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ROME, FEB. 21 (AP)-MARK LANE, THE LAWYER WHO CLAIMS A CONSPIRACY WAS BEHIND THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION, SAYS THE NEW ORLEANS INQUIRY INTO THE CASE SUPPORTED HIS VIEW.

LANE SAID HE IS READY TO GO TO NEW ORLEANS IF ASKED TO HELP THE CITY'S DISTRICT ATTORNEY, JIM GARRISON, WITH HIS INVESTIGATION.

"I'VE NEVER MET GARRISON," HE SAID ~~LAST NIGHT~~. **ALL I** KNOW OF HIS INVESTIGATION IS WHAT I'VE READ THE PAST FEW DAYS IN THE PAPERS. BUT I SHALL CERTAINLY BE IN TOUCH WITH HIM WHEN I GET BACK. THIS REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARD A WHOLE NEW INVESTIGATION.

"GARRISON WILL NEED ALL THE STRENGTH POSSIBLE TO GET TO THE TRUTH," LANE SAID.

LANE WAS IN ROME TO PUBLICIZE THE ITALIAN EDITION OF HIS BOOK "RUSH TO JUDGMENT," WHICH CHALLENGES THE REPORT OF THE WARREN COMMISSION THAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS KILLED BY LEE HARVEY OSWALD ACTING ALONE.

ASKED IF HE THOUGHT GARRISON'S INVESTIGATION SUPPORTED HIS THESIS, LANE SAID: "I DEFINITELY DO."

HE SAID HE HOPED GARRISON WOULD NOT TURN THE INVESTIGATION OVER TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BECAUSE "ALL THEY CAN DO NOW IS INTERFERE WITH GARRISON'S WORK."

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