

Question: You've spent a lot of time, and a great deal of effort, although there are many who disagree with your conclusions, in doing your original book, Inquest, on what you felt--to put it mildly--the soft spots in the Warren Commission Report. You've done a wide, you've taken a very wide look at the New Orleans scene and all of Jim Garrison's charges and whatever evidence he's offered. In your mind, supported by facts or none, with your sense of expertise now in this area, is there anything that tickles you, that might be so? Is there anything that has come out in New Orleans, so far as you're concerned, that indicates in any way that there might have been a wider conspiracy than just a lone madman?

Epstein: Well, it's a difficult question to answer because anything "might have been," especially when a suspect like David Ferrie dies, it might have been he knew Oswald, it might have been he gave him his rifle, or money, or something like that--anything "might have been." But I don't think there is anything inconsistent between my original book, which was a critique of the Warren Commission and the way it operated, and my investigation of Garrison in New Orleans, because in both cases I found that it's much more difficult to establish the truth than one might think. Of course, in Garrison's case, it's ludicrous, because what you have is a man simply making all sorts of leaps from one or two facts to a grand conspiracy, and escalating the conspiracy, and assuming that anyone who criticizes him is part of the conspiracy until everyone except him and his small coterie of followers--

Question: How long will he keep it up?

Epstein: Well, I think he'll keep it up as long as he can. I think it's possible that a federal court looking into his investigation might find that there's no substance, that he's invented a good deal of evidence--that's what I found--and they might, uh--

Question: Do you think he --- invented evidence?

Epstein: Oh, yeah, yeah, he did--well, evidence was invented, I mean, a telephone code which couldn't conceivably, I don't want to go into it, it's all flimflammy and when he got all done it turned out that it was impossible for it to be a telephone code, which he said it was. And a library card that materializes with Clay Shaw's address on it, after the time when Clay Shaw was arrested, and no stamp on it, on the library card. I'm not saying that he invented this evidence himself, but I think that a federal judge might find this and I think there's a good possibility that the case might be thrown out of court.

Question: Thank you, Mr. Epstein.

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Question: Thank you, Mr. Epstein.