Warren Commission.

"We don't know whether there was a conspiracy to kill the President but we know there has been a conspiracy since to conceal the facts." AP, 7 a.m. CST

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7/3/64

The Warren Commission has been asked by Attorney Melvin Belli to rebut statements by ... Mark Lane on the assassination of President Kennedy.

Belli, who was chief attorney for Jack Ruby ... made the request in a letter yesterday to Chief Justice Earl Warren.

Lane, according to Belli, "although a single, humble voice, has added immeasurably to the calumnies about the events by 'proving' the innocence of Oswald and inferring the existence of sinister forces that the American people have not been told about. "*San Francisco Chronicle*

7/3/64

Washington [story on second appearance of Mark Lane before Warren commission] - ... [Lane] testified before the Commission in March and promised to give that panel additional information to verify statements he was making.

During the following weeks, the commission tried to get Lane to pass the information on, but he did not. Then just as the commission was preparing a subpoena for Lane, [he] left on a speaking trip to Europe.

The basis for contention -between the commission and Lane involves two things ... One is testimony Lane said he has on a tape ... from Mrs. Helen Markham in Dallas. Just what that recording says that recording says was not clear, since Lane refused to answer detailed questions about it, telling the commission only parts of it.

He said he could not divulge all of it because of his lawyer-client relationship. He claimed he took the tape in doing an investigation for Mrs. Marguerite Oswald ...

... [Warren] told Lane that the commission had paid Lane's way back from Europe and that "we are trying to get information in these things that you consider vital."

Warren, visibly restraining himself ... then told Lane that "you handicap us greatly because of the things you say when you are away, then refuse to tell us."

Warren also asked Lane if he was being paid for the speeches. Lane said that at three or four meetings money had been taken but it went to the *Citizens Committee of Inquiry* and for a secretary.

... In the case of Mrs. Markham, Warren said that the Dallas woman had contradicted Lane's testimony about what she told Lane.

In addition, Lane in March had talked of a meeting in Jack Ruby's club ... but continued Thursday to refuse to say who his informant is. *Dallas Morning News*, Lane Mike Quinn, Washington bureau

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**7/3/64** Washington - The commission questioned [Mark] Lane in open session yesterday. ...

In testimony he gave on 3/4, Lane talked of an interview he claimed to have had with Helen Markham, one of the witnesses to the murder of J. D. Tippit ...

The commission reopened that question by asking Lane if he had a tape recording of his talk with Mrs. Markham. Lane said. he did, but refused to say who made it or when it was made, and refused to turn it over to the commission.

The questioning revealed that Mrs. Markham has told the commission she never talked to Lane. In obvious annoyance, Warren told the lawyer:

"Until you give us the corroboration that you say you have, we have every reason to doubt the truthfulness of what you have told us."

Lane said he could not turn over the purported recording because of his "attorney-client relationship" with Mrs. [Marguerite] Oswald.

Warren asked: "What is the present attorney-client relationship that would prevent you from telling about the recording?"

Lane acknowledged that he had no present relationship but said he had conducted the interview in furtherance of his original relationship.

Lane also refused to give the name of an informant who, he said, told him about a meeting of Jack Ruby and others at the *Carousel Club*. AP; 11:28 a.m. EDT; *New York Times*, 7/4

**7/6/64** New York, 7/3 - "The rifle that was found on the sixth floor of the *Book Depository Building* less than one hour after the assassination is not the same rifle now alleged to be the murder weapon." said Mark Lane ...

... Lane charged that the Dallas authorities "have switched rifles in order that a rifle allegedly mailed to Oswald's post office box in March appeared to be the murder weapon." Lane, who testified before the Warren Commission on July 2, was permitted to examine the weapon which allegedly was used by Oswald to assassinate President Kennedy.

During January, Lane revealed that he had in his possession a photostatic copy of an affidavit on file in the Dallas District Attorney's office. That affidavit, signed by a Dallas police officer who found a rifle on the sixth floor of *the Book Depository Building* ... contained the sworn statement by the officer that the weapon was German Mauser, Caliber 7.65. The following day

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the Dallas District Attorney stated that the murder weapon was an Italian Carbine, Caliber 6.5 and it was the weapon which was discovered on the sixth floor of the *Book Depository Building* and erroneously identified by the officer.

Those defending the official view argued that the officer, after examining the weapon, mistakenly concluded that it was a German Mauser, Caliber 7.65, because it bore no identifying markings. Mr. Lane, in his July appearance before the Warren Commission, while examining the rifle read into the record those markings which appeared on the rifle and which were indelibly engraved thereon in large letters. The markings were: "Made Italy" and CAL 6.5."

"There can be but one explanation," charged Lane, "and that is that the local law enforcement authorities have switched rifles in order to 'prove' Oswald's guilt."

**7/8/64** (No dateline.) - ... Mark Lane asked yesterday that his testimony before the Warren Commission be sent to the Attorney General's office "for prosecution for perjury" so that he might be allowed to prove "the absolute accuracy of my testimony."

... Yesterday, the lawyer said in a statement that "I shall play the tape recording during this month at a public meeting to which members of the press and members of the commission will be invited." He did not give the time or place of the meeting.

He also said that he had told the commission that "if I am informed no prosecution will result, I will make the recording available to them." He said the commission had not responded, "indicating that it is they who are seeking to suppress the facts and the tape recording, not I." *New York Times*

**7/11/64** Lane replies 7/6/ to Warren's statement of 7/2 that he had "every reason to doubt the truthfulness" of Lane's testimony.

Lane invited Attorney General's office to prosecute him for perjury. Recalled Rankin had told him Mrs. Markham had denied what Lane said she told him and denied even talking to him. Lane said Rankin implied threat to prosecute him for taping conversation with her. Said he had told Commission he would make tape available to them if informed no prosecution would result -- got no reply. Said would play the tape publicly and invite Commission members to hear it. *National Guardian*, NY

**7/11/64** Lane's reply to Warren's statement of 7/2 that he had "every reason to doubt the truthfulness" of Lane's testimony.

... I again invite him to submit my testimony to the United States Attorney's office for prosecution for perjury so that I may be afforded the opportunity to prove by documents and recordings the absolute accuracy of my testimony.

[Recalled Rankin had told him Mrs. Markham denied substance of what Lane said she told him and denied she had ever talked to Lane. Lane said he would make his tape recording of it available to the Commission if they d promise not to prosecute -- got no

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reply. Said he would play the tape publicly and invited Commission members to hear it.] *National Guardian*, NY

**7/18/64** Account by Mark Lane of his trip to Europe, ending with an account of his difficulties with immigration officials at NY when he returned. *National Guardian*, NY

**7/20/64** [A tape recording dealing with the killing of J. D. Tippit ...was broadcast last night by Station WMA ...

The tape allegedly records remarks by Mrs. Helen Louise Markham of Dallas. She made statements that allegedly indicated that the patrolman's killer might not have been Lee H. Oswald. ...

The tape had been in the possession of Mr. Lane, He said he had mailed it to the Warren Commission. Previously, Mr. Lane had declined to release the tape to the panel.

Mr. Lane said in introducing the tape on the air: "One could hardly think of a description that differed more from Oswald than the description given by Mrs. Markham, the one eyewitness to the murder of Tippit."

**8/64** A ... poll, taken in August [54] by ... radio station *WOR* in New York ... offered the public a chance to express their opinions after having heard a presentation of both defense and prosecution cases. At the end of a five-hour debate ... between Mark Lane and three opposing attorneys who took the position that Oswald was the lone assassin, the public was invited to send in postcards judging Oswald guilty or innocent. The outcome of that poll, as tabulated by ... *WOR*, was Oswald guilty 44 Oswald innocent 617 12/64 - *Newsletter, Citizens' Committee*

see *Warren Report*, Warren Commission, 10/24/64, *National Guardian*

**8/22/64** Mark Lane ... is awaiting the commission report before committing his research to a publisher and probably will be in print at the beginning of the next year. *National Guardian*

**8/29/64** Story on series of articles by Dorothy Kilgallen, on Warren's questioning of Ruby, published in *New York Journal-American*, 8/18/64, ff.

[Mark Lane had informed the commission months before of the Ruby-Tippit-Weissman meeting at the Carousel.]

Yet throughout the three hours of testimony, Justice Warren permitted Ruby to ramble, twist and dodge and never answer directly the questions whether he knew Tippit or had been with him at the *Carousel* that night. Even more bizarre, Justice Warren added a fourth man to the table, "a rich Texas oil man," whom Lane says he never mentioned. Significant was Ruby's reply to Warren's question. "Who was the rich oil man?" Ruby replied. He never admitted the meeting took place; he never denied it. *National Guardian*

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**9/64** ... Mark Lane told me later [after his speech] that his photostat-documents -- which were accepted as valid when he testified before the Warren Commission -- had been temporarily lifted from the Dallas district attorney's office by someone whose motivation was a certainty that Fidel Castro had told Lee Harvey Oswald to kill President Kennedy and that this truth would never reach the public because Chief Justice Earl Warren is a Communist ... *The Realist*, Paul Krassner attributing to Mark Lane speaking at *the Cafe AuGoGo* in NY *this monthmission*

**9/27/64** Mark Lane ... said today that the Warren Commission report makes him even more doubtful.

"It raises more questions than it answers," Lane, 36, told a news conference. ...

