

2 Top Psychologists Tell

Why did Lee Harvey Oswald really kill President Kennedy that fateful Nov. 22, 1963? The question has never been answered fully. So The ENQUIRER asked reporter Thomas Knowles to interview two leading psychologists who have probed Oswald's troubled mind from childhood until he pulled the trigger, to try to explain the mystery. They are Drs. Heinz Ansbacher, Professor of Psychology at Vermont University, and his wife, Rowena, both members of the American Psychological Assn., and editors of The Journal of Individual Psychology. Here, exclusively for readers of The ENQUIRER, are their startling conclusions.

By THOMAS KNOWLES

Lee Harvey Oswald's childhood was the first step on the path to becoming a killer, two leading psychologists report. And his crime is "quite understandable," they say, because he started life without having trust, friendship and social interest developed in him by his mother.



PSYCHOLOGIST
DR. HEINZ ANSBACHER

This is the conclusion of Heinz Ansbacher, Professor of Psychology at Vermont University, and his wife, Rowena, who is also a psychologist.

In an exclusive interview with The ENQUIRER, the Ansbachers said that they carefully studied Oswald's personal history to understand his motivations fully.

And they concluded that the following psychological factors — which can all be traced back to his childhood — worked on his mind until he exploded emotionally. They are:

- His mother rejected him as a child, but in later years spoiled him terribly.
- He felt inferior because of his small size, impaired hearing, lack of a father and disadvantaged education.
- He was incapable of normal friendship.
- Guns gave him a feeling of power.

- As a result of feeling inferior, his lifelong obsession was to prove himself superior to others.
- His strivings for superiority led to an exaggerated sense of self-importance that made him crave for a place in history.

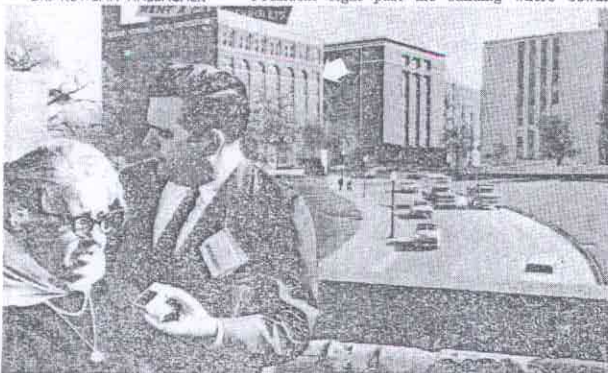
None of these characteristics alone turned Oswald into a killer. But together, they slowly molded him into a hate-filled psychopath whose rage and frustration surely seemed bound to spill over into bloody violence.

Having carefully analyzed Oswald, the two experts then concluded that:

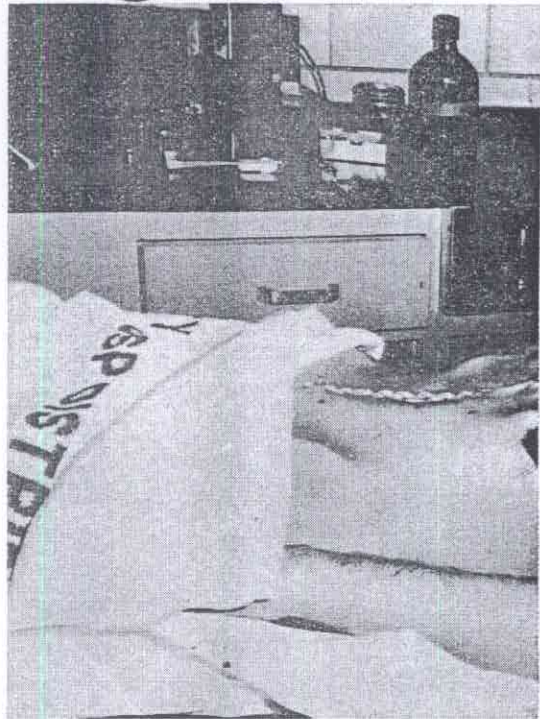
1. Contrary to popular opinion, the assassination of President Kennedy was not the result of a long-term plot. Instead, the murder was committed in a fit of emotional passion.
2. Again contrary to popular belief, Oswald did not kill because of personal hatred or fanatical political beliefs.
3. Oswald's urge to kill was brought about by both his twisted mind and fate — which steered the President right past the building where Oswald



PSYCHOLOGIST
DR. ROWENA ANSBACHER



MURDER SCENE is gone over by Oswald's mother with a reporter. Oswald shot JFK from a window (arrow) as the President's car drove along road.



