LETTERS TO THE EDITOR S-I 3/11/69

Dialogue Concerning Garrison Continues

Editor, States-Item:

Complacency and blame shifting was common among the mass murderers of Nazi Germany, which built human crematories, for the first time in history, murdering millions of people.

In your editorial of March 1, you suggested that Jim Garrison, the Orleans Parish district attorney, resign, because he is unfit to hold public office. I would add to your editorial, and further advocate the resignation of his assistants who are equally guilty of "persecuting" Clay Shaw, namely, assistant DAs Alcock, Oser, Sciambra, Alford, and Chief Assistant Charles Ray Ward.

As lawyers, these men should have acted, as did William Gurvich, Mr. Garrison's former chief investigator, in exposing Mr.. Garrison's probe as a fraud, and as lawyers, I believe, they are guilty of unethical conduct in their participation of the "persecution" of Clay Shaw.

EVELYNE FAVRE.

Gretna, La.

Editor, States-Item:

Your editorial which appeared on the front page of the March 1 edition was positively revolting. To say that, this man, the district attorney, perverted the law rather than prosecuted it, is too far-fetched to even imagine, and further to say your newspaper was unable to print what it desired about the case because of the guidelines set forth is more than I can bear. From the beginning of the trial right up to the end, the news media and press reported absolutely nothing more than the most slanted view of even the courtroom proceedings. . . .

MRS. M. ROUSSEAU.

Editor, States-Item:

I was certainly surprised over your editorial "Garrison Should Resign." You certainly know how to step on a man when he's down. Garrison might have been downed by the outcome of the trial on Clay Shaw, but he's not out.

Mr. Garrison didn't lose. He brought to focus several injustices of this country, and he enlightened many people on governmental evasiveness. Frankly, whether or not Mr. Shaw was guilty or innocent, in my mind, was secondary, but it seems as though Mr. Garrison got awfully close to some very touchy and hush-hush subjects on a national level. . . .

SHARLENE MYERS.

Editor, States-Item:

We have all been watching a circus. Only it was not a traveling show, it was right here in our nice city . . . Now would Mr. Garrison be kind enough to tell the good people of our city just what was the cost, and how much of the city and state's money was used on this hoax. . . .

L.

Greenwich, Conn.

Editor, States-Item:

The New York Times of March 2 reprints your front-page editorial calling for the resignation of Jim Garrison.

My only knowledge of the case comes from reading the newspapers, but I am convinced from the long record of this affair that it was a publicity-seeking stunt and a ridiculous trumped-up affair from the start. It represented an attempted perversion of justice.

Fortunately, the final results of the court trial were correct. But I do not think that Mr. Garrison ought to remain in an office for which he obviously is unqualified, nor that the city of New Orleans should be tarnished any longer by this weird affair.

As to the innocent victims, what recompense can be made for their lost time and suffering?

JAMES A. HOWE.

Harvey, La.

Editor, States-Item:

Why should Mr. Garrison resign? Has he really abused his power?

You said in your editorial of March 1 that Mr. Garrison's case was "built upon the quicksands of unreliability," but I recall that an impartial Grand Jury indicted Mr. Shaw. I believe your editorial was "built upon the quicksands of unreliability" also.

If Mr. Shaw is truly innocent, his name will be not worse off than yours. Furthermore, why should Mr. Garrison "be brought to the bar"? His conduct was no more than any other district attorney in any other case, except for the news which was irresponsibly related to it. . .

CAROLE ORGERON.

San Diego, Calif.

Editor, States-Item:

Now that District Attorney Jim Garrison has lost his case, it seems as though he is to be thrown to the lions. I would like to suggest that many more questions were raised than were answered in regard to the Warren Report . . .

It is time for many more Americans to do their homework in regard to reading the Warren Report. After they read it, I believe they will draw some surprising conclusions . . .

C. RAYMOND.

Detroit, Mich.

Editor, States-Item:

If I am not mistaken, at one time, Mr. Garrison said something to the effect that if he

could not prove Mr. Shaw guilty, he would resign or should be kicked out of office. That time has come.

The 12 jurors who saw through Mr. Garrison's mockery of justice have cleared the good name of the decent people of New Orleans. Now it is up to the proper authorities to remove him from office or for the voters of New Orleans to demand his recall.

He has indulged in character assassination of an innocent man. Now he has the gall to continue his irresponsible personal vendetta against Mr. Shaw. . .

Mr. Shaw ought to have the right to sue Mr. Garrison so that he can recover the money he has spent protecting himself from the unwarranted charges of Mr. Garrison. . .

FREDERICK W. THOMPSON.

Editor, States-Item:

I believe Jim Garrison should resign. He has given our beloved city of New Orleans and the state of Louisiana a black eye. The late President John F. Kennedy has been dead for almost six years. Why not let the man rest in peace. . .

In my opinion, Mr. Garrison hasn't proven a thing. I believe it would be a wise decision for Mr. Garrison to resign.

SAM J. PIZZUTO.

Alpine, Tex.

Editor, States-Item:

In response to your recent action concerning the Shaw case and afterward the request for the resignation of Mr. Garrison:

To say the least, your action reflects gross amounts of extremely poor taste. In my opinion, a newspaper should report the news, not act as a political media. Whether or not Mr. Garrison should resign is certainly not the concern of your paper. In what area are you qualified to make such judgments? Your tendency to jump on the Shaw bandwagon is deplorable and your total ignorance is unbelievable.

RANDY JACKSON.

San Diego, Calif.

Editor, States-Item:

Stop attacking Jim Garrison and start helping him find out who killled Kennedy.

E. MURRAY.

Editor, States-Item:

The Orleans Parish Grand Jury apparently thought that the district attorney was doing his job. They indicted Clay Shaw.

Your editorial dated March 1, where you attempted to condemn Mr. Garrison, was uncalled for. It would please me more if the news media would report more and editorialize less.

J. A. RUSSO JR.