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WHO IS REALLY ALERT?

Are Religious Leaders Complacent On Issues?

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Let's play a little guessing game . . . !

With the permission of the author and publisher, I'm going to quote a recent editorial. Then I'd like for you to guess the name of the magazine in which it appeared.

"The Warren Commission definitely established that Lee Harvey Oswald purchased the weapons used to murder President Kennedy and officer J. D. Tippit through mail-order houses using a fictitious name.

"So, on the second anniversary of the assassination of President Kennedy, a Paterson, N.J. newspaper observed that tragic event by making a mail-order purchase of a pistol similar to the one used to murder Tippit. Delivery of the weapon was made without any question being asked, despite the fact it was ordered in the name of 'L. H. Oswald,' the man accused of the president's and Tippit's deaths.



Dr. Garrison

"For two years Congress has refused to do anything about tightening controls over mail-order sale of firearms. The above demonstrations show how easily any juvenile, hoodlum or unbalanced person can obtain a deadly weapon even using a fictitious name that should create suspicion.

"It seems to us that it is about time Congress did something to stop mail-order gun sales once and for all."

So much for the editorial crusade. Now try to see if you can select the proper magazine from the list of some in which this warning might have ap-

peared:

- Presidio
- Baptist Leader
- Emmanuel
- Our Sunday Visitor
- The Sunday School Times

Give yourself 100 per cent and a pat on the back if you selected the unfamiliar title that heads this list.

I saw this magazine for the first time recently, when the editor wrote me asking for permission to reprint an article of mine. Nothing about the cover suggested that Vol. 32,

No. 11, would prove unusually interesting. Like most magazines, it included a masthead that listed the editor, associate editor, circulation manager, staff writer and photographer.

But a bold-face message just above the routine postal notice made this explanation:

"Edited and published monthly by the men of the Iowa State Penitentiary at Fort Madison, Iowa."

Printed on slick paper and offering text and pictures comparable to contents of a good industrial magazine or house organ, Presidio offers 1,200 men who've been convicted of breaking the law an opportunity to air their views.

Many editors who work behind desks in offices which do not have bars on the windows have lifted their voices in favor of new legislation making it harder to buy guns and ammunition by mail. I don't recall having seen a thing on this subject in any religious magazine or paper.

Is it possible that most church folk (and executives of religious bodies) tend to be complacent about issues and

problems vital to men who've become alert to danger the hard way?