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February 24, 2006
Politics thru Film – Spring 2006
Big Jim McLain

John Wayne stars in the film Big Jim McLain.

In one of the worst movies ever made, John Wayne stars as Big Jim McLain who is an agent of the House UnAmerican Activities Committee during the Cold War. On a mission to root out the communist cell in Hawaii, Big Jim (affectionately referred to as '76') falls for a girl, bags a bunch of evil freedom and Jesus hating commie despots, and loses his best friend and partner to the cause. Big Jim McLain epitomizes the ridiculousness of the McCarthy Era and demonstrates the extremes American popular culture will unquestionably digest.