... The attorney ... said in London in June that the Warren Commission would "never get at the facts." In Budapest, he said Kennedy's killers are still at large, and suggested an international commission be appointed to investigate.

Called before the Warren Commission in July, Lane again declined to produce a tape recording he said he possessed of an interview with a woman witness to the murder of Dallas policeman J. D. Tippit. The woman told the commission she never talked to Lane.

[No mention of *New York Times* reports of 7/20 saying the tape had been broadcast by *WMCA* and that Lane said he had mailed it to the commission]

Chief Justice Earl Warren told Lane that without corroboration he had "every reason to doubt the truthfulness" of some of his testimony.

Lane said today that the commission's report did not answer a long list of questions he had raised, and that its purpose was to have a "tranquilizing effect upon America."

He said the report "will rank in history with the finding that Dreyfus was guilty of treason and -with the trial of the Trotskyites in the Soviet Union." *AP* 547ped [adv530pes] New York

**10/3/64** ... a Dallas police officer told an eyewitness to the murder of ... Officer Tippit that she herself "might be killed" if she ever told "anyone" that she saw Tippit slain. This witness, who described Officer Tippit's killer as a person very different in physique from Oswald, never testified before the Warren Commission.

The Commission (page 652 states that "the only woman among the witnesses to the slaying of Tippit known to the Commission is Helen Markham. The FBI never interviewed any other woman who claimed to have seen the shooting and never received any information concerning the existence of such a witness."

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Of course, the Commission, in knowingly posing an incorrect argument - that is, that the FBI interviewed the witness rather than accurately stating that the Dallas police interviewed the witness - is now able to deny with accuracy that the FBI interviewed the witness ... Despite the assurances of the Commission, such a witness does exist, and we have secured from her, on more than one occasion, statements regarding the killing of Officer Tippit. *National Guardian*

**10/3/64** Unidentified woman witness to Tippit shooting, see Witnesses

Different rifle ordered by Oswald, see Weapon

More than three shots heard by Jean Hill, see story, page 3

Palm print on rifle see story, end of page 3

Description of weapon by Seymour Weitzman, see Weapon

Shots from overpass or knoll, see Shot Sources

Summary of criticism of Report, see story, end of page 5

Four doors, TSBD, unguarded, see card, One + ?

Brennan's description of Oswald see Description, *National Guardian*

**10/9/64** Mark Lane, Melvin Belli debate, Masonic Auditorium, San Francisco. No report by any large San Francisco daily, although audience estimated to be 2,500. Only mention of it was a two-sentence comment by Herb Caen, *San Francisco Chronicle*, 10/13.

**10/9/64** The affidavit of Seymour Weitzman is the only one in the District Attorney's office, in the terms of the person who found the gun. Affidavit signed 24 hours after the gun was found. Weitzman described it as 7.65 Mauser bolt-action, equipped with a 4/13 scope, thick leather brownish-black sling. Lane Belli debate, San Francisco. [at 101' on tape]

**10/17/64** Debate between Mark Lane and Melvin Belli, moderated by Jake Ehrlich, Masonic Auditorium, San Francisco, 10/9/64. Audience of 2,500 paid admissions. Debate ignored by Bay Area papers; *Chronicle*, *Examiner*, *News Call Bulletin* and *Oakland Tribune* did not send anyone to cover it.

"In his rebuttal Lane said bitterly, 'I'm tired of this plea for concern for our national image. 'I'm more concerned about the

