

Mark Lane, on Mort Sahl program, KLAC, Los Angeles

29 Mar. 1967

"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 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,

Lane, Sahl -- p. 2

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."