ANOTHER ENQUIRER EXCLUSIVE — The Photo That No Other World Could Get: This is the last picture of Lee Harvey Oswald, the ed President John F. Kennedy. The ENQUIRER published this photo. Oswald was shot by Jack Ruby before a nationwide TV audience. Sin other publications have tried to obtain the photo, but The ENQUIR

worked at a time when his mind was ready to snap.

These conclusions are backed up by a careful study of Oswald's life.

According to Dr. Ansbacher and his wife: Oswald felt neglected and inferior from early childhood. During the first two years of his life his mother left him in the care of strangers. When he was 3, she placed him in a home for children. Two years later his mother married for a third time, and Oswald had to relocate again in unfamiliar surroundings.

His fourth-grade teacher said: "Lee left an empty home in the morning, went home to an empty home for lunch, and returned to an empty home at night."

His mother, after just four years of marriage, divorced again in 1948. Such constant neglect and changes of scene gave Oswald deep feelings of insecurity. In simple terms, his mother failed to give him a feeling of companionship which is normally the basis for healthy feelings toward others. For a neglected child never has the chance to learn that cooperation is the best way to solve life's problems. Instead, he often feels alone and helpless.

The Ansbachers point out that people with backgrounds of insecurity and neglect usually have deep feelings of inferiority. And Oswald is a perfect example. He was of slight build. He had no father. The many changes of home and school constantly made him feel like an outsider. And he suffered from an impairment of his hearing.

He also probably felt poor, for he once remarked: "I saw my mother as a worker, always with less than we could use."

The two psychologists feel that extreme inferiority feelings cause great self-centeredness and damage normal social interest. And Oswald was never socially healthy. He

didn't enjoy the company of fused to accept gifts because the motive to be humiliated simply didn't understand the get pleasure from giving as

Another important factor in sonality development was th mother, who neglected him p ed him by taking his side no matter what he had done.

For as a boy Oswald often clashed with other children and authorities. When at the age of 13, Oswald was investigated by the Children's Court of New York City, his mother refused to take him to a psychiatric clinic as recommended. Instead, she was a good boy — much too port to a probation officer. when Oswald couldn't find a the newspapers who had pu fection to Russia.

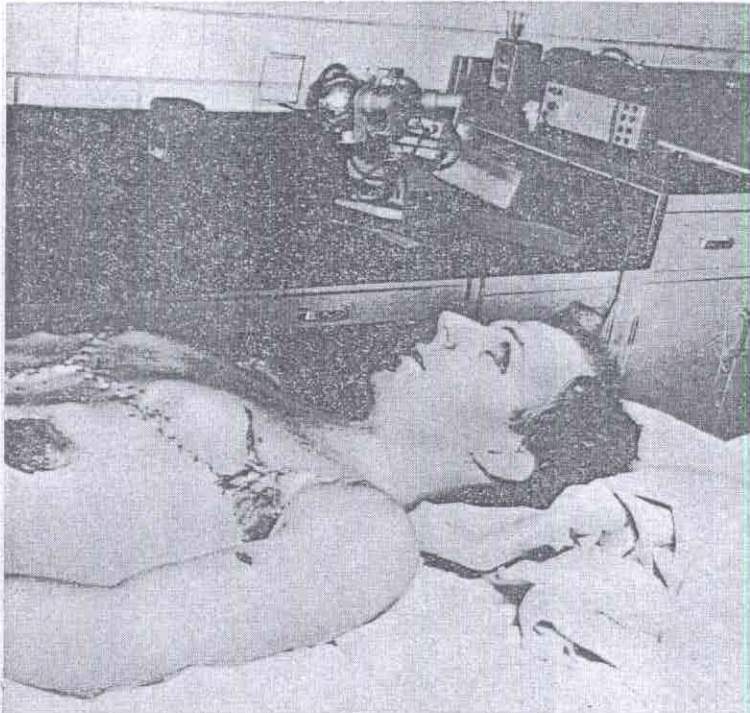
His mother's attitude mat he was always right and other Gradually he created his own He saw himself as better having special privileges. I unworthy of trust. Men were wngs, they were enemies.