Lane

substance of our country." *People's World*, San Francisco

- 10/17/64** In story based on separate interviews with Lane, Joesten and Buchanan, quotes Lane as shying away from conspiracy theories but saying "the evidence tends to show that more than one person was involved." *National Guardian*, Jack A Smith
- 10/24/64** Lane ... made the following points, among others:
- "The Secret Service, FBI and Dallas police questioned Oswald for 12 of the 48 hours he was in police custody, yet the Report says no transcript or recording is available .... The FBI takes notes. According to the *Dallas Morning News* soon after the assassination, a Dallas police stenographer was in the room when Oswald was questioned. ..." [Report of debate between Melvin Belli and Mark Lane, Manhattan Center, New York, Oct. 19, 1964.] *National Guardian*, Jack A. Smith
- 1/20/65** Lane's book in final stages, to be published "this spring". Publication "already assured here and throughout Europe."
- [Original publisher was to have been *Grove Press*. *Rush to Judgment* published by Holt, Rinehart, Winston, 8/15/66.) *Citizens' Committee of Inquiry Newsletter*
- 8/13/66** [Review of Epstein book.]
- I can vividly remember a visit to the *New Statesman* made that summer [two years ago] by Mark Lane ... Lane's avowed purpose was to try to persuade us not to accept uncritically the commission's findings. We listened to him for an hour and more but when eventually he had left collectively shook our heads. What we had heard, we decided, was at best fantastic and at worst neurotic.
- Would we, I now wonder, have thought that if we had known then what today, two years later, is in the public domain? *San Francisco Chronicle*, from Lane The London Observer, Anthony Howard (filed Books)
- 8/15/66** Trevor-Roper quotes J. Edgar Hoover [Hearings, V, p. 99-105 on Marguerite Oswald: 'the first indication of her emotional instability', he said, 'was the retaining of a lawyer that anyone would not have retained if they really were serious in trying to get down to the facts'. This lawyer was the author of this book, Mr. Mark Lane. Hugh Trevor-Roper, Introduction, *Rush to Judgment*, p. 9
- 8/15/66** Mark Lane ... today showed filmed interviews with three assassination witnesses who dispute certain Commission findings. ... The clips were taken from the documentary film, *Rush to Judgment*, which is scheduled for September release. AP, 815 PCS
- 8/15/66** Publication date, *Rush to Judgment*



Lane

**8/15/66** Review of *Rush to Judgment*, Kenneth Auchincloss, *Newsweek*

**8/22/66** Review of books by Lane and Epstein. Author describes Lane book as "a virtuoso performance by a lawyer with a weak case." *Wall Street Journal*, Arlen J. Large

8/23/66 [New York?] - 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 ... and Emile de Antonio.

... [The forthcoming movie, described by the director] as a "strictly visual microcosm" of Mr. Lane's book, ... 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. ... Key subsidiary roles are taken by five Dallas people, never summoned for testimony, who had vital evidence about Jack Ruby. *New York Times*

**8/24/66** Oxford, England - *The Oxford Playhouse Company* has commissioned a documentary play *The Trial of Lee Oswald* [by Mark Lane] for presentation early next year.

... It will be in two parts. The first will make the strongest possible prosecution case against Oswald ... taken entirely from the report. ... The second part will show what Lane believes to be confusions and contradictions which a defense attorney might have brought out if Oswald had come to trial. *San Francisco Chronicle, United Press*

**8/25/66** One third of the official reports that led to the Warren Commission report ... have been classified as secret, [Mark Lane] said here yesterday.

... Lane said about 500 of the more than 1500 reports, now in the National Archives in Washington, D.C., are restricted material to be made public in 75 years. *San Francisco Chronicle*

**8/26/66** If John F. Kennedy had lived America would now be out of Vietnam, or so Mark Lane told *Barb* this week. ... Lane also told *Barb* that he would like to see a "massive demonstration on the steps of the *National Archives* in Washington on 11/22" ... aimed at forcing the Archives to release the 600 "classified" files ...

**8/29/66** Dolan, speaking of review of Lane's *Rush to Judgment* by Jon Waltz: "In this review ... he says such scurrilous things and makes such ad hominem attacks on Mark Lane ... that Mark Lane is going to sue Mr. Waltz." *Joe Dolan*, telephone call-in program, *KEWB*, Oakland

Lane

**10/14/66** Stanford - In jail or out, Jack Ruby may face "serious danger" of physical harm, Mark Lane said [10/14] at *Stanford University*.

... He said 35 witnesses to the assassination, whom he had interviewed, showed "great reluctance" to be filmed in person for a new documentary, because they were aware of the fact that several others had been threatened, shot, and killed under less than clear circumstances. A similar fate could befall Ruby, Lane indicated.

"While I'm not generally in favor of Congressional investigations," Lane said he supports a recent bill which would provide for a Joint House-Senate probe of the commission's work. *Stanford University News Service*

**10/14/66** Mark Lane ... will be on campus today to deliver two speeches, ... under the sponsorship of the *Law Forum*.

... the *Law Forum* had hoped to stage a debate between Lane and Wesley J. Liebeler, acting professor of law at *UCLA* and assistant counsel to the Warren Commission. however, Liebeler is now under a libel suit over comments he made Friday [10/7] at *UCLA* in another debate with Lane. Liebeler is instead scheduled to speak at noon Monday in Cubberly [Auditorium].

Liebeler and Lane will debate on 1/25, since this commitment was made before Liebeler accused Lane of "traveling around the country with a pack of lies for the sole purpose of making money." *Stanford Daily*, Rissa White

**10/14/66** .... The people of this country owe Lane an unrepayable debt for giving them this second chance at their right to be told the truth by their government. *Stanford Daily*, Review of *Rush to Judgment*, Stephanie Sherman.

