

Yellow Journalism



Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, mother of assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, is shown at son's grave in this photo from "A Mother in History," by Jean Stafford (Farrar, Straus & Giroux).

A MOTHER IN HISTORY,
by Jean Stafford (Farrar, \$3.95).

A BRIEF chilling picture of the mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, written from a series of interviews Miss Stafford had with her earlier this year. The fantasy world in which Mrs. Oswald lives, and the stream of her illogical talk add very little to the assassination story but quite a lot to the explanation of the influences upon Oswald's psychotic personality.

"Now maybe Lee Harvey Oswald was the assassin . . . But

does that make him a louse? No, no! Killing does not necessarily mean badness. You find killing in some very fine homes for one reason or another. And as we all know, President Kennedy was a dying man. So I say it was possible that my son was chosen to shoot him in a mercy killing for the security of the country. And if this is true, it was a fine thing to do and my son is a hero."

This statement by Marguerite Oswald appears on page 12 of the book. Why publish it? is the question.