

## SCHEME NOT INDICATED

# Oswald's Hostility to World, Delusions of Grandeur Cited

By CARL FREUND  
News Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The Warren Commission suggested Sunday that a stormy marriage, a hostile attitude toward the world, a strong attachment to Marxism, and a "desire to go down in history" influenced Lee Harvey Oswald in his decision to kill President Kennedy.

The commission emphasized, however, that it found no evidence during its intensive investigation which would indicate that Oswald was "employed, persuaded or encouraged by any foreign government" to assassinate the president as he rode through Dallas Nov. 22.

Oswald was a lonely and frustrated man with delusions of grandeur, the commission said in its 296,000-word report.

"While Oswald appeared to most of those who knew him as a meek and harmless person, he sometimes imagined himself as 'the commander' and, apparently seriously, as a political prophet—a man who said that after 20 years he would be prime minister," the report said.

The commission said Oswald also possessed a quality "which led him to act with an apparent disregard for possible consequences."

"He defected to the Soviet Union, shot at General (Maj. Gen. Edwin) Walker, tried to go to Cuba and even contemplated hijacking an airplane to get there," the commission pointed out. "He assassinated the president, shot officer Tippit, resisted arrest and tried to kill another policeman in the process."

Since Oswald is dead, the commission said, it could not pass judgment on whether his acts were those of an insane man.

"Under our system of justice, no forum could properly make that determination unless Oswald were before it," Chief Justice Earl Warren and other commission members stated.

The commission added that it cannot say specifically why Oswald killed President Kennedy and critically wounded Gov. John Connally, but can only suggest motives.

"A motive that appears incomprehensible to other men may be the moving force of a man whose view of the world around him has been twisted, possibly by factors of which those around him were only dimly aware," the report pointed out.

The commission said there is an indication that Oswald turned to Marxism as an expression of hostility toward his environment. It expressed doubts that the 24-year-old assassin really understood the doctrine which he espoused. And it said that, while he referred to himself at times as a Communist, there is no indication that he ever joined any Communist party.

Even so, the commission said, Oswald's attachment to Marxism was a strong factor in influencing his behavior.

"It was an obvious element in his decision to go to Russia and later to Cuba and it probably influenced his decision to shoot at General Walker," the report stated. "It was a factor which contributed to his character and thereby might have influenced his decision to assassinate President Kennedy."

The commission said it does not believe that Oswald's deteriorating marriage and his stormy relations with his Russian-born wife led directly to his decision to kill President Kennedy.

But it said that Oswald's marital troubles, which came to a head about the time of the Kennedy visit to Dallas, contributed to his sense of rejection and frustration.

"On Nov. 15, the same day that his wife told him not to come to Irving (to visit her), Oswald could have assumed (from newspaper reports) that the presidential motorcade would pass in front of his place of work," the report stated.

"Whether he thought about assassinating the president over the weekend can never be known, but it is reasonably certain that he thought about his wife's request that he not come to Irving. Oswald had a highly exaggerated sense of his own importance, but he had failed at almost everything he had tried to do . . . except for his family, he was completely alone."

When Marina Oswald hung up the phone and refused to talk to him Nov. 18, the report continued, Oswald may have assumed that even she was questioning his judgment.

The commission noted that it heard testimony that the Russian-born wife also contributed to her husband's feeling of inadequacy by telling friends that he was an inadequate lover and that he failed to provide properly for her material needs.

Although the commission emphasized that many factors were involved in Oswald's decision to kill the president, it said the

young assassin's desire to "go down in history" undoubtedly played an important part.

When Oswald learned that the motorcade would pass the Texas School Depository building, the report said, he probably told himself that he would never again have "such a favorable opportunity to strike at a figure as great as the president."

(The commission noted that, about the time he got the job in the depository, the Texas Employment Commission tried unsuccessfully to locate Oswald so that it could tell him about a better-paying job which was available. Had Oswald taken it, he would not have been working in a building on the motorcade route through Downtown Dallas.)

The commission said Oswald's behavior after the assassination throws little light on his motives.

The report pointed out that he left his wedding ring in a cup on the dresser in his room and \$170 in a wallet in a dresser drawer, while taking only \$13.87 with him when he left to shoot President Kennedy.

"The fact that he took so little

money with him when he left Irving in the morning indicates that he did not expect to get very far from Dallas on his own and suggests the possibility, as did his note to his wife just prior to his attempt on General Walker, that he did not expect to escape at all," the report said.

On the other hand, it noted, he did return to his room and get a revolver.

The commission took note of speculation that Oswald would have boasted about his role in the assassination if he wanted to gain world attention.

"His denials under questioning," the commission said, "served to prolong the period during which he was the center of the attention of the entire world."

The commission portrayed Oswald as a lonely and bitter man who could be both despised and pitied.

It said he was a blatant liar, an overbearing martinet in his relations with his family, an arrogant and argumentative individual.

But, the commission said, he was also a dreamer whose search for a "perfect society" was doomed from the start. And, it said, he never found the love, affection and attention for which he yearned.

The commission concluded that one of the most significant events in shaping Oswald's short and unhappy life took place two months before he was born. This was the death of his father.

The report said the commission heard testimony which indicated that Oswald's mother, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, unduly stressed the importance of money and gave her son very little affection.

The commission said Dr. Ronald Hartogs, a New York psychiatrist who examined Oswald in 1953 at the request of juvenile officers, found him "a tense, withdrawn and evasive boy . . . who had a vivid fantasy life, turning around the topics of omnipotence and power, through which he tries to compensate for his present shortcomings and frustrations."

Contrary to some reports, the commission noted, Dr. Hartogs did not state at this time that Oswald was a potential assassin.

Dr. Hartogs did say that he regarded Oswald's behavior as "a violent, but silent protest against his neglect by his mother and a reaction to a complete absence of any real family life."

The commission said that Mrs. Evelyn Siegel, a social worker who interviewed Oswald at the same time, concluded her report with this statement:

"There are indications he has suffered serious personality damage, but, if he can receive help quickly, this might be repaired to some extent."

After printing this conclusion in its report, the commission comments:

"Lee Oswald never received that help."

The commission said it investigated various rumors that Oswald was a U.S. agent, that he became a Russian agent after attending a "spy school" in the Soviet Union, and that he received a large sum of money while in Mexico City shortly before he killed President Kennedy. All of these rumors, the commission said, were false.

It questioned whether the Russian or Cuban governments—much less the U.S. government—would have wanted a man with Oswald's warped personality as a secret agent.