

MEAGHER, Sylvia. Master index to the J. F. K. assassination investigations: the reports and supporting volumes of the House Select Committee on Assassinations and the Warren Commission, by Sylvia Meagher, in collaboration with Gary Owens. Scarecrow, 1980. 435p 80-17494. 20.00 ISBN 0-8108-1331-9. CIP

An excellent index that performs a historically valuable function. Inconceivable as it seems, the House Select Committee on Assassinations did not bother to index either the report or the 14-volume record of its 6-million-dollar reinvestigation. This index both of the Warren Commission Report along with the volumes on which it was based and of the House Report and its 14 volumes is invaluable to historical researchers or assassination investigators. Coauthor Meager's reputation for meticulous, accurate work as an assassination researcher is preserved in this precise, detailed, and well-printed volume. In addition to indexing each volume of both the commission and committee works, there are cumulative indexes of subject and name. There are also useful inventories of witnesses, experts, and groups related to the assassination (for example, a list of all Secret Service agents, all persons associated with Jack Ruby, with Oswald, with the Cuban politics, and so on). A must for any collection of books concerning the Kennedy assassination, it is a necessary reference volume for any reader who wants to make sense of this mass of material.

to keep up with his reputation as a "character," drinking and carousing, he became unable to return to writing, speaking into recording machines the books he could not write. Mikhail has a long list of bibliographies and research guides to his credit. In spite of Behan's relatively short output, he and his work generated much comment—much of it mere gossip. Mikhail has listed it all here under three main headings—"Bibliographies," "Published books," and "Criticism." In any bibliography there are bound to be some omissions, e.g., the Frazier-Kennedy adaptations "Conversations with an Irish Rascal" (*Off Broadway*, October 29, 1975), and the Val Mulken's review article (*Irish Times*, Nov. 19, 1966); nevertheless, he has done a fine job and has cast his net wide. While he has the reader's thanks for it, he would have served Behan scholarship much better by giving the full critical bibliography, which he is well equipped to provide. All libraries should own Behan's *The quare fellow* and *Borstal boy*. Mikhail's bibliography is for large collections only.

Choice Jan 1981

*For Sylvia Meagher
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*Advance
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