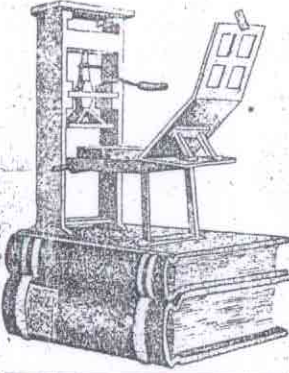


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NEW LIGHT ON JFK ASSASSINATION

An investigation of more than two years under the auspices of Reader's Digest culminates today with the publication of a sensational, highly controversial exposé: *Legend: The Secret World of Lee Harvey Oswald* by Edward Jay Epstein (Reader's Digest Press/McGraw-Hill, \$12.95).

According to this thoroughly documented work, the C.I.A. and the F.B.I. successfully covered up the mystery of a crucial period in Oswald's life, when he had access to secret information of the highest priority from the Soviet Union.

New Book News

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What the Warren Commission, the press, and the public accepted as proven fact is denounced by Epstein as a "legend" -- a cover story fabricated by the Soviet secret service (KGB) and skillfully fed to the U.S. intelligence community.

Leading the reader through a shadow world of spies, double agents and intelligence agencies, the author further reaches the startling conclusion that at one of the most perilous moments in world history, the interests of the KGB and the FBI "became strangely intertwined."

A Soviet defector who claimed to know more about Oswald's life in Russia than any other man alive was never questioned by the Warren Commission although he was in the hands of the C.I.A. during the Commission's hearings, Epstein reveals. He specifies that the decision not to question the defector was made following a secret meeting in June, 1964, between Richard M. Helms, then C.I.A. Deputy Director of Plans, and Chief Justice Earl Warren.

In turn, according to Epstein, it was J. Edgar Hoover's interest to stifle the same defector because his revelations about a tie-in between Oswald and the KGB would expose a destructive skeleton in the F.B.I.'s own closet: "what Hoover's private investigation, ten days after the assassination, had characterized as the 'gross incompetence' of the F.B.I.'s handling of Oswald on his return from Russia."

Commissioned by the editors of the Reader's Digest, Edward Jay Epstein interviewed more than 400 people, many not approached by the Warren Commission, and studied more than 10,000 pages of previously classified documents, shedding new light on one of the most perturbing intelligence cases of modern history.

The author's previous books include *Inquest: The Warren Commission and the Establishment of Truth*, *News from Nowhere*, and *Agency of Fear*.

