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TO : RANKIN, J. LEE

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February 26, 1964

Int

MEMORANDUM TO MR. J. LEE RANKIN, General Counsel

From: Howard P. Willens

Re: Mark Lane

During the course of my discussion this morning with Mr. Malley of the FBI he brought up the matter of your interest in having coverage at the lectures given by Mark Lane before various meetings. Mr. Malley pointed out that the FBI is not currently covering Mr. Lane on a day-to-day basis. The FBI does know however that Mark Lane does attend small meetings of approximately 30 or 35 people which are not publicly announced. If these meetings are not publicly announced the FBI cannot get actual recordings of the presentations made by Mr. Lane.

After our discussion Mr. Malley agreed that he would write a letter to you setting forth what coverage the FBI can provide of Mark Lane's activities under their current procedures. At that point if the Commission desires fuller coverage we will have to make some specific request to that effect to the FBI. I think that we will want to consider very carefully the problem inherent in requesting fuller coverage of Mr. Lane which might require placing him under full surveillance by the FBI. Such a procedure would inform us as to his location, give us some indication of all meetings which he attended, but would still not enable us to obtain recordings or knowledge of the substance of his presentations at the meetings which are not open to the general public.