

Throughout his book, Bennis asserts that “to express yourself fully . . . is the most basic human drive.” The manner in which he makes this assertion leads one to conclude that it is relatively unimportant what one stands for, provided one fully expresses it. Is this not the narcissism of the sixties, seventies, and eighties that Bennis has deplored at the beginning of his book? Are not his esteemed Hollywood types typical of the social engineers that steered our culture in that direction?

Let’s consider the question of culture. For years, *EIR* has contended that culture is the real battlefield of history. Bennis is clearly aware of its importance. But from what rich cultural heritage do Bennis and his leaders draw their inspiration? Among others, they invoke Wallace Stevens, Oscar Wilde, Luis Buñuel, Pablo Picasso, John Lennon, and the Andy Griffith Show. As if to hint that he knows better, Bennis coyly mentions Socrates and Plato, but does not quote them. He also promotes Norman Lear’s curiously topsy-turvy conception of culture: “I think that where the greatest impact on the culture might have been, in other times, the church, education, the family, the greatest impact now is business.” And elsewhere in the book Bennis reminds us: “To those of you who would argue that [culture] is shaped by the media I would answer—as television producer Norman Lear does—that even television is shaped by business.” But before we consider what these gentlemen may actually mean when they refer to “business,” here is one other quote from Professor Bennis, the clearest statement of intent in the book: “The leaders of the future will be those who take the next step—to change the culture. To reprise Kurt Lewin, it is through changing something that one truly comes to understand it.”

Who is Kurt Lewin? Bennis’s book tells us nothing beyond the quote. But *EIR* readers may recognize Lewin’s name as that of the chief theoretician of the London Tavistock Institute, the man upon whose theories the psychological warfare battles of World War II were fought, and the organizer of the key Tavistock spinoff institutions in the United States, whose influence and methodology rapidly penetrated all levels of government, as well as the media and major corporations during the postwar period. Two key institutions that function as part of the resulting network are the Aspen Institute of Humanistic Studies and the Association for Humanistic Psychology; Warren Bennis has been closely associated with both. The legacy of Kurt Lewin is the employment of “crisis management” techniques, the creation of a “controlled environment” where groups and individuals can be induced to alter, not merely their behavior, but their sense of identity. Marilyn Ferguson’s best-selling public relations write-up of these methods, entitled *The Aquarian Conspiracy*, refers to this as “paradigm shift.”

Consequently, when Professor Bennis talks of changing the culture, we should probably take him seriously. However, unlike Marilyn Ferguson (who, like Bennis, has served

on the board of the Association for Humanistic Psychology), Bennis is not especially candid about in what direction he wishes to change it. Bennis does clearly believe that an intervention into the business community can produce the desired results. Businessmen, be advised.

## Flawed, but on the right track

by Bob Trout

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### **On the Trail of the Assassins**

by Jim Garrison

Sheridan Square Press, New York, 1988

342 pages, hardbound, \$19.95.

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On November 22, 1963, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated, in one of many assassinations of American Presidents. With his death the commitment of the United States to an aggressive program to develop the technology to go to the Moon and beyond also died and the United States began its descent into a post-industrial economic ruin which has brought the same nation that 20 years ago set foot on the Moon beyond the brink of financial collapse.

Jim Garrison wrote *On the Trail of the Assassins* two decades after he brought Clay Shaw to trial unsuccessfully for conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy. The book describes how members of the jury found Shaw innocent, although every member of the jury stated afterward that they agreed that Garrison had established that President Kennedy had been killed as the result of a conspiracy. In the 20 years since Garrison’s case, the “lone assassin” theory lies in a shambles. Jim Garrison, the District Attorney of New Orleans, initially accepted the results of the FBI and Warren Commission investigation, that a “crazy, lone assassin” had killed President Kennedy. In the autumn of 1966, Garrison was shocked when Sen. Russell Long told him, “Those fellows of the Warren Commission were dead wrong. There is no way in the world that one man could have shot up Jack Kennedy that way.” Garrison launched an investigation into the Warren Commission report and the Kennedy assassination.

He found the commission’s report neither thorough nor professional. Numerous witnesses had seen multiple snipers, especially on a grassy knoll in front of the President’s car. After the assassination, a number of people were arrested and questioned, yet no records or identification were kept of

any of these potential suspects. The assassination was filmed by Abraham Zapruder, and the film established that the three shots allegedly fired by Lee Harvey Oswald were separated by no more than 5.6 seconds. This rapid fire would be an impossible feat with the bolt action rifle which Oswald owned. Even the best government marksman never came close to matching Oswald's alleged shooting skills. Garrison states that the Warren Commission's explanation of how three shots fired from Oswald's position, above and behind Kennedy, caused the wounds that Kennedy and John Connally received, defied both the laws of physics and common sense.

