

THE GLASS-HOUSE TAPES.

Donald Freed and the CRIC (Citizens Research and Investigative Committee).
Avon, \$1.75

How to evaluate the attention this curious book merits is something of a problem. It is built around the taped "confessions" of a black Californian named Louis E. Tackwood who worked as a spy and informer for the police and the FBI (the L.A. police intelligence headquarters is known as "The Glass House"). This "Committee" of radical lawyers and politically aware people worked long and hard with Tackwood after he defected (apparently) and began to feed them some shocking revelations about official activity. Yet Tackwood is a known liar; to slough this off as this book does at one

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point: "He lies, we advertise; he steals, we 'write off'; he informs, we commit the crime of silence. . ." is irresponsible rhetoric. If Tackwood has accurate information and is telling the truth about events ranging from the California troubles of George Jackson and Angela Davis to Jim Garrison and the JFK assassination investigations to Ellsberg and the Watergate, this is an important book. But if he is lying—and all the efforts of the team do not make it clear that he is not—this is worthless. *Special promotion in California involving the participation of Los Angeles radio station KPFK, press conferences with authors and with Tackwood.* [September]