**10/15/66** Dolan, to caller: "To the best of my knowledge Mark Lane has not to this point made a dollar out of the assiduous work that he has performed on the Warren Commission and the assassination of President Kennedy; in fact, I have it on his own word that he is heavily in debt." *Joe Dolan*, telephone call-in program *KEWB*, Oakland

**10/15/66** ... Lane [speaking at Stanford, 10/14] ... displayed a letter from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover confirming that two key frames in motion pictures of the assassination were transposed before publication by the Warren Commission.

As published, these show Mr. Kennedy slumping forward, but the correct sequence as determined by photographic experts, Lane said, shows the late President was pushed back by the impact of one bullet, which could only have been fired from in front of his limousine. *San Francisco Examiner*

**10/15/66** Account of Lane's speech at Stanford, 10/14.

Lane

... "In another six weeks, there will be very, very few people in this country who will be able to accept the central conclusion of the Warren Commission's report," [Lane] said. *San Francisco Examiner*

**10/17/66** Mark Lane, a New York attorney who became a minor political figure in the shadow of John F. Kennedy, continues to prosper on his shroud. ... *Sa Francisco Examiner*, Bob Considine, *Warren Report Critic Criticized*

**10/18/66** Inaccurate and slipshod account of Wesley Liebeler's talk at *Stanford* the day before. [It has Liebeler saying that autopsy X-rays show "all shots" fired at Kennedy were from behind and above. Liebeler has said he has not seen the X-rays].

... He told 650 students at a *Stanford University Law Forum* that a best-selling book [Lane] indicating more than one assassin s of at Kennedy was "a tissue of distortion ... a masterwork of deceit." *San Rafael Independent-Journal, UPI, Stanford*

**10/19/66** Account of Wesley J. Liebeler's talk at Stanford the day before.

... Speaking under sponsorship of the *Stanford Law Forum*, he called the book, *Rush to Judgment* by Mark Lane, who addressed the same forum last Friday, "a tissue of distortion." ... *San Francisco Examiner*

**10/21/66** Fullest of the various press accounts of Liebeler's plan to launch a massive study of the *Warren Report*, using; 20 law students under his direction.

... Liebeler and his fellows on the Commission staff are particularly incensed at what they claim to be misstatements or distortions of the record. He says he has found at least 15 in the Lane book. ...

[Liebeler frankly conceded the study was spawned by two books critical of *the Warren Report* -- *Rush to Judgment*, by Mark Lane, and *Inquest*, by Edward Jay Epstein.] *LA Times*, Gene Blake

**11/2/66** Columbus, OH – [Mark Lane] threatened today to file suit to open to the public photographic files from the National Archives. [He] issued a statement criticizing government action in turning over to the Archives [the autopsy pictures and X-rays]. ... Lane contended the action "officially confirmed" that "the Warren commission failed to examine some of the most relevant and vital documents in the case."

... If the government will not permit examination of the photos and other evidence, Lane said, "I swill bring a taxpayer's reaction in the federal court." *AP* 1152 acs

**11/7, 9/66** A discussion of the difficulty of assessing the effect of books. Suggests *Lane's Rush to Judgment* would not have enjoyed the

Lane

success it did if Epstein's *Inquest* had not first been written from within the liberal intellectual establishment, in restrained and familiar terms, and thus made the whole subject of the Warren Commission's short-comings respectable enough to be discussed in public. *New York Times*, The *Effect of Books*, by Eliot Fremont-Smith.

**11/18/66** [Liebeler] said that Mr. Lane's book was a "tissue of distortion" and he said when he had made similar charges previously Mr. Lane had threatened to sue him.

"I've been waiting anxiously for those papers ever since," Professor Liebeler said. "If you have them here I'll be glad to accept service of process because you know very well as soon as you do that, you're going to have to submit yourself to deposition under oath, and go through discovery proceedings, and that day I'll wait for, Mr. Lane."

Mr. Lane, sitting next to Mr. Liebeler, said quietly, "You'll have them very soon." *New York Times (AP)*

Account of debate, Joseph A. Ball, Wesley Liebeler, Mark Lane, Edward Jay Epstein, at *Associated Press Managing Editors Association* convention, San Diego, 11/17. See *APME Red Book* 1966.

**11/21/66** Mark Lane ... called yesterday for creation of a new investigating commission "made up of leading faculty members at universities, medical schools, experts in various fields."

In a ... taped interview over *WABC-TV* yesterday, Mr. Lane proposed that such a commission get full Government support, with full power of subpoena and power to punish witnesses for contempt. He said it should not have members associated with the Government. *New York Times*, Peter Kihss

**11/21/67** Mark Lane [in taped interview over *WABC-TV*? Said], "I know Robert Kennedy sent a message to Professor (Hugh) Trevor Roper, who wrote the introduction to my book, in which he said to keep up the good work."

