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McGeorge Bundy Points Out Author's Works

'Scholar' Hits Warren Report Critics

By RICHARD STARNES
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

An article published in a widely unread egghead journal has been cited in an attempt to stem the tide of criticism of the Warren Commission report on the assassination of President Kennedy.

The article appeared in the spring number of *The American Scholar*, a quarterly published by Phi Beta Kappa. It was written by John Kaplan, a professor of law at Stanford University. It attracted widespread attention only after McGeorge Bundy chided members of the American Society of Newspaper Editors here last week for ignoring the "fascinating" article because it appeared in "a learned journal, not a book or a column or a speech with headlines."

The article is a long, dispassionate analysis of the

series of books, pamphlets and magazine pieces that have brought the Warren Report under fire in the U.S. and abroad.

EARLY CRITICISM

In his article Mr. Kaplan dismissed early criticism of the Warren Commission findings (principally Thomas Buchanan's "Who Killed Kennedy" and Joachin Joesten's "Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy?" as "so inept that it is embarrassing to read them over." But he offers detailed refutation of five other books that have won wide circulation with varying theories seeking to cast doubt on the Commission report. They are: "Inquest," by Edward Epstein; "Rush to Judgment," by Mark Lane; "Whitewash," by Harold Weisberg; "The Oswald Affair," by Leo Sauvage; and "The Second Oswald," by Richard Popkin.

Mr. Kaplan accuses each of the authors of being guilty of the very offense they themselves have laid to the Warren Commission — offering highly selective, often distorted bits of evidence chosen to bolster a preconceived theory.

He goes to considerable lengths to defend the "single bullet" theory — the theory adopted by the Warren Commission to reconcile the multiplicity of wounds suffered by President Kennedy and Texas Gov. John Connolly with the generally assumed fact that Oswald had only time enough to fire two shots.

In commending the article to the ASNE, Mr. Bundy said much of the criticism of the Warren Commission "has turned around assertions about the path of one of the bullets that struck President Kennedy.

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