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Doubts on Day at Dallas

Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested Friday afternoon, Nov. 22, 1963, and was killed at midday Nov. 24. During much of the intervening time he was questioned by Dallas police, the FBI and probably by the Secret Service.

Aside from a now almost forgotten announcement that he had denied shooting President Kennedy there has never been any detailed account of what he was asked and what he answered.

Had Oswald lived and gone to trial it is questionable if even a Dallas court could have found him guilty on the same evidence that was employed to indict him as the murderer in the Warren Report.

As Warren Commission attorney Alfreda Scobey pointed out in her article, "A Lawyer's Notes on the Warren Commission's Report," printed in the American Bar Association Journal, the damaging testimony made to the commission by Oswald's widow would not have been admissible in a criminal case.

THESE TROUBLING thoughts stir each time another book on the assassination appears. Now we have "Rush to Judgment," by Mark Lane.

Lane's thesis leans heavily on the contradiction between FBI and official Bethesda Naval Hospital accounts of the autopsy, and on the all but incredible rapidity with which the assassin got off three shots at moving targets.

Lane is a New York lawyer who was elected to the

state legislature in 1960 with the support of JFK, Sen. Hubert Humphrey and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt.

His dark misgivings about official versions of the assassination won him ready audiences among those who suspected and still suspect that undisclosed foul play was afoot. He testified twice before the Warren Commission and volunteered to serve as attorney for Oswald's mother.

LANE HAS come forth with 460 pages of text, diagrams and documents to beef up his contention that there is something wrong with the commission's report that one man, Oswald, did it, with one old gun and three bullets—one of which missed—fired in 2.3 seconds.

Trevor-Roper is more perturbing. Why did Officer Tippit attempt to arrest Oswald—of all the men in Dallas—before he was identified as the man who may have shot JFK? Why did the chief "fingerman" on Oswald fail to recognize him several hours later in a police lineup even after having seen him on television?

"The Dallas police had undisclosed reasons for arresting Oswald even before they had avowable evidence pointing towards him," concludes Trevor-Roper.

There will be even more doubts cast before JFK is finally allowed to rest in peace.

Hear Bob Considine on KGO Radio (810) Monday through Friday at 5:50 p.m.