Professor Trevor-Roper . reached last night in Oxford, England, said, "No such message from Robert Kennedy has ever been received by me." *New York Times*, Peter Kihss

Mr. Lane could not be reached for further comment, nor could Senator Kennedy or spokesmen for him.

**11/22/66** Mark Lane ... made available yesterday a new chapter [of his book] written for a French translation to be published by *Editions Arthaud* this week.

In this Mr. Lane offered a five-shot hypothesis. This would have a bullet strike President Kennedy in the back, and a second bullet hit him in the throat from the front. A third bullet would hit Governor Connally. A fourth would miss the ... limousine, but

Lane

shatter off a sidewalk curb to graze a spectator [Tague] in the face. A fifth fired from the right would inflict the fatal head wound on President Kennedy. *New York Times*, Peter Kihss

**11/23/66** From partial transcript of Gov. Connally's press conference, apparently from opening statement before questioning by newsmen:

I think the Commission did an outstanding job under difficult circumstances. Each of the members of that commission ... are men of unquestioned integrity of long and devoted service to their nation ... and men whose patriotism has been manifested so many times ... that it now is somewhat shocking to me that in the backlash of tragedy journalistic scavengers such as Mark Lane, attempt to impugn the motives of these members individually, cast doubts upon the commission as a whole and question the credibility of the government itself.

I think it is time that we pause and reflect on who these individuals are and rather than calling for a further investigation of the assassination, which in my judgment is neither warranted, justified or desirable we should turn our attention to doing a little research on and evaluation of the credentials of the self-appointed experts who, with no evidence, no new facts, nevertheless use distortion, inference, innuendo, in order to cast doubts and create confusion. I suspect that a searching investigation into their own credentials will divulge that their motives have political overtones and that their views have been given prominence out of proportion to their value. *AP* 713 pcs

**11/23/66** Insert to main story, giving Mark Lane's reaction to comments by Governor Connally at press conference in Austin:

In New York, Lane replied that Connally "displayed an abysmal ignorance to the implications of his own testimony."

"It is to be regretted," Lane said, "that Governor Connally has sought to terminate the search for the truth - an effort that has begun in this country so recently. It is even more astonishing that he has sought to bring back the days of McCarthyism, by questioning the loyalty and motives of those who will not accept a false governmental edict." *AP* 514 pcs

**11/27/66** Article on *Inquest and Rush to Judgment*. Pimsleur alleges Lane used Epstein as his "pipeline" to Commission information not available to Lane. *San Francisco Examiner & Chronicle*, Joel Pimsleur

**11/27/66** Announcer: The demands for a new investigation continued to grow this week and prompted an exchange between Gov. Connally said:

Connally: It is shocking to me that in the backlash of tragedy journalistic scavengers such as Mark Lane attempt to impugn the motives of these members individually, cast doubts upon the Commission as a whole, and question the credibility of the government itself.

Lane

Announcer : Asked to comment on those words by Gov. Connally, Mark Lane told *ABC News*

Lane: If the bullet which hit him did not first hit President Kennedy, as he swears, then in fact there were two assassins; and the statement by the governor that I'm a journalistic scavenger is in error, at least in one respect - I'm not a journalist at all; I'm a lawyer and former member of the New York state legislature. But I think that he has shown an abysmal ignorance as to the implications of his testimony ... Governor Connally, on *ABC*

**11/27/66** Lane's book [was] turned down by 15 publishers.

His first publisher, *Grove Press*, had eased itself out of a contract on the basis of its own judgment that the book would not sell. *Grove* only had to sell 5,000 to break even; Lane offered to sell that many himself - if necessary, "door to door" - to cover the costs. *Grove* still turned him down.

... *Holt, Rinehart and Winston*, one of the biggest publishing houses in the nation - a firm that Lane had not even bothered to contact because he believed it was too conservative [Holt is 10 per cent owned by Texas oil interests; it is also J. Edgar Hoover's publisher] now approached Lane.

