

BY TOM HENSHAW

AP NEWSFEATURES WRITER

NEW YORK, SEPT. 19 (AP)-A SCANT COLLECTION OF LETTERS AND OTHER MEMORABILIA LEFT BY PRESIDENTIAL ASSASSIN LEE HARVEY OSWALD WILL BE AUCTIONED TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER NEXT WEEK.

"THIS IS THE FIRST AND PROBABLY THE LAST SALE OF OSWALD'S LETTERS," SAYS AUTOGRAPH DEALER CHARLES HAMILTON, WHO IS SELLING THE COLLECTION FOR OSWALD'S MOTHER, MRS. MARGUERITE OSWALD OF FORT WORTH, TEX.

HAMILTON ESTIMATES THE COLLECTION'S VALUE AT \$5,120.

THE ITEMS INCLUDE:

A LETTER TO HIS MOTHER FROM RUSSIA IN WHICH OSWALD WRITES ABOUT HIS "UNDESIRABLE" DISCHARGE FROM THE U.S. MARINE CORPS, AN EVENT WHICH EMBITTERED HIM TOWARD HIS NATIVE LAND. (\$1,000)

HIS APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO ALBERT SCHWEITZER COLLEGE IN SWITZERLAND, IN WHICH HE SAYS HE WANTS "TO BE A SHORT STORY WRITER ON CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN LIFE." (\$700)

HIS BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE, SIGNED BY A LUTHERAN PASTOR, MICHAEL R. LECOON OF NEW ORLEANS, ON WHICH OSWALD ALTERED HIS DATE OF BIRTH SO HE COULD JOIN THE MARINES AT 16. (\$200)

TWO LETTERS FROM MRS. OSWALD TO HER SON AT THE HOTEL METROPOLE IN MOSCOW. THEY WERE RETURNED WITH THE NOTATION THAT HE HAD LEFT. MRS. OSWALD SAYS THEY NEVER HAVE BEEN OPENED AND SHE DOESN'T REMEMBER WHAT SHE WROTE IN THEM. HAMILTON CALLS THEM "MYSTERY LETTERS." (\$200)

IN ADDITION TO 23 ITEMS OF WRITTEN MATERIAL BY OR ABOUT OSWALD, THE COLLECTION CONTAINS SEVEN GIFTS OSWALD SENT TO HIS MOTHER FROM THE SOVIET UNION, INCLUDING FOUR LINEN TABLE NAPKINS WITH THE MONOGRAM "M.O." EMBROIDERED BY OSWALD'S RUSSIAN-BORN WIFE, MARINA. (\$250 FOR THE SEVEN.)

IF HISTORY IS ANY INDICATION, OSWALD'S LETTERS COULD BRING MORE MONEY THAN THOSE OF JOHN F. KENNEDY, THE PRESIDENT HE SHOT.

THE LETTERS OF ASSASSINS JOHN WILKES BOOTH, CHARLES GUITEAU AND LEON CZOLGOSZ HAVE BROUGHT HIGHER PRICES ON THE AUTOGRAPH MARKET THAN THOSE OF THEIR VICTIMS, PRESIDENTS ABRAHAM LINCOLN, JAMES A. GARFIELD AND WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

THE AUCTION IS SEPT. 30 AT NEW YORK'S HOTEL GOTHAM. HAMILTON GETS 20 PER CENT COMMISSION ON THE SALE AND THE REST GOES TO OSWALD'S MOTHER.