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Now that the definitive investigation of the CIA by outgoing, straightforward President Gerald R. Ford has established what the CIA really is - guilty of less than has been publicly proven against it and falsely charged with Original Sin - it is time to appreciate the little-known man who made it all possible.

David Belin has consistently described himself as an "independent lawyer" since he became one of the major counsel of the Warren Commission. He is as completely independent as one would expect the man to be who headed Lawyers for Nixon.

He is also impartial, although he does not make the claim in public. He is no less impartial than was his hero - until his hero's fall. And he is generous, too. Thus, those who are factually correct but in disagreement with him are merely "liars" if they are only young college students; all are no worse than "sensationalists."

He is of judicial temperament, which impels him to no more extreme a logic than that he is right because he says he is right, evidence being immaterial.

He is modest, which holds his self-representation down to flawlessness. He is, in fact, a genius. It is a measure of his true humility that he attributes to himself merely perfection.

In sooth, there are few if any lawyers who have been as little inhibited by either evidence or the lack of it.

It is to understate his due to say that without him there could have been no Warren Report, no lone alienated JFK assassin, no solution to "the crime of the century."

Without David Belin and his unique talents, the spirit of JFK could not rest in peace.

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And so it was that the man who ended the White House desecration of cottage cheese with catsup by replacing it with A-1 sauce, the world's best-known toaster of English muffins, turned to David Belin and him alone to save us from the mindless persecution of the CIA.

Without David Belin, the humble Des Moines lawyer, there would be no appreciation of how minor are the offenses of the CIA against the law. These acts of true patriotism, ranging from assassination to the overthrow of democratically elected governments, must be measured against the CIA's services to mankind and man's freedom, Not just ours. The world's.

There was Mossadegh and oil.

Arbenz and bananas.

And Allende.

One shudders to consider what would have happened to the world's supply and the cost of energy to United Fruit, to ITT and Anaconda, if all these tyrants had not been offed.

Can one imagine a world at peace if Guyana can elect a Cheddi Jagan or Cambodia a Souvanna Phouma?

Could there have been a Mayaguez incident or those three-score dead Marines tribute to it?

Could we have saved the Vietnamese of the South from the terror of the North?

Or Cuba from Castro?

With this noble tradition to preserve, it was only natural for our glorious first unelected leader - whether he was toasting a muffin or shaking the bottle of sauce over the cheese is immaterial because it was before he started swapping two dead Marines for each live and unendangered civilian sailor - to reach back a

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decade in his moment of crisis.

Only David Belin (aka Dick Daring) could save us from the dire consequences of telling the whole truth about the CIA and having it believed.

When Gerald Ford became a member of the Warren Commission, he distinguished himself as the only one of those seven with the imagination to put a former campaign manager on the public payroll for the sole purpose of making an honest buck out of it. (John R. Stiles is again on the same teat, now sucking from the White House and making six-figure deals with MGM and CBS.) Ford then saved all of history and the CIA by taking a TOP SECRET Warren Commission transcript and selling it commercially. In a further dedication to the real truth and the sanctity of society, he thereupon edited out of this TOP SECRET transcript - careful at the same time to represent that he had made no changes at all - every single word that could engender doubts about the hallowed CIA.

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Like the former Chief Spook Allen Dulles' dictum that they all consider perjury the highest manifestation of patriotism; and that when caught they frame each other.

International banker/Commissioner John J. McCloy's observation, "I have run into some awfully stupid agents ... very limited mentalities both in the CIA and the FBI," following which the transcript shows "(Laughter)."

And the agreement of Chairman/Chief Justice Earl Warren, Senator/CIA "oversight" chairman Richard Russell and Dulles himself ("Terribly bad characters").

Without these credentials can it be believed that Gerald Ford could have met Richard Nixon's standards for the nation's first un-

elected President? Could anyone but the man who tried to impeach Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas have fully understood David Belin's rare talents when the nation tottered on the edge of disaster when the CIA was exposed?

Belin described his own Warren Commission role in a New York Times article tastefully timed to appear on the eighth anniversary of the JFK assassination. (He is consistent. His book, You Are the Jury, appeared on the 10th, published by the Times' Quadrangle subsidiary. This helps make everyone else a "sensationalist.")

"Together with the distinguished California attorney Joseph A. Ball," Belin wrote, "we concentrated on what we called 'Area II': The determination of who was the assassin of President Kennedy."

This was not the tough part, it having been decided before there was a Warren Commission. The decision was J. Edgar Hoover's. It is recorded on another formerly TOP SECRET Warren Commission executive session transcript, that of January 22, 1964. With the help of the Freedom of Information law, Jim Lesar, Paul Hoch and I rescued it from 11 years of undeserved oblivion. Ford was one of the witting members.

Before Belin got into it, when there was faith in those classification stamps and no belief that there would be a persistent devil loving scripture like me coming along, Warren told his colleagues that the FBI and Hoover "would like to have us fold up and quit."

The man who then was what Belin became to Rockefeller, former Solicitor General J. Lee Rankin, amplified this:

"They have found their man. There is nothing to do. The Commission supports their conclusions, and we can go home and that is the end of it."

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Nor was the tough part what Dulles then recommended, "I think this record ought to be destroyed."

Except for the stenotypist's tape it was.

Belin seems to have found it difficult to identify himself as a Nixonian and his partner Ball as a liberal Democrat, but this also was not the really hard part.

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"In a sense," Belin's Times commemoration continues, "the Rosetta Stone to the solution of President Kennedy's murder is the murder of Officer [J. D., standing for J. D.] Tippit. It strikes at the heart of the assassination sensationalists who seek to prove that Oswald was in some way 'framed.'"

This was the hard part. The evidence and the nonexisting evidence would have daunted lesser spirits than this Belin-Ball combination.

What tested the Belin Mettle and fettle was manufacturing evidence when it did not exist and suppressing it where it did.

Nobody - but nobody - knew better than Ford that only Belin was up to this.

"The determination of who was the assassin of President Kennedy," meaning making credible the determination made before Belin's and Ball's appointments, covers much more than can be included in a magazine article.

The most essential of all proofs was putting the sole and already elected candidate for assassin at the scene of both crimes and thus able to commit them.

What made this so extraordinarily difficult is the overwhelming proof that in each case it was impossible.

Overwhelming and impossible for mere mortals, but not for

Belin, as Ford must have remembered.

Here is how Belin was Dick Daring for the Warren Commission as he was to be for Rockefeller's and Ford's.

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What will follow is a straight-faced, detailed account of how Belin actually faked evidence and suppressed and ignored both witnesses and evidence to permit the Report to say that Oswald was at the scene of both crimes when he was not and could not have been. Some of it is Kafkaesque, some ridiculous, some laughable. It will or can include facsimiles of proofs Belin had to and did ignore.

Much, were it not so grim, would be funny. Belin actually pulled several bad jokes with it, to be quoted. (Over his looking like the Tippit killer. Oswald did not.) Playing it straight, with direct quotes, permits facsimile use of the typescript of testimony for effect. Some is far-out enough to justify consideration of this approach.

Belin's own sanctimony after his own record will sharpen the point. He is a psychopath on this subject.

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