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Sidney B. Jacoby

Walter Gellhorn*

Sidney Jacoby was a student at Columbia Law School in 1936 when I first had the good fortune to become acquainted with him. Having already earned the doctorate in law in Germany, he brought to his study of the American legal system a well-informed awareness of diverse approaches to problems with which lawyers deal. This enabled him to contribute distinctively to discussions within the law school. He strongly impressed me as a man of superior intellectual quality, seriousness of purpose, and sterling character.

The decades that have passed since 1936 have provided much evidence that my initial judgments about Sidney Jacoby were indeed sound. His responsible work in federal governmental posts extended over a period of twenty-seven years. His public service has been followed by twenty years of distinguished academic accomplishment. His books and articles about litigation with the government have reflected broad practical experience coupled with superb analytical skills. His insights into foreign law have beenvaluably communicated in writing and in lecturing. His steadfast adherence to scholarly standards during periods when passionate impatience threatened their continuance provided a worthy example for all within the academic world.

In short, Professor Jacoby has been and is still an outstanding member of this country's legal profession. The ill wind that blew through Germany in his youth did indeed, in this instance, bring some good to America. I salute Sidney Jacoby for his past achievements and look forward with confidence to his continuing successes.

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