

WXP^{ost} JUN 16 1975

The CIA Report

If the Rockefeller Commission had been the judges in the case of State v. Bluebeard, their decision might have read as follows: The defendant is charged with, and has confessed, murdering one wife after another. These acts, while illegal and subject to criticism, should be viewed in proper perspective. The defendant must be judged on his whole record, and not on a few isolated overreactions to external pressures. Our review of Bluebeard's life shows that the great majority of his actions fully complied with the law. There is no evidence that he ever robbed, raped, cheated, or lied. A court of justice cannot condemn a man whose conduct has otherwise been so exemplary. The defendant is admonished to go and kill no more wives. Case dismissed.

Philip Elman

Washington.

Same letter, NYT 19 Jun 75