The rest is history: [the book] sold 30,000 in the first two weeks - and exhausted its first printing. Since mid-August, it has sold over 113,000 copies, rushed through ten printings, and is still a runaway best seller. *San Francisco Sunday Examiner & Chronicle*

**11/29/66** Houston, TX - Leon Jaworski, who was special counsel in a separate investigation by the Texas Attorney General [and] mentioned as a possible choice for U.S. Attorney General, said yesterday ... Mark Lane's book ... "deserves to be a best seller in the fiction category." *AP B49DN 725acs*

**12/1/66** Lane film purchased by *BBC* for television showing, \$40,000, highest price ever paid in United Kingdom for a film for a single transmission. U.S. distribution still being negotiated. *New York Times*

**12/12/66** World premiere 12/11, Mannheim, Germany; presented in connection with Mannheim's annual festival for documentary films. *San Francisco Chronicle AP*

**12/19/66** The Warren Commission Report ... will soon get a self-appointed defense attorney. Lawyer ... Louis Nizer is negotiating with the TV networks to defend the Commission's findings ... *Newsweek*

**1/17/67** Chicago - Mark Lane ,, says President Johnson should make public all classified information on the investigation of the Kennedy assassination ... in an interview in the February issue of *Playboy* magazine. ... Lane said he "would not care to say that the commission lied" but that it "did issue a false report" ... Lane said responsibility for withholding information for 75 years rests

Lane

ultimately with President Johnson.

**1/30/67** Four and a half hour television debate on assassination; Lane, David Belin, Belin, Arlen Specter, summing up by Lord Devlin and Alexander M. Bickel. Lor Devlin argued there was no reasonable doubt of Oswald's guilt; Bickel said Commission's conclusion [single bullet hitting JFK and Connally] not by a full-time group of two or three retired judges. *BBC* switchboard jammed with complaints that Lane had not been given a fair hearing.

**1/30/67** London - Marathon *BBC* telecast on JFK death ends with a split verdict by a "jury" of two legal authorities. ...

Mark Lane debated David Belin and Arlen Specter. Judges were Lord Devlin and Alexander Bickel of Yale. Devlin said the public interest already had been served by the commission's findings. Bickel said he still felt the confused evidence over the number, of bullets justified a reopening of the case by a small, full-time body.

Belin rested on the present evidence. Specter made the interesting admission that the one-bullet conclusion was "not indispensable to the WC case. There could have been an earlier shot fired by Oswald, meaning that Gov. Connally could have been struck by a second shot, he said.

"Angry confrontation" between Lane and Belin-Specter. Devlin and Bickel held Lane had presented no new evidence. *San Francisco Chronicle, Times-Post Service*

**2/67** Publication in paperwork of *Rush to Judgment*.

**2/12/67** In television debate, 2/12, *WNEW*, Lane accused by Louis Nizer of "outrageous and slanderous accusations ... puny nitpicking and incorrect at that." Program mainly a defense of Warren Commission, as rebuttal to 11/12 program in which critics of Warren Report were in the majority, including Lane. Participants: Lane, Nizer, Albert E. Jenner and Alfreda Scobey.

Nizer said Lane prejudged the Report before it was issued, while traveling about lecturing to paying audiences. Said no other weapon, cartridge shell, bullet or file ever found or claimed by any critic. *San Francisco Sunday Examiner & Chronicle*

**2/21/67** Last August *Rush to Judgment* was published. ... And now, three years after the fact, a *Harris Poll* finds that 54 per cent of the American people think the Warren Commission left "a lot of unanswered questions about who killed Kennedy" and, according to a *Gallup Poll*, an even more substantial majority, 54 per cent, feel that Oswald did not act alone.

Lane's detractors claim that he fails to offer any answers; that may well be true, out perhaps it is enough that he offers questions. ... Some of his findings have given thoughtful people pause and he is at least one of the reasons why so many prominent rational voices - the *New York Times*, the *Saturday Evening Post*, *Life* magazine, the *London Times*, Walter Lippmann, others - have

Lane

called out at this time for a reopening of the investigation. *Oakland Tribune*, Mike McGrady

**2/21/67** From feature story on Lane:

Lane: ... was seen the other day in a Manhattan recording studio. Seated beneath a boom microphone, he was attempting to record 39 five-minute radio programs in a single day. The night before he had been lecturing in Philadelphia; that evening he was flying to London for a *BBC* debate; then on to France; then back here for his debate with Nizer; then on to his in-laws' home in Denmark where, some luck, he hopes to be on hand for the birth of his first child. *Oakland Tribune*, Mike McGrady

**2/21/67** From feature story on Lane:

If profiteering was indeed Lane's motive from the outset, it would indicate a certain amount of foresight. Before finding a publisher Lane submitted his completed manuscript to 15 different houses.

"It was impossible for a year after the work was completed," he [said], "to find a publisher in this country who would touch it. I think this raises serious problems. When you can't talk to the people through press, radio or television, when you can't get a book published because the government has taken a different position, I think then you have very serious problems in terms of the functioning of a democratic society. Anyone who thinks he's going to break through all that by himself and also make a pile of money would either have to have miraculous powers or be insane. I think I fall into neither of those categories." *Oakland Tribune*, Mike McGrady

**2/21/67** From feature story on Lane:

"Punishing the culprit is not the only reason you try to find out the facts about historical events. There was no known culprit when the French government pardoned Dreyfus. When they changed their position it was not because they found a culprit, but because it was wrong to say that someone committed a serious crime when in fact he was innocent. Wrong on moral grounds.

