Liz Smith



FBI in a tizzy

"OUR SELF-INDULGENT age dismantles heroes, not wholly out of love of truth but also in order not to feel reproached by them," writes Margaret Halsey in her book "No Laughing Matter. The Autobiography of a WASP."

The FBI is so concerned about the further dismantling of its hero, that director Clarence Kelly has asked for a private screening this week of the completed movie "The Private Files of J. Edgar Hoover." It premieres in Washington Dec. 23 with Broderick Crawford playing J. Edgar, and because it is the first film ever made about the department without FBI script approval, Kelly wants to be forearmed.

MEANWHILE, the newly released FBI documents on the JFK assassination will be providing fodder for weeks to come. But many now agree that the theory resembles the one posited in the new Agel-Boe novel "22 Fires," (To wit — that the fictionalized president was accidentally killed because the assassin was actually aiming at the first lady.) Now Dr. John Lattimer of Columbia, writing in the "Journal of the AMA," seems to substantiate this theory. He states that after

this theory. He states that after more than 100 tests of Oswald's rifle, it always hit a misaligned target to the left. Also, in Warren Commission reports now surfacing, there is evidence that the FBI was never able to find one person who reliably reported that Oswald had ever even test-fired that particular gun.

THE TIME, THE PLACE, THE WOM-AN: that's the title of Rita Hayworth's new London-published biography by John Kobal, a fascinating history of the star who made "Gilda" so unforgettable. Well, the time was the other eve, the place was New York's Le Premier restaurant, and the woman was Rita, dining with her daughter, Princess Yasmin Kahn. Rita is making the Stanhope her headquarters for two weeks of shopping.

Speaking of Le Premier, some people seem confused and think it is a private club. It isn't — they even take ye olde American Express. The creme de la creme is giving Le Premier a big play — Senator and Mrs. Javits . . . Fran Stark (the daughter of Fanny Brice) . . . Douglas and Mary Lee Fairbanks . . . Barbra Streisand . . Pat Collins and Joe Raposo . . . Fartah Fawcett-Majors . . have all been in. Carroll de Portago is giving a dinner dance there and the John Travolta "Saturday Night Fever" madness took place Dec. 12 on the Le Premier premises.

THE ORIGINAL ANNIE: Producers Harry Rigby and Terry Allen Kramer have arranged a blind date for tippy-tappy-toed star Ann Miller for the upcoming Market Diner celebration of their successful musical



A new movie about the late J. Edgar Hoover, left, has the FBI worried they're asking for a special screening' before the movie premieres. If It wins an Oscar, Bob Hope, right, will be on hand to give out the award he's been reinstated as M.C.

