

Jim And His Judases

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New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison has had to suffer more than his share of Judases since he dared to question the correctness of the Warren Commission Report. Garrison talks frankly, on the assumption that the newsmen are honest. He has been mal-treated by Life, Newsweek, Time, the Los Angeles Times, NBC, ABC, and now the New Yorker. Some of the reporters cannot come back to Louisiana since they now have criminal charges against them as a result of their activities against Garrison which include attempted bribery and threats against certain witnesses.

Latest to have his say in the sophisticated magazine, The New Yorker, is Edward Jay Epstein, author of Inquest. Epstein took one peek inside Pandora's box, wrote a good book, and has been running scared from his book ever since its publication.

Jim Garrison is a brilliant attorney who still remembers America as a democracy. He still believes in that American dream. If the American press were honest it would seek in every way to see that Garrison had his day in court. The press could do this by helping bring pressure on three Governors to extradite criminals to the proper jurisdiction. If Garrison then falls on his face, then and only then is the time for the press to laugh.

Garrison got grand jury indictments to back his charges. Garrison has had only one trial—Dean Andrews—which ended in a conviction of Andrews. So the Establishment must use every means at its command to see that Garrison does not get another day in court. Epstein, like other lackeys, are used to publish repudiations of earlier works in an effort to destroy the work of Garrison.

The last paragraph of Epstein's book reads: "Why did the Commission fail to take cognizance in its conclusions of this evidence of a second assassination? Quite clearly a serious discussion of this problem would in itself have undermined the dominant purpose of the Commission, namely, the settling of doubts and suspicions. Indeed, if the Commission had made it clear that every substantial evidence indicated the presence of a second assassination, it would have opened a Pandora's box of doubts and suspicions. In establishing its version of the truth, the Warren Commission acted to reassure the nation and protect the national interest."

There are some people in this nation who feel that honesty and truth are the best protection for a democracy. Clearly Epstein is not in this elite group.

One of Epstein's gleeful sentences in the New Yorker Magazine reads: "As in a speech he (Garrison) gave last December in New Mexico jocularly entitled 'The Rise of the Fourth Reich, or How to Conceal the Truth About an Assassination Without Really Trying . . .'" This is not jocular to me, nor do we feel Jim meant it to be funny. Apparently it is funny to Epstein.

It becomes more understandable to us now how Germany went the way it did under Hitler. This nation seems to be begging for a police state with the so-called "free press at the head of the cheering section.