

Lane

3 JAN 1964

Interview of Mark Lane by Chris Koch and Robert Potts
WBAI, New York, no date
broadcast KPFA Jan. 3, 1964

No attrib. - There were early reports of two persons, a man and a woman, seen on an overpass, running off the underpass on to a grassy knoll followed by a policeman. Shot very likely came from that underpass. But we have not heard of this incident again.

Oswald was supposed to have spent 30 min. at window but there were no finger prints. Only palm print on the box, which was in the police station with Oswald - but on no immovable object.

Paraffin tests: nitrate traces would not be found if you wore gloves and a face mask. Wade said tests showed Oswald had recently fired a gun; traces on both hands. But he neglected to mention that tests had been made on both cheeks, which showed that he had not fired a rifle. No indication that clip, gloves or face mask found.

Ed Wallace of World Telegram bought 20 bullets, fired them in an open field; only 3 went off; 17 duds. A friend of Lane's at ABC TV said someone there fired 12 rounds; only 3 went off. This ammunition goes back to 1936 and even to World War I and is very unreliable.

There is no evidence that Oswald owned a rifle.

No attrib. - Mrs. Oswald has denied she knew her husband owned a rifle.

No attrib. - The FBI did not turn up any shells at the rifle range and have given up the rifle range story.

Oswald's connection with Walker shooting denied by FBI in The Times (no date given).

Wade has a budget of half a million dollars a year, has 80 assistants, 45 (?) assistant district attorneys, was an FBI agent for some four years.

Wade had the weapon for 7 hours; said it was a German Mauser. Next day FBI said it was an Italian carbine. After this Wade stated for the first time it was an Italian gun.

It was only after the FBI said Oswald had purchased the rifle in the name of Hidell that the Dallas police said they had an identification card with this name, which they had found on Oswald. He was searched when arrested and his room was searched, and at that time they said he had used the alias of O.H. Lee, but nothing was said about the name of Hidell until 36 hours later.

Mrs. Oswald is being held contrary to law; there is to be no trial so she is not a material witness; no one has the right to hold her - to do so you would have to go to court and bail would have to be set.

Mrs. Oswald is not permitted to see any Russian-speaking friends. Lane thinks she is being "brainwashed" by FBI. For well over a month now they have visited her almost every single day for hours of interviews, for the purpose of changing her memory and changing her story.

According to the New York Times John Thorne was retained by James Martin, the business agent for Mrs. Oswald. At the suggestion of the Secret Service Mr. Martin took over management of Mrs. Oswald's personal and business affairs. Lane has spoken to both Thorne and Martin. They called him on their way to Washington to see the deputy attorney general.

According to Chief Curry, the School Book Depository Building was surrounded by 500 policemen.

The clerk handled the rifle, for the television cameras, without gloves, before the FBI or anyone else had checked it for fingerprints.

The Times has run several stories about one friend who has been permitted to see Mrs. Oswald, and who says the leaks are absolute fabrications.

New York Times quotes suggestion supposed to have been made by Secret Service man to Mrs. Oswald, that it would be safer and easier for her to live in the Soviet Union.

No attrib. - It turns out there is no Darryl Click. When the press questioned Wade he said that was wrong, he had made a mistake, the man was William Whaley.

To Lane's knowledge there have been no interviews with William Whaley, the taxi-driver.

There were 91 employees of the Book Depository Building. According to Truly, almost all of them were outside (staggered lunch hours, 12 to 1:30). Within 20 minutes it was possible to get all back into the building, with the exception of Oswald.

Q: Has anyone for the "prosecution" worked out a timetable [for Oswald's escape]? A: ~~No~~; someone should go to Dallas and re-enact this.

[In his press conference of Nov. ²⁴25] Wade completely repudiated his statement about the bullet from the pistol [in the theater] - absolute denial of physical evidence which he had introduced himself. ["We have the snapped bullet." "He didn't snap the gun."]

Although Oswald originally charged and arrested for murder of Tippit, nothing more was done on the Tippit angle. Beyond news stories on money contributed for Tippit family, no more was heard of factual data about Tippit.

Wade did not mention map at New York press conference on Nov. 25²⁴, and it was not mentioned until the next day - three days after arrest. If they had it, why was it not released to the press? Washington Post, Nov. 27 - "Dallas officials yesterday denied that such a map exists."

Dudman, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, who saw a small hole in windshield of Kennedy car, tried to see (assuming it was made by a bullet) whether the shot had come from the front or the rear. Secret Service would not permit it. Car was flown to Washington, then sent to Dearborn, where it was dismantled and the windshield removed.

No attrib. - FBI never spoke to the three doctors on the team, nor questioned them about the bullets or the wounds, in terms of direction of bullets or type of wounds inflicted.

According to Dudman (Dec. 1, St. Louis Post-Dispatch), it was very plain to the doctors that the wound in the throat was an entrance wound. The three doctors all took exactly the same position. Incision followed the path of the bullet downward from the throat into the chest. When it was reported that the shot was fired after the car had passed the building, the three doctors said in that case Kennedy must have turned around completely to the rear of the car. [made by Dr. Perry]

No attrib. - When the FBI said the first shot was fired as the car was approaching the building, Cohnally said this was totally untrue, the shot came after the turn, when the President's back was to the building. FBI then briefed Life Mag. which said ("An End to Nagging Rumors") that Kennedy had turned completely around.* Their own pictures a week before showed him looking directly ahead.

First story leaked by FBI (and pictures of building, window, trajectory) indicated car was approaching building when first shot was fired. Second shot when car had just passed the building. Third shot when automobile had gone 75-150 yards beyond the building.

No attrib./At the re-enactment of the assassination, all the witnesses said the first bullet was fired after the car had passed the building and the President's back was toward the building.

No attrib. - The story ... that the wound in the throat was caused by the bullet's exit: "Dr. Perry recently said (this is unpublished) he knows more than he is now permitted to say; he understands that the bullet was fired from the rear and that this will tie up the whole FBI case, and his present position under these circumstances is that he is satisfied that it may have been an exit wound."
[Verbatim, Mark Lane.]

Q: Is any Government agency continuing the investigation on the assumption it is not absolutely certain that Mr. Oswald is the assassin? A: I believe that the Justice Department is going to continue under the leadership of Robert Kennedy - he wants to know who killed his brother. The Justice Department has a list of some 50 to 60 questions which it hoped the FBI would answer in its report. The FBI has refused to comment. The Justice Department has let it be known that it is extremely dissatisfied with the refusal of the FBI to deal with a large number of unanswered questions.

The FBI sees to it that its agents "brief" the media, for background purposes. They are then on the inside and know exactly what happened, and don't print anything which is contrary to the briefing. The FBI has from the first leaked information to the press.

* Life, Memorial ed. - "First Answers to the Nagging Rumors": the 8 mm film shows the President turning his body far around to the right as he waves to someone in the crowd. His throat is exposed - toward the sniper's nest - just before he clutches it.