Garrison then began an investigation of Oswald's stay in New Orleans during the summer of 1963. He discovered that Oswald had been supervised by Guy Bannister, a former high-ranking FBI agent and Clay Shaw, the president of the New Orleans International Trade Mart. He discovered later that Shaw was a board member of two international trading companies, Permindex and its half-brother the Centro Mondiale Commerciale. Guy Bannister was in the center of an operation to train anti-Castro Cubans to fight in CIA-sponsored attacks on Cuba. Garrison concludes that Oswald's highly visible pro-Castro activities were supervised by Bannister and Shaw to create an image of Oswald as "a dedicated and ostentatiously visible Communist" who was then used as the patsy, to be blamed for the assassination and then to be immediately killed.

Garrison tries to locate the controllers of the larger operation behind Bannister and Shaw by asking who and what agencies were necessary to carry out a successful coverup of the real assassins. Garrison rules out the mafia as the sponsor of the assassination, because the mafia had no way of arranging all the logistics and certainly no way of carrying out a coverup which included high-level figures in the intelligence community. However, he concludes that the sponsor of the assassination was the CIA "Cold War establishment." Garrison sees Clay Shaw's membership in Permindex as part of his CIA connection. Garrison argues that the assassination was a coup by the sponsors of the assassination to force a change in policies. "I believe that what happened at Dealey Plaza in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, was a coup d'état. I believe that it was instigated and planned long in advance by fanatical anti-Communists in the United States intelligence community; that it was carried out, most likely without official approval, by individuals in the CIA's covert operations apparatus and other extra-governmental collaborators, and covered up by like-minded individuals in the FBI, the Secret Service, the Dallas police department, and that its purpose was to stop Kennedy from seeking détente with the Soviet Union and Cuba and ending the Cold War."

### **'Dirty war' against Garrison**

Jim Garrison was forced from office by media slander and a very dirty operation by the Department of Justice and

Internal Revenue Service. The major news media ran a campaign of negative publicity and then had the gall to accuse him of being a publicity seeker. NBC was actively involved in trying to disrupt Garrison's investigation, including trying to force Garrison's witnesses to withdraw from the case and even to leave the state of Louisiana. In the late 1960s, the Internal Revenue Service deployed approximately 40 agents to build a case against Garrison. Although Garrison was found innocent in two trials, the negative publicity caused him to lose reelection. The investigation was also hindered by the mysterious deaths of numerous witnesses.

While Garrison correctly identifies a fundamental shift in the policies of the United States following Kennedy's death, he is not convincing in his explanation of who was behind this shift and how policies were changed. A closer look at Permindex is given in the book, *Dope, Inc.* The president of Permindex was Louis Mortimer Bloomfield. Bloomfield joined the British Special Operations Executive in 1938 and was deployed into the United States to supervise U.S. intelligence operations for the British. He was "retired" from an official position in British intelligence and created a nest of corporations which served as vehicles for SOE operations. He was a key adviser to the Bronfman family.

The financial and political networks behind Permindex are best described as "Dope, Inc." or the financial empire tied to the \$500-700 billion a year drug economy. The same networks have emerged as the key sponsors of the condominium agreements between the Anglo-American establishment in the West and the collapsing Russian empire.

The shift in policies over the last 25 years is far different from the shift from the Cold War which Garrison claims. The United States abandoned its aggressive space program, along with the benefits that the space program R&D conferred on the entire economy, and even more importantly on the outlook of cultural optimism that Americans had. The investment tax credit and government and other investment in scientific and technological progress, which gave the United States during the 1960s the highest rate of growth in modern history, was abandoned, and the United States slid deeper and deeper into a post-industrial economy. The Kennedy policy was replaced, first by Kissinger's geopolitical schemes to manage the decline of the West, and now, by the New Yalta schemes of the very Anglo-American establishment which was the ultimate sponsor of the assassination.

The networks behind Permindex, far from being a Cold War military establishment, are currently leading the mad dash to form a condominium agreement with the collapsing Russian empire. Edgar Bronfman's East-West Forum is lobbying for the repeal of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment so that the Soviet Union can gain Most Favored Nation trading status and can have access to U.S. technology for the Russian pre-war military buildup. If it seems strange that the networks which Garrison identifies as including old aristocrats and unrepentant Nazis would be the same networks now seeking

a condominium arrangement with Gorbachov, one need merely look at the alliance between openly Nazi drug traffickers and Communist terrorists that comprises what we know as “narco-terrorism.”

