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\$2 Million Libel

Marin Man Sues The New Yorker

A Mill Valley writer sued The New Yorker magazine for \$2 million yesterday, charging that he was libeled in an article on New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison.

William W. Turner, 41, a contributing editor of Ram-parts magazine and a former FBI agent, said the story falsely and maliciously portrayed his role in Garrison's "conspiracy" investigation in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Turner's suit, filed in Marin county Superior Court, said the libel, injuring his professional reputation, occurred in a "Reporter at Large" article written by Edward Jay Epstein and published July 13, 1968.

DEFENDANTS

Epstein and the publisher of The New Yorker were named co-defendants.

The article said that Garrison at one stage in his search for assassination clues "reinforced his permanent staff with volunteer recruits from a growing corps of critics of the Warren Commission."

Among such "volunteers," Epstein wrote, were Turner and Mark Lane, author of "Rush to Judgment," a book blasting the Warren Commission's findings in the assassination.

Turner said the article

falsely conveyed, among other things, the notion that he "is a poor and incomplete investigator willing to take or recommend impetuous action based on his own prejudices and incomplete or unreliable information."

Turner, who lives at 925 Vernal avenue, Mill Valley, asked \$1 million general damages and \$1 million punitive damages.

He is the author of two books, "The Police Establishment" and "Invisible Witness: The Use and Abuse of the New Technology of Crime Investigation." Last year he was an unsuccessful candidate for Congress in the Sixth District.