

make it entirely on their own. I think the Paddock brothers have a good deal to offer, but they need help. Maybe you and I should give them a hand.

—MEDFORD EVANS

Plot or Politics?—The Garrison Case and Its Cast

by ROSEMARY JAMES & JACK WARDLAW. Pelican Publishing House, New Orleans, Louisiana; 167 pages, paperback \$1.75.

As a FRONTISPIECE, this tentative little volume reproduces a cartoon from the *Washington Post* by Herblock, which depicts the authors with typical malice to laugh at their revolutionary accusations against the establishment made early this year in New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's case. Authors Rosemary James and Jack Wardlaw, reporters for the *States-Louisiana Times-Picayune* (it's all New Orleans property), protest their own involvement. I should say in all good conscience that they who last February published the majority of Garrison's investigation are not pro-Garrison. On the other hand, the forces which Garrison is challenging would have preferred that this thing never see the light of day—so Wardlaw and James are not haters anti-Garrison.

They did let themselves be maneuvered into one bit of bias: they subtitled their book "The Garrison Case" when it is not really the Garrison case at all. It is the Clay Shaw case—Shaw is the man Garrison has had indicted for conspiracy to murder the late President Kennedy. This is, then, a chapter in The Kennedy Case. Most profoundly for the future, it is from the point of view of the public interest The Case of the Warren Commission. The Warren Commission represents the ruling Establishment of this nation at the

highest level. Interestingly enough, it includes in its membership U.S. Representative Hale Boggs of New Orleans, House Majority Whip and buddy of L.B.J. ~~It is the Report of the Warren Commission which makes the Johnson Administration legitimate.~~ And Jim Garrison gives the Warren Commission the lie direct.

So vital to the Establishment is defense of the verdict of the Warren Commission that *Life* magazine even risked giving political aid and comfort to arch-segregationist U.S. Representative John Rarick, who keeps in fighting trim by running for Governor of Louisiana in an off year for Congressional elections. Rarick, a native of Indiana, has lived in Louisiana for years and was a Judge in "the Florida parishes" till last year he surprisingly knocked off twenty-year incumbent J. H. Morrisson for the 6th District's seat in Congress. Unlike some "Conservatives," Rarick got more not less zealous on the Right after he went to Washington, and is a great favorite with reactionaries and other loyal Americans from Baton Rouge to Bogalusa. Combining as he does attractive features usually associated with Joe McCarthy, Jim Eastland, and George Wallace, John Rarick would normally be anathema to *Life*—infinitely more obnoxious than the comparatively moderate incumbent Governor John McKeithen.

Well, never mind that! McKeithen has said that Garrison should be allowed to continue his investigation. He is the present Governor of the Garrison state. The Ku Klux we have with us always. Rarick is a power to be reckoned with at some future time. What must—at all costs—be done now is to stop Garrison. More fundamentally, what must be done is to root out heresy against the Warren Commission. ~~For the Report of the Warren Commission is the basis of power in America today.~~ Accordingly, in September, *Life* went all out to get McKeithen—and Garri-

The gambit was to impure to these Louisiana officials involvement in the "worldwide activities of Cosa Nostra" (it says Charles Marcello).

For all the *Life* changes, McKeehen and Garrison have drinks. It's hard for Garrison to care very much. Let's face it: Garrison is a New Orleans boy with a warehouse and gambler? They've all been there. And *Life* never cared where Garrison field raid Bourbon Street or take payoffs, and *Life* couldn't resist. But when this daredevil D.A. says that there was a *conspiracy* to assassinate Kennedy—above all, when it says that Kennedy's death was actually as though the guy has actually in some evidence—then it is time to move. The underpinnings of the Establishment are not to be threatened with impunity.

So tremendous are the odds against Garrison in any computation of visible power that authors James and Ward wonder out loud whether the D.A. is actually crazy. "It would seem incredible," they write, "that Garrison could risk destroying himself on a unisexotic venture unless he had some confidence in the outcome, and he expresses self-confidence.

"It would seem incredible, that is, if the D.A. is in his right mind. Could it be that this highly intelligent man, ever the stable sort, has been hurried into his case into a maze of mental confusion that has finally alienated him from reality? It's a theory that gives one a shiver to in some places.

"The flaw in the Garrison is surrogates, the same set of fears and ambitions close to the site embarked on a dissertation to ask why he lied."

At this point the reader may object, *Oh, but I thought one of them was William Gurvich!* That would be thinking about James and

Wardlaw tell you something about him. "William Gurvich, head of a private detective agency, was a prominent figure in the probe. He thought Garrison conspirator. Clavel's nephew, on Jan. 22, it was reported that he had met with U.S. Sen. Robert F. Kennedy or New York, the late President's brother, and told him the content of the probe was a hoax." Gurvich said later he did not call the probe a hoax, saying "I would like to call it a hoax and another to say there's nothing to it."

"Gurvich returned to New Orleans and went before the grand jury in an effort to get the charges against Shaw dismissed. The jury heard him and did not act."

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"Gurvich said there was no basis for the charges against Shaw or for the probe in general. (He had told *Night* reporters the exact opposite only a few weeks earlier.)

Gurvich, as James and Ward write, was clear, was not at all getting into Garrison. He had no idea how the investigator who would go on to become a time on the way to the

anti-Castro Cubans, with collaboration from the C.I.A., and possibly the F.B.I., killed Kennedy, rather as revenge for his allegedly selling out Free Cuba in the Bay of Pigs and in the "missile confrontation" with Khrushchev in October 1962. Well, the C.I.A. is thought to have been pretty much in charge of the Bay of Pigs fiasco. The head of C.I.A. at that time was Allen Dulles, later a member of the Warren Commission. It doesn't seem too likely that his success would have collaborated with Cubans enraged over the Bay of Pigs. It doesn't seem too likely, either, that Jim Garrison is going to come up with the last word in explanation of the murder of Kennedy—which some of us suspect to have been an internal affair of the Establishment Left, an affair from which the New Left and all varieties of the Right were excluded, an affair which only the insiders really understand.

But, wide of the mark as Garrison's speculation of the crime may be, he was right in his sense of direction. He has checked out on the Warren Commission. He has heard the Commission's Report and he knows the truth is in it. He has heard the Warren Commission's Report and he knows the truth is in it.

But if the Commission is deliberately lying, it is protecting someone—and it knows whom it is protecting, for this Commission is not ignorant and is not stupid. The Warren Commission would not do that for anti-Castro Cubans. It would not do it for anybody or anything except for the ruling Establishment, of which it is a part.

MURPHY EVANS

~~Know the truth is this matter~~: It has simply too much expertise on tap not to know. Now from that it follows that either the Report of the Warren Commission is correct, and Lee Harvey Oswald, alone and unaided, assassinated the President of the United States in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963—or else Warren Commission ~~is~~ **liar**.

~~The Warren Commission is no collection of fools~~: There is no hanging about its Report. That Report is expert and dogmatic. It is either the truth or an audacious lie. Many, many people of all shades of political opinion—Far Left to Far Right and everything in between—are now convinced that the Report of the Warren Commission is not the truth.

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