

JFK Slaying Books Slip on Best Sellers

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NEW YORK (AP) — Books criticizing the Warren Report on the John F. Kennedy assassination still roll off the presses but the report itself appears to have petered out as a best seller.

The summary of the investigation by a Commission headed by Earl Warren, Chief Justice of the United States, was issued in 1964.

Millions of copies were sold in the United States and abroad, including translations into French, Spanish and Italian.

The report was published in hardback form by the Associated Press, Doubleday and McGraw-Hill. The Government Printing Office produced clothbound and paperback version. The report was offered in paperback by Bantam Books, in conjunction with the New York Times, and the Popular Library.

Bantam Books alone sold more than a million copies, the Associated Press 650,000, the Popular Library 500,000.

About the time the demand for the report died down, various authors began publishing books that attacked the Warren Commission's methods and findings.

There were "The Unanswered Questions About President Kennedy's Assassination," by Sylvan Fox; "The Oswald Affair," by Leo Savage; "Inquest," by Edward Jay Epstein, and, more recently, "Rush to Judgment," by Mark Lane. Others have been printed privately at the authors' expense. (One that has attracted notice is "Whitewash," by Harold Weisberg of Hyattstown, Md.)

Despite the continuing controversy, sales of the report have dwindled to a trickle. The Doubleday and Associated Press hardbacks are out of print. The Government Printing Office sold only 249 cloth and paperback copies during August.