The assassins of President Kennedy must still be brought to justice. These same networks have tried to kill Lyndon LaRouche, who best represents the American System policies which the Kennedy assassination coup d'état aimed to stop. LaRouche has battled this secret government, not from a defensive standpoint, but by rallying his fellow citizens to reclaim their government and implement American System policies with projects such as a 40-year program to create a colony on Mars. Freeing LaRouche, who is currently jailed by the secret government, is the best blow any citizen can strike to bring JFK's assassins to justice.

Jim Garrison's book, despite its flawed concept of the “grand conspiracy” behind the assassination of John F. Kennedy, is still very much worth reading. Garrison was an able prosecutor and today is a highly respected state Supreme Court judge in Louisiana. The book's strength is its devastating and painstaking picking apart of the Warren Commission coverup. Though written 25 years after the fact, it stands as one of the most precise and useful exposés of the method of political coverup and how to dissect such a scheme. If Garrison's theories about the motives behind the assassination of JFK are a bit skewed, it would appear that this is for want of in-depth background on the major players, including those, like Lord Bertrand Russell, who rushed to Garrison's “defense” when he came under attack from NBC and others.

## British witchcraft in the Age of Thatcher

by Mark Burdman

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### **Persuasions of the Witch's Craft: Ritual Magic in Contemporary England**

by T.M. Luhrmann

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There has been no conclusive evidence that Margaret Thatcher is a practicing witch, although there is a substantial element of witchcraft in what is called “Thatcherism.” T.M. Luhrmann's *Persuasions of the Witch's Craft* gives evidence that, underlying the veneer of materialism and desire for gain that characterizes Mrs. Thatcher's middle-class base and the free-

market ideologies of “Thatcherism,” there is a maelstrom of fantasy life and irrationalism, channeled into membership in a wide range of oddball cults. Luhrmann's book is a “participant anthropologist” report on the British species which engages in worship of Pan, Isis, Thoth, Demeter, Ishtar, Astarte, the Kabbala, and other forms of paganism. “We invoked Thoth and Isis, visited Demeter's temple, watched Hephaestus at his forge, danced with the lords of light at the beginning of creation,” writes Luhrmann, in a book published in the year A.D. 1989.

With some notable exceptions, the subjects of her study are well-educated, middle-class individuals, exactly of the kind that the reader would suppose have benefited from the services-and-consumer boom of the Thatcher years.

One of Luhrmann's interlocutors, a certain “Peter,” is described as a “reasonably senior civil servant.” Among his “fantasies,” is to become “a sort of Merlin to a contemporary Arthur.” He tells Luhrmann: “Not perhaps to this one [Margaret Thatcher]. But a later one.” Luhrmann comments: “This is a striking fantasy.”

Margaret Thatcher, watch out!

Luhrmann takes on the task of explaining, from an anthropological-psychological standpoint, the process by which apparently normal, pedestrian individuals become witches, pagans, and magicians. Objectively, she is doing nothing more than trying to analyze how people are brainwashed, but subjectively, since she is so sympathetic to her witch and magician friends, the book could be read as an academic's “how-to” manual for creating witches.

Insofar as her explanations have any substance, they amount to little more than that grown-ups who become witches are regressing to their infantile selves. In a chapter entitled, “The ‘child within’: a portrait of the practitioners,” she confesses: “I felt that magical practice taught me to read again the way I had read books at the age of ten, with an uncritical absorption in the characters.”

Luhrmann is one of a growing breed of academic defenders of the occult. She explicitly whitewashes the Satanic, or Satanist, component of the groups and belief-structures she is reporting on. Satanic murders are “rare,” she says, echoing the prevailing line of the FBI. That might be more than coincidence; evidently, Luhrmann has become a consultant of sorts to investigative agencies.

On pages 96-97, she writes of “chaos magic,” a practice derived from the ideas of Aleister Crowley. A description of “chaos magic” belief is taken from a pamphlet circulated by the Sorcerer's Apprentice Press in Leeds, U.K.: “Energy is liberated when an individual breaks through rules of conditioning with some glorious act of disobedience or blasphemy. This energy strengthens the spirit and gives courage for further acts of insurrection. Put a brick through your television, explore sexualities which are unusual to you. Do something you normally feel to be revolting.” There are reportedly 6-10,000 “chaos magicians” in the U.K., she says, comment-