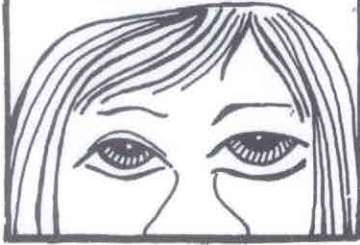


# Looking Out

Elliot Mintz



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Both Mark Lane and Mort Sahl told me that they didn't think that the Jim Garrison case against Clay Shaw would ever get to trial. Both of them told me that the Federal Govt. would stop at nothing to prevent the American people from knowing who murdered their President.

I didn't believe them. I couldn't. Perhaps it was my political naivete or simply my basic faith in the complex, transparent, machinery that points men in the direction of the pursuit of truth.

Whatever it was, I was a believer. When Jim Garrison declared on February 18th, 1967 that he had cracked the case, I never really gave it much thought. But as the months went by, and the opposition to his work increased; as the number of living witnesses and sources of information disappeared; as the unprecedented attacks upon his office from the press increased, I became curious.

My curiosity led to careful, serious investigation into the mountains of material available to those who are still interested.

And it would take 500 New Yorker stories by Edward Erskin to convince me that Garrison is an irresponsible, headline seeking, fanatic whose case has no basis in actual fact.

If Jim Garrison had nothing why would so many work as hard to see to it that his nothingness is ever presented in a court of law?

Why could Clay Shaw's attorneys be receiving upwards of \$75,000 from the United States Central Intelligence Agency to keep Mr. Shaw out of court?

Why would the federal government establish a legal precedent of interfering with a states case before the prosecuting attorney has an opportunity to present his evidence?

Why the attacks in the press? Why the 25,000 word piece in the New Yorker so close to the date

that trial was to have begun? Why the suppression of Lane's new book?

Why the T.V. attacks on the District Attorney of a major city?

Why did 5 dozen people related to this case in one way or another find themselves dead for reasons other than old age?

I could go on, but it's all part of public record anyway. It was all there for you to see long before this most recent court decision which granted another injunction against Garrison, pending an appeal by Shaw to the United States Supreme Court.

By the way, if Abe Fortas is not seated, which at this stage of the trip, seems unlikely, it is most probable that Earl Warren will hang in for another four years.

If he remains Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the entire case concerning the murder of Kennedy will have made a complete circle. From the Warren Report back to the Supreme Court. And the question before that austere body of elderly scholars, will be whether or not, Garrison should be allowed to go into a court of law and not only destroy the findings of the Warren Commission report, but also to prove that the CIA along with the help of some other concerned Americans, murdered President Kennedy.

Well, it is unlikely that the Supreme Court will even decide whether or not they wish to hear the arguments in this matter for at least six months and by then, most of the folks will have forgotten who Clay Shaw or Edgar Eugene Bradley or Hall or Howard or Thornley or Ferrie or any of the others are.

I now no longer believe that the case will ever get to court. I would urge Jim Garrison to write a detailed account of the entire plot and make the book available to all news sources. Obviously it would not appear in the Citizen News, but enough people in this country now read the various underground papers to warrant such a move. The European press has always been favorable to Garrison and would welcome such information.

Garrison should open himself up to a joint slander, libel, defamation of character, etc. suit. And if any of the people named are that up-tight about the revelation, THEY should try to get Garrison to court. I would urge each of you to write to him and express your sentiments if you agree with my position. His address is Jim Garrison, 2700 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70119.....

FLASHED: Our first gathering at the TROUBADOUR last Sunday

was very successful. We had over 300 people pack the Troubadour and expect a groovy turnout this Sunday too. If you have nothing to do Sunday afternoon between the hours of 3:30 and 6 PM, join us. We rap and occasionally listen to a folk singer or two. There might be some chanting going on or whatever. Admission is \$1 plus a one item minimum with part of the proceeds going to support KPFK. It's a good place to meet new people. No age restrictions and groovy vibes.....

.....The album of the week award goes to DAVID ACKLES. It's his first and it's on ELECTRA. Produced by David Anderle (who makes nice records) and Russ Miller (who I don't know), the album is soft, rainy Sunday afternoon music. Ackles did the words and music to all of the songs. The music reflects something which is both very much now as well as a subtle flashback through the caverns of one's not to distant past. Anyone's past. It's a nice record..... PHIL OCHS has finally put out a songbook. It's a 96 page collection of everything from the early Ochs to THE WAR IS OVER. Great Ron Cobb cartoons and interviews and stuff, make the thing more than a songbook. (Barricade Music, Inc. N.Y., N.Y. \$3.96).... Check out UNDERGROUND SUNSHINE. It's an all night music program on KMET FM (97.4), hosted by Al 'Jazzbe' Collins. That's 50,000 watts worth of stereo head music all night long..

.....Les Crane has returned from vacation and is now taping T.V. shows again at KTTV. For program info and taping times, call Channel 11.....According to the new REALIST, everything is on for the YIPPIE festival in Chicago for the week of Aug. 25-30. The new REALIST also featured a detailed account of the LeRoi Jones 'association' with Tony Imperiale (North Ward Citizens group) which created such a hassel in the underground press a month or so ago.....As we go to press, word reaches us that the Diggers Creative Society has been evicted from 1338 N. Highland Ave. Funds, food, energy, and help of all kinds are desperately needed. A special emergency number has been set up: 665-6392. If that one is disconnected call Freep or KPFK for new number.....Herb Reeds: DO IT NOW FOUNDATION is actively engaged in a program to inform young people of the serious dangers of SPEED. His group is putting together an informative educational type film which is hip in its presentation, and features filmed interviews with teenage speed freaks. KRLA has offered to run some free Anti-Speed Spots as a public service to the community.....