According to the Ansbacher Oswald was the youngest of may also have had a bearing mind. For they believe that children are the youngest m



OSWALD

Why Oswald Killed JFK



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only publication ever to have printed it. Oswald's corpse is shown on a morgue slab at the Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Tex. In his left side is the gaping wound left by the bullet from Ruby's .38-caliber revolver. The Y-shaped stitching on Oswald's body is the result of the work of the hospital pathologist who stitched up Oswald's body after cutting it open to perform the autopsy.

lies. These children reason that because they get so much attention they must be special, be unlimited and unique.

Certainly such reasoning applies to Oswald. When he tried out for his school football team at the age of 16, he refused to sprint with the others as was required after practice — claiming that it was a free country and he didn't have to run if he didn't want to. This cost him his chance to play.

After his death, Oswald's wife said of him: "I always tried to point out to Lee that he was only a man like anyone else. But he simply could not understand that."

Even as a young child in school, Oswald's behavior showed criminal tendencies. He was very active, always on the move, and full of attention-getting tricks — but he always remained alone. Such a high activity level, coupled with a low degree of social interest, demonstrates possible criminal inclinations.

The Ansbachers point out that as the years passed, Oswald became more hostile. When he was 12 and his mother took him to New York, he remained alone most of the time, and lashed out at anyone who offended him. On a school questionnaire he completed, he couldn't list a single friend.

While his mother was away from home, he played hooky from school for 47 days out of four months. He spent his days alone, watching television. Finally, when his mother had to appear in court with him, he was sent to the Youth House for Boys in the Bronx for a month. There a psychiatric examination disclosed that he had fantasies involving violence.

When he returned to school, he became even more withdrawn. He sought the "dream world" of television — where he was upoposed and could identify with those who came out on top. His favorite pastimes became reading and playing football. By reading he



PRESIDENT John F. Kennedy.

could be alone with his dreams. And in football he could "fight" and win victories.

The Ansbachers emphasize the fact that Oswald was fascinated with guns from early childhood — when he played with toy weapons by the hour. As a Marine he was court-martialed on April 11, 1958, for violating Article 92 of the military conduct code for not registering his privately owned pistol. As a result, several of his privileges were withdrawn. One of the few things he put real effort into was



OSWALD'S MOM: Mrs. Marguerite Oswald.

marksmanship. To Oswald, a gun made him superior by giving him power over others.

The Ansbachers are convinced that Oswald's interest in politics greatly influenced his life. In high school he began reading the writings of Karl Marx, the founder of modern day socialism. Oswald claimed that he was searching for a key to his environment. This remark shows that in his troubled mind, life was a difficult puzzle.

For where Marx wrote of the exploitation of the working classes by capitalism, Oswald saw himself being used by a society that did not want him.

Apparently he saw in Marx a personal goal of perfection — a way in which he could be superior to his fellow man. And Marx even offered Oswald a legitimate manner in which he could act — revolution.

Out of this philosophy developed Oswald's plan to go to Russia. So he taught himself Russian while in the Marines, and by the time he got there he spoke the language. After traveling to Russia and announcing that he was defecting from America, he received great publicity. For the first time in his life, he felt really important.

He also liked to talk big. His letter to the Secretary of the Navy, complaining of his dishonorable discharge, was written in a superior style: "I shall employ all means to right this gross mistake."

