

Literature

Warren Report Critics Add More Fuel to Fire

SIX SECONDS IN DALLAS. By Joseph Thompson. Bernard Oels Associates, 1963.

ACCESSORIES AFTER THE FACT: The Warren Commission, The Assassination and The Report. By Sylvia Meagher. The Bobbs-Merrill Co., Inc. 1963.

By CLARENCE DOUCET

These are the latest books by critics on the findings of the Warren Commission.

Dr. Thompson, an assistant professor of philosophy at Haverford College, has taken what has been called a "micro-study" of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. It is a labor of detail, based on analysis of the Zapruder film, plus review of other photographs (some previously unpublished) and eye-witness accounts.

His conclusion: Assassins were firing at the President from at least three different positions — one from the Dallas School Book Depository Bldg., another perhaps from the Dal-Tex Bldg., and a third from the grassy knoll.

With physicists assisting him in making micro-micro calculations of the Zapruder film, he maintains that the first shot was fired from behind the President (from the book depository), the second shot, which he says hit Gov. Connally, from the rear and to the left of motorcade (the Dal-Tex Bldg.).

Dr. Thompson concludes that third and fourth shots were fired practically at the same instant. The third shot came from the area of the book depository, he claims, and the fourth from the grassy knoll. He says review of the Zapruder film shows the head of the President start to move forward on the third shot, but suddenly start moving to the rear and left, indicating to him a shot from the right front, or grassy knoll area.

Some photographs, previously unpublished, by Robert Hughes are included and they purport to show a figure in the

sixth floor window next to the window from which the Warren Report claims Lee Oswald fired the shots.

Scientifically, as scientifically as the Warren Report, Dr. Thompson seems to disprove the single bullet theory. This is the belief that one bullet struck President Kennedy and then hit Gov. Connally, causing seven separate wounds in the two men, only to be found on a hospital stretcher with nary a scratch. Thompson's study leads to his conclusion that the governor was hit 1.530 seconds after the President, while the governor was in a position that precluded the same bullet hitting him. According to the Warren Commission findings, the fastest Oswald could have gotten off the second shot was 2.293 seconds after the first.

This is certainly a work that provides more fuel for the fire of those who are unable to accept the findings of the Warren Report.

Equally interesting is the Meagher book.

She is considered by critics of the Warren Report to be the person who is most familiar with the contents of the 23 volumes of the findings of the Warren Commission from which the Warren Report took shape.

Critics of the Warren Report say they have taken small, isolated and trivial passages of the 23 volumes and made mountains out of molehills.

This near-300 page book takes much exception to the commission findings and the exceptions do not seem either small, isolated or trivial.

Miss Meagher takes the same testimony, the same eye-witness accounts and the same evidence, since it is from the 26 volumes, and comes up with quite different conclusions.

Her book is quite an eye-opener and takes up where "Rush to Judgment," "Inquest" and "Whitewash," etc., etc., left off.

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