"I've never said Oswald was innocent. I think: there's no question he could not have been convicted at a trial. Did he do it or was there more than one person involved? I think the evidence that there were at least two people is conclusive." *Oakland Tribune*, Mike McGrady

**2/21/67** Interview with Lane: personality, criticism of him, etc. *Oakland Tribune*, Mike McGrady, [*Newsday, Inc.*]

**3/29/67** From context, Lane apparently spoke by phone (tape?) from New Orleans.

Lane: The evidence that [Garrison] has is massively detailed and shows that very powerful forces, I think I can say this, that the



Lane

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 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. *Mort Sahl* program, *KLAC*, Los Angeles, CA

**4/5/68** Art Kunkin says in *LA Free Press* [3/15/68] that Lane, now living in New Orleans, will write regularly for the paper on the progress of Garrison's investigation. First article appears today. *LA Free Press*

**4/6/68** New Orleans – Mark Lane ... said this week he has reviewed ... Jim Garrison's evidence ... and predicted Garrison will get a conviction.

... "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 do to prevent that day coming."

... He said President Johnson, Warren and Attorney General Ramsey Clark are involved in suppression of evidence in the case.

"Now is the time for the President to act," Lane said "If he does not act now, the American People in 1968 will have the time to act."

... In reply to a question, Lane denied he had said that an agency of the U.S. government was involved. He said that what he really said that "a powerful force in the country which was a part of the government structure was involved."

**4/18/67** Lane: I spent a week with [Jim Garrison], every single day ... and I have seen the evidence which he has gathered, ... It shows that a very powerful domestic force, which remains part of the American structure now, planned the events which culminated in the assassination of President Kennedy, and that anti-Castro Cubans executed the program. They didn't participate in the planning stage, but they pulled the trigger. Mr. Garrison has this evidence. It's overwhelming; it's documented in terms of various documentary testimony, and he's going to present this and when he does, of course there'll be a great sense of outrage in the country, and with good reason, because it will then become plain why the government felt it had to issue a report which bore no relationship to the truth, because the kind of disclosures which will be made there in that courtroom are just the kind which no government has ever voluntarily made about itself.

Dolan: You actually feel that some domestic agency or some domestic organization is behind this?

Lane

Lane: Yes, I think there's no question about it. The evidence is conclusive, in my view.

**4/18/67**

Lane has received more than 100 death threats, some by phone, some by letter.

Four days previously had been told by Ruby's brother, in Chicago, that Ruby was not held in a cell but in a corridor over the psychiatric ward, where at night he could hear the patients screaming; could have been easy for prison guard to have suggested to Ruby the screams were those of Jews being tortured. Lane made clear this was what Ruby's brother had said, but could not vouch for this of his own knowledge.

Garrison has evidence that Ruby killed Oswald to silence him.

Does not believe that in all cases it was a 'false Oswald.'

Caller suggested that since CIA trains guerillas it must also train execution squads, and it would be ironical if they were the ones involved in the assassination. Lane's reply: "I know the answer to that but I cannot tell you."

Lane's movie opened in New Orleans about two weeks previously in nine theaters; did well and had very good reviews. Difficulty in arranging for national distribution.

Total he has made so far, \$2,600. *Billy Rose Show, KNEW, Oakland*, transcribed from tape

**4/18/67**

Lane: The first opportunity for a legal opinion regarding the Warren Commission Report [was when] it was introduced into court ... in New Orleans [by] Clay Shaw, charged by Garrison with conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy. He introduced it as a defense document and the court ruled that it is not admissible, the *Warren Report* - first judicial ruling - the *Warren Report* is filled with contradictions and with hearsay. And the other judge said, "Hearsay? - it's hearsay five or six times removed from the original source." It's the only judicial ruling on the Report itself. Transcribed from tape, *Joe Dolan* show, *KNEW* Oakland

**4/29/67**

*Saturday Review* says 225,000 copies published in hardcover; initial printing in paperback 3 quarters of a million copies, "and already the presses are at work on another huge edition."

*Saturday Review* says Lane recently was named an honorary citizen of New Orleans and given a key to the city.

**6/14/67**

"There've been a lot of attacks on J. Edgar Hoover, but we have to concede this: he's been the finest director the Bureau has ever had." Attributed to Jim Garrison., Tape No. 55-56, Lane speech at *UCLA, Citizens' Committee of Inquiry*