

DEC 17 1967

Warren Commission Gets Thorough Study

By RALPH J. HICHOK

ACCESSORIES AFTER THE FACT
Sylvia Meagher
Bobbs Merrin

Subtitled, "The Warren Commission, the Authorities and the Report," this book is the most exhaustive study so far of the contradictions involved in the Warren Report.

A year and a half ago Sylvia Meagher published a subject index to the report and its 26 volumes of hearings and exhibits — an index unaccountably omitted by the commission, and a great source of help to other researchers.

In the process she learned a great deal about the report, naturally, and came to the conclusion that the commission's conclusions were wrong, that the single-bullet theory was untenable and, along with it, the theory that Oswald was a lone assassin went out the window.

There is nothing new about that. Indeed, there is much here that has been said by other critics of the report.

But Mrs. Meagher has gone a good deal further into the report — and into certain critical interviews and reports cited but not included in the Hearings and Exhibits volumes — to substantiate her claims.

At times she seems to quibble, at other times to push a bit too far in her conclusions. But one cannot read this book without being shaken, if only because of the shoddy investigative techniques it

exposes, particularly on the part of the FBI.

She suggests that many key witnesses were dismissed from consideration because their evidence didn't jibe with certain pre-established conclusions; that others were cross-examined unfairly, while unreliable witnesses (Marina Oswald is the chief example) were treated with kid gloves; and that still others never even got the chance to testify before the commission.

Criticisms of the commission and the report, which seemed pretty well laid to rest just a short time ago, may well burst into new controversy with the publication of this well-documented study.