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Subject: Second Associated Press Story on Today's Document Release-Updated Verson
Copyright 1996 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. All rights reserved. The information contained in this news report may not be published, broadcast or otherwise distributed without the prior written authority of the Associated Press. By MELISSA B. ROBINSON Associated Press Writer WASHINGTON (AP) -- In the early 1960s, the FBI aggressively tracked the public appearances of a prominent Warren Commission critic through a coast-to-coast network of contacts, including college officials, federal records show. The records were among 141 FBI documents and 33 CIA documents released Tuesday by the Assassination Records Review Board, which is compiling a public record of President Kennedy's assassination. Some of the information has been previously available. "These records provide more historical insight into the actions of the FBI and CIA following the assassination," said John R. Tunheim, the board's chairman. In 1964, the FBI dispatched agents and contacted sources across the country, including college and university officials, to gather information on public appearances by Mark Lane, a lawyer retained by Lee Harvey Oswald's mother, Marguerite, to clear her son's name, records showed. Lane had argued unsuccessfully to represent Oswald, then deceased, at the commission's hearings. He made numerous appearances on television, radio and college campuses and, in 1966, laid out a case for Oswald's defense in his book, "Rush to Judgment." It was unclear from records if the FBI, which was the commission's investigatory arm, acted on its own or at the commission's behest, except when it came to obtaining secret recordings of Lane's speeches. Such recordings were pursued for the commission, according to an FBI note dated March 11, 1964, and "could, if discovered by Lane or his associates, be used to embarrass the Bureau or the Commission." Lane did not immediately return messages left on an answering machine in his Washington, D.C., law office. His home telephone number is unpublished. Jennifer Spencer, an FBI spokeswoman, said the bureau had no comment. In Portland, Ore., a former Reed College official, cited as a source in a March 30, 1964, FBI memorandum, said he could not recall being contacted by the bureau. Lane spoke at Reed on March 23, 1964. "Reed was an activist school," said John Armstrong, Reed's former director of public information. "I vaguely remember that Lane came there ... If I did listen to his speech, it didn't make much of an impression on me." At Brown University in Providence, R.I., Robert E. Hill, an assistant dean, interviewed students about a speech Lane gave on May 4, 1964, records showed. In an interview with an FBI agent, "Dean Hill advised that his information was obtained from conversations with various members of the freshman class who attended the talk by Mark Lane," stated a June 11, 1964, FBI memorandum. Hill, reached at home in Narragansett, R.I., declined to comment. Another FBI memo on Lane, dated March 27, 1964, stated that the bureau received information from Ed Price, Record

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