

INTERVIEW REMARKS

Psychiatrist Views Oswald as Sociopath

By SUE CONNALLY

Lee Harvey Oswald, a man who "fits in very well with our general concept" of a sociopath, was described by the president of the American Psychiatric Association Monday as one who "had to have some way out."

The APA president, Dr. Daniel Blain of Philadelphia, Pa., said in an interview that he had only briefly read the Warren Commission report, which pictured Oswald as a maladjusted person. This was considered a factor in the assassination of President Kennedy.

However, he noted that Oswald fitted the picture of the personality-disordered individual — "one whose needs become intolerable, which leads to a breakdown, if not relieved."

He said that stress, whether "a long-wearing, slow, nagging type of stress," or that precipitated by an unexpected event such as a death, is a contributing factor.

Some people, Dr. Blain added, are "more resistant to strain . . . they have the support to carry

them along. Others are more vulnerable. They may demand more than their environment can give."

They may seek relief through "hostile" behavior, or suicide. "Some become sick, some become hypochondriacs. Some fail in their jobs." Like others, Oswald "had to have some way out."

Dr. Blain, in Dallas for an APA-sponsored mental hospital institute this week at the Statler Hilton Hotel, had pointed out that recognition has been gained of the part that social forces play "in terms of intolerable stress that may produce mental breakdown."

It has also been found, he said, that many people can be of help more than was once believed. He included social workers, psychologists, ministers, "big brothers" and others.

Such workers learn that there are some things that they don't fool with, such as depressive states which could lead to suicide, but they can be taught to counsel patients at certain levels, he said.