After he killed Kennedy, Oswald's wife said of him: "He craved to be outstanding, to be known in history — and was willing to do anything, good or bad, to make that dream come true. He had a sick imagination, for he engaged in fantasies about his future greatness."

Even after he was arrested as the President's murderer, he insisted that he was big enough to handle his own defense against the whole country.

The Ansbachers say that Oswald's problems can be clearly understood by considering life as the summary of three factors: one's relationship to others, his work, and love and marriage. For Oswald failed miserably in all three.

Unfriendly and aloof, he felt himself above society, not a part of it. And because of his great hostility, people rejected him. His wife said: "Everybody hated Lee, even in Russia."

The greatest blow to Oswald's ego must have fallen when, having come to Moscow, he was refused Russian citizenship.

As to his work, Oswald was never steadily employed, and the jobs he tried were relatively unskilled.

And regarding love and marriage, he married an attractive Russian pharmacist while employed as a sheet-metal worker in a Russian factory. But the marriage almost broke up because of Oswald's unreasonable demands and his lack of feelings for his wife and two children. Once he refused to pay a hospital bill for his young child who had been taken there in an emergency by friends. And he not only refused to let his wife get needed dental care, but at times beat her.

As Oswald found himself increasingly emotionally

(Continued on next page)

Why Oswald Killed JFK

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(Cont'd from preceding page) frustrated, he bought a rifle in the spring of 1963. It was his security — as it gave him power of life and death.

Once he had his wife photograph him as he carried a Russian newspaper in one hand, his rifle in the other and a pistol in his hip pocket. It was as though Oswald posed so he could be remembered as a conquering revolutionary.

That summer in New Orleans, as Oswald became more troubled, he read many books,

one about the assassination of Huey Long, another a biography of President Kennedy.

Not knowing what to do with himself, he offered to work with an anti-Castro exile group. But when he was rejected, he distributed pro-Castro leaflets. The Ansbachers point out that his switching sides was evidence that his actions resulted not from political convictions, but from a fanatical need to prevail by any means.

Finally, emotionally corner-

ed and without a friend in the world, Oswald saw no other way than to apply for a visa to go back to Russia. When it was refused, he was blocked at every turn. So he became more secretive and isolated than ever, and hid behind a false name. One day he surprised his wife by telling her that he was the mysterious sniper who fired at General Walker of the U.S. Army.

Finally, with the announcement of President Kennedy's trip to Dallas, came Oswald's

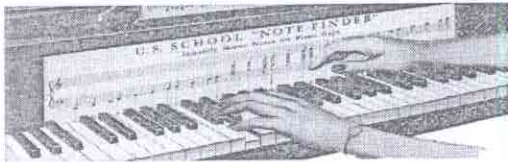
great chance to gain fame.

But the Ansbachers are convinced that Oswald's opportunity was brought about by fate — not by a long-term plan. For he got his job at the Texas School Book Depository in the middle of October 1963 through a friend. But it was not until November 19 that the Dallas newspapers announced that the President's motorcade would travel directly past the Book Depository. And it wasn't until the next day — only two days before the event — that they gave the time: the middle of Oswald's lunch hour.

So Oswald could not have spent weeks plotting the President's death.

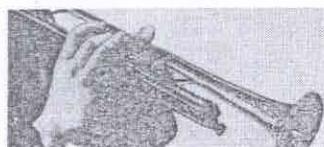
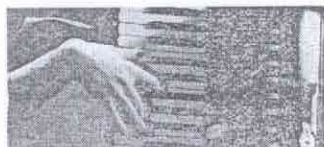
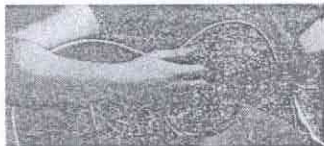
The Ansbachers conclude that Oswald's becoming an assassin is quite understandable in the light of his history. For he was at the end of his emotional rope. He had no friends, no social ties, no national allegiance, not even any feelings for his wife and children — in short, nothing to live for. And he was possessed by a terrible craving for fame.

In his desperate mental situation, his chance to kill President Kennedy was a temptation that he could not resist.



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