

# Melange: Assassinations, politics, madnes

**OFFICIAL EXPLANATIONS** of the assassinations of President John Kennedy, Sen. Robert Kennedy and the Rev. Martin Luther King, including other shocking crimes of the past two decades continue to be controversial. The controversies are the subject of three new widely-circulated paperback books:

**The Assassinations: Dallas and Beyond**, edited by Peter Dale Scott, Paul L. Hoch and Russell Stetler (Vintage, \$5.95). A collection of 26 essays critical in a variety of degrees of the handling of the recent cases of assassination.

**Accessories After the Fact: The Warren Commission, the Authorities and the Report**, by Sylvia Meagher (Vintage, \$5.95). Perhaps the most comprehensive indictment of the Warren Commission Report on the assassination of President Kennedy. The author is also a contributor to the collection listed first above.

**Government by Gunplay: Assassination Conspiracy Theories from Dallas to Today**, edited by Sid Blumenthal (Signet, \$1.50). A defense of the conspiracy theory in recent assassinations, contending that "the distinction between the informer and the terrorist is often blurred."

Other new books of special interest, in profile:

**The Secret Conversations of Henry Kissinger**, By Matti Golan (Quadrangle, \$8.95). An Israeli diplomatic correspondent, reporting on Secretary of State Kissinger's step-by-step diplomacy in the Middle East, accuses him of bad faith in the negotiations and the breaking of pledges to Israel. A State Department spokesman has said that Secretary Kissinger has not read and



Matti Golan

does not intend to read the book.

**Business Civilization in Decline**, by Robert L. Heilbroner (Norton, \$6.95). The man who occupies the Norman Thomas chair of economics at the New School for Social Research in New York City may startle his ideological fans with this brief (124 pages) book questioning the value of central planning for economic welfare.



Robert Heilbroner

**Moscow Farewell**, by George Feifer (Viking Press, \$10). This report on contemporary Russian society, particularly that in the capital of the Soviet Union, by an American who has spent much time there, improves on reading. It was noted here a few months ago, but has recently received much wider distribution. The title correctly suggests that Feifer will not be going back to Moscow. "They'll be infuriated by this book," he told an interviewer. "It's my swan song." But the book reveals his past love affair with Russia, despite the government's shortcomings.

**Going Crazy**, by Otto Friedrich (Simon & Schuster, \$9.95). The author tries to assure his readers that people considered to be insane are not as terrifying as they have been pictured in fiction and in the public conscience. Basing his conclusions on studies of a half hundred real and fictional characters judged to be "crazy," he writes, "I think that madness is part of all of us, all the time, that it comes and goes, waxes and wanes."

**The Last European War**, by John Lukacs (Anchor Press-Doubleday, \$15). An American historian writes of that

part of World War II restricted to the period between September, 1939, and December, 1941, when hostilities were confined to Europe. The tragedy of Pearl Harbor, of course, extended the war to worldwide proportions. He doesn't believe there is much chance for another big war restricted to the European continent, considering the change in times and the horrible precedents of the 1939-1941 war.

**The Spanish**, by Alfonso Lowe (Gordon Cremonesi Publishers-Atheneum, \$12.95). This London publisher has specialized in well-illustrated books on heavy stock, many of them living up to the jacket stamped "good read." The author explains in a preface: "It will be appreciated that I am out of sympathy with today's emphasis on pragmatism in history to the exclusion of the human element. . . So this book presents some of the colorful characters that can be discerned behind the walls of Toledo and the facades of Salamanca."

**London's East End**: by Chaim Bermant (Mc Many American tour visited the corner of featured in this account and immigrants of such as Whitechapel, V and Limehouse. The annotated and indexed editions, including end-p author, a novelist, capital spirit of an urban ing to be much the s rist-frequented West E

**The Genius of A Source of Renaissance R. Hayes** (New York U The elaborately illustrated book contains essays by scholars of the Middle East design the Arab peoples' world culture and science (no price listed) was grant from Mobil Oil Co

in 250 bookstores in 110 communities list (in parentheses) are not necessarily

## GENERAL

1. **DORIS DAY Her Own Story**, by A.E. Hotchner. (William Morrow, \$8.95.) Rainy days in the life of Hollywood's Miss Sunshine. (9)
2. **WORLD OF OUR FATHERS**, by Irving Howe. With Kenneth Libo. (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, \$14.95.) Scholarly, never dry study of the East European Jewish immigrants. (7)
3. **THE RUSSIANS**, by Hedrick Smith. (Quadrangle-The New York Times Book Co., \$12.50.) Journalist's-eye view of the Soviet Union, which few tourists see. (8)
4. **SPANDAU**, by Albert Speer. (Macmillan, \$13.95.) Prison diaries of the one-time Hitler confidant with fascinating revelations. (5)
5. **WINNING THROUGH INTIMIDATION**, by Robert J. Ringer. (Funk & Wagnalls, \$9.95.) Crude stratagems for business dealings. (32)
6. **BRING ON THE EMPTY HORSES**, by David Niven. (Pulnam's, \$9.95.) Witty portraits of the Hollywood famous and infamous. (25)
7. **THE RELAXATION RESPONSE**, by Herbert Benson, M.D. with Miriam Klipper. (William Morrow, \$5.95.) Tension and hypertension and now meditation might help. (23)
8. **THE ADAMS CHRONICLES**, by Jack Shepherd. (Little, Brown, \$17.50.) Pictures and fleshed-out genealogy based on the TV series. (6)
9. **ANGELS**, by Billy Graham. (Doubleday, \$4.95.) How God's secret agents combat evil on earth. (20)
10. **A MAN CALLED INTREPID**, by William Stevenson. (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, \$12.95.) Story of a high-placed British spy in America during W.W. II. (3)

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