

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Readers Split on Garrison, Editorial

Editor, States-Item:

Corgratulations on your editorial regarding the so-called Shaw case.

I didn't think you had the perspicacity, the sense of civic liber and the courage to speak out

I salute you!

I. S. AARONSON, I

Editor, States-Item:

I heartily applaud your posi-I heartiny appraud your posi-: tion enumerated in your editor-ial of March 1 in which you called for the resignation of District Attorney Jim Garrison. His misdirected use of public money to finance an investigation which has as its only possible usefulness the satisfaction of a perverted ego is inexcusable. Any first-year law student could see that his way of handling the prosecution of the "case" was directed to some end other than its purported one, namely, the proving of a conspiracy.

As a result of this fiasco, Louisiana's image is disgraced in such a way as to make the "scandals of the 40s" and Earl Long's "Mandeville excursion" of the 50s seem pale by comparison.

LEO H. ZIBILICH.

Editor, States Itamy

I hope that occasionally, at least, you will publish an opinion of a reader whose viewpoint on a serious matter happens to differ from your own. Hence, perhaps optimistically, I have taken "pen in hand."

More specifically, I have reference to the editorial appearing on the front page of the States-Item, March 1, in regard to District Attorney Jim Garri-800.

In his prosecution of the de-fendant, Clay Shaw, Mr. Garrison acted in his official capacily, with due authority, according to the dictates of his conscience, following in e procedures prescribed by law, which

. . .

law fully insures the rights of the individual and provides hinf with the adequate legal tools necessary for his defense.

By what authority do you assume the role of God Almighty, : becoming the self-appointed accuser, judge and jury in the persecution (I do not mean. prosecution) of Mr. Garrison?

It is frightening that there are those in the news media today who, although taught it is their : basic and sacred trust to report the news impartially and : fairly, have chosen to disregard their responsibility to the public and will stoop to sometimes un-believable sensationalisms and contortions of the truth in order to sell a copy, obtain a . scoop or, worst of all, attempt . to mislead the people intention --ally and deliberately, with mal- : ice aforethought.

Were I as adept in the selection of malicious statements or as talented in the use of barbed thrusts as the author of your

editorial, I wonder if I would your opinion is that any attorbe accorded the prominence of ney who loses a case should a front page editorial also.

If you have any sense of integrity, will you please print my ed his case to a great many letter? My sole purpose is to people. letter? My sole purpose is to demonstrate that, at least, there is not 100 per cent concurrence in your cowardly attack on Mr. Garrison. (Unfortunately, Editor, States-Item: like other private citizens, he has no newspaper facilities at wild investigations from the fight back.) .

EUNICE K. ACCARDO.

Editor, States-Item:

Your castigation of Mr. Garrison's high-handed method of conducting the Shaw trial is well-taken. However, no segment of the news media, to my knowledge, bas uttered one word of criticism of the threejudge panel which allowed this travesty in the first place. Two witnesses, a confessed dope addict and Perry Raymond Russo, appeared before these judges. It seems ironical, to say the least, that these intellectual leaders of our judicial

ensies our



system, after hearing these two men tell their fantastic stories, would sanction this Postly trial of one of our outstanding citizens.

CITIZEN.

. . Westwego, La. Editor, States-Item:

Concerning your editorial of March 1 entitled "Garrison Should Resign."

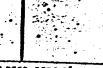
Would it be fair to say that immediately resign? With so many agencies working against him, I think Mr. Garrison prov-

Idabel. Okla.

I followed Mr. Garrison's would become of this warped to be put away before his hallucinations cause any more · trouble.

Think of the expense to the taxpayers of this wild dream. How can a person of his con- ubmitting Officer dition be elected to such an important position?. MRS. VERNA WILKINSON.





(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

SECTION 1

PAGE 8

STATE-ITEM

. NEW ORLEANS, LA.

JEAN CHAUVIN. Jates 3-7-69 Idition: RED FLASH athor:

Idator: GEORGE W. HEAL his command enabling him to beginning. I wondered what "tile: ASSISSINATION C investigation. This man needs PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, TEXAS 11-22-63 -

> "lassification: 89-N.O., LA Being Investigated

Carefret,-Editor, Stafes Incit.

I am heartened to read that you are calling for Mr. Garr-ison's resignation. It's about time

It would be nice to have Louisiana back in the U.S.A. Keep up the good work. JAMES M. REID.

Jackson, Tenn.

Editor, States-Item:

I don't know what is wrong with you, demanding the resig-nation of Jim Garrison. This is a gord man ... We need more mcn like this in America ... MRS. PATRICIA A. GREENE Editor, States-Item: The decision of the Jury in

the case of Clay Shaw has done much to restore America's confidence in New Orleans, which had become a langhing stock torney's office. and then a source of mounting

horror as Jim Garrison pursued his absurd assassination probe, heedless of the injustices be was perpetrating on Mr. Shaw and many other innocent per-

MARTIN HAYDENHUESHER

Editor, States-Item:

I feel your recent criticism of Jim Garrison is rather severe. Of course, we all have our own feeling regarding the trial. But I believe he was a man true to his own convictions and acted

Editor, States-Item:

Why is so much criticism and condemnation placed on the district altorney and a martyr made out of Mr. Shaw? Since when is a person who has enough character to stand up for justice immediately accused of failing to uphold the duting of failing to uphold the duties of his office.

son's action in trying to at last bring forth the truth underlying the white-washed facts America needs more district

attorneys like Mr. Garrison who are not alraid to pursue justice even at the price of losing pop-ularlity with the news media. MRS. J. F. HITZMAN JR.

3.8L.S

Editor, States-Item:

In opposition to your editorial requesting Mr. Garrison's res-ignation. I would like to put forth a few comments. Why single out Jim Garrison? After all, a three-judge panel. as well as : a 12-member Grand Jury thought the state's evidence suffinient to bring Mr. Shaw to (rial. . .

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Your unprincipled attacks on Mr. Garrison's character are to-tally without foundation. It seems to me that Orleans Parish should consider itself fortunate to have fuch of the high caliber of Messrs. Garrison, Alcock and Oser in the district at-

the fight for truth and justice ! in the face of the combined !power of the federal govern-ment and their lackeys in the news media.

W. C. FRIEDERICHSEN: