

It is easy to overlook the availability of *qualified* psychiatric findings on Oswald. In addition to the New York City Youth House report on Oswald at age thirteen, the following facts should be given due weight: (1) The Marine Corps medical records on Oswald for 1956-1959 (*Donabedian Exhibit No. 1*) consistently show no sign of emotional problems, mental abnormality, or psychosis. (2) Oswald was the subject of psychiatric evaluation in the Soviet Union after his effort to avoid deportation by feigning an attempt at suicide. Soviet records (*CE 985*) show that he was found to be "not dangerous to other people . . . clear mind . . . no sign of psychotic phenomena . . . no psychotic symptoms."

Though relatively recent, neither the Marine Corps medical records nor the Soviet psychiatric evaluation support the facile finding that Oswald was "irrational"—all too frequently the response to objections that Oswald's actions were inconsistent with guilt. Nor does the Youth House report really justify the inference that he was unbalanced or deranged. Irresponsible statements purporting to be based on the Youth House report were published and given great prominence in the period immediately after the assassination. They created an exaggerated or erroneous impression, as the Report acknowledges. (*WR 379*) The Youth House psychiatric report (*Hartogs Exhibit 1*) actually found

no indication of psychotic changes; superior mental endowment; no retardation despite truancy; no psychotic mental changes. Disturbed youngster who suffers under the impact of really existing emotional isolation and deprivation.

Dr. Renatus Hartogs, chief psychiatrist of Youth House, wrote that report on April 16, 1953 and did not see it again for eleven years. He testified on April 16, 1964 that the thirteen-year-old Oswald had "definite traits of dangerousness . . . a potential for explosive, aggressive, assaultive acting out. . . ." (*8H 217*)<sup>1</sup> Hartogs was then asked to review his 1953 report. He conceded that it failed to mention any potential violence, assaultive or homicidal potential, or incipient schizophrenia. He conceded also that if he had found such traits in the boy, he would have said so in his report. He did not agree, however, with Liebeler's logical suggestion that his categorical comments before re-reading his report might have been based on mistaken identity, and that he had no personal recollection of Oswald at all. (*8H 221*)

Not a very professional performance.

There is, then, no basis in any of the available medical or psychiatric histories for allegations that Oswald was psychotic, aberrant, or mentally unsound in any degree. His life history is consistent with the conclusion that he was a rational and stable personality (which is not to say that he was appealing, admirable, or untroubled). He was capable of marriage and fatherhood, with responsibility and devotion, particularly to his two children. He was conscientious in his punctuality and work, completed military service satisfactorily, paid his bills and repaid his debts promptly, and managed his practical affairs capably.

<sup>1</sup> Hartogs apparently described Oswald in similar blood-curdling but mistaken terms in an FBI interview on an unspecified date. The FBI report on that interview was mentioned during Hartogs' testimony but is not included among the Exhibits.

#### Motive and Mind

Since there has been u who never heard of Oswald judgments of those who kn and (b) capacity for viole

His wife, star witness sound, smart and capable, t

Most members of the those who were not fond o Sam Ballen, for example, w ity toward the President; it warm feelings for him. Os George De Mohrenschildt, When he heard of Oswald' take. He did not believe Os the circumstantial evidence

George Bouhe was no "crazy," a mental case. But Oswald was capable of suc never questioned Oswald's violence. (*10H 29*)

Anna Meller was "con could not believe that he h never regarded Oswald as c when he was arrested. (*8H*

Michael Paine (*2H 39*; schildt (*9H 255*) testified t and had praised him. Lillia. President and admired his v affirmed that Oswald had spok Oswald was not capable of l no motive for such an act; a wald resented authority or c

None of Oswald's fellow or homicidal. Lieutenant D though he found it unusual (*8H 299*) Kerry Thornley s ward violence; on the contra

Adrian Alba, who knew tainly didn't impress me as of assassinating the Preside (*10H 227*) Tommy Bargas, Company, said that he had b no sign of temper or violen ment counselor, had found t with Oswald. (*10H 128*)

FBI Agent Quigley, wh