

# A MOVIE IS MADE OF OSWALD 'TRIAL'

## Film of 'Court Proceedings' Completed on Dallas Sites

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A film dramatization of that purports to be a trial of the accused assassin of President Kennedy, has been completed in Dallas. The movie is called "The Trial of Lee Harvey Oswald." The moviemakers, who also wrote the script, are Harold Hoffman, producer, and Larry Buchanan, director. They plan to release the 90-minute-long picture in about three weeks.

Reached in Dallas yesterday, Mr. Buchanan said that he and Mr. Hoffman—both men live in Dallas and make their films there—decided to make their movie after conferring with several lawyers including Charles W. Tessmer, who also appears in an epilogue to the film.

Mr. Buchanan declined to reveal the sources of their information about the Oswald case and added that he and his partner had kept the production secret until the completion of filming for fear that public announcements might cause delays in shooting.

### Being Edited Now

"We wrote the script, after talking to lawyers, and then began shooting on Dec. 23," he

said. "We finished shooting in about three weeks. It is now being edited in Hollywood — I cannot say where — and we hope to release to theaters in about three weeks."

Mr. Buchanan said that their picture "does not involve Jack Ruby of Lee Oswald's wife or his mother. There was really no need for releases from anyone. We show Lee Oswald, who is played by an actor we can't name at this time, for only 10 seconds in the picture and we have only one reference to President Johnson."

The film, Mr. Buchanan went on, "does not solve the mystery of the assassination but the defense attorney enters a plea of not guilty for reason of existing insanity. Then we allow the movie audience to make its own judgment after hearing the testimony we present."

The director said that the picture was made on "a low budget with professional actors and union crews on locations in

Dallas. The courtroom scenes were filmed at the Southwest Film Center in Dallas." The leading roles of opposing attorneys are played by George Russell and Arthur Nations and the trial judge is portrayed by George Edgely.

The Messrs. Russell and Edgely appeared in "Free, White and 21" another courtroom film directed by Mr. Buchanan. The movie dealt with a Negro, played by Frederick O'Neal, who was accused of raping a blonde Swedish Freedom Rider. That drama, too, did not take sides but presented its issues from the points of view of both accused and accuser. It received a poor notice for its awkward acting and dialogue when it was released here in June, 1963, by American International Pictures.

Releasing arrangements for "The Trial of Lee Harvey Oswald" have not yet been made, Mr. Buchanan said.

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