

The Warren Report

STILL A

MYSTERY

--- WHY?

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The great unanswered question in the report of the Warren Commission—which concludes that Lee Harvey Oswald killed President John F. Kennedy—is why he did it.

The seven-man commission, headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren, after almost 10 months of investigation and with the help of all the resources of government, admits it couldn't learn Oswald's reason for the assassination.

And since Oswald died two days after the assassination—killed by Jack Ruby—the commission also admits it can't even say honestly whether Oswald was insane.

So Oswald's motive will probably remain one of the most baffling enigmas of history, which would probably make Oswald happy if he knew it for the commission did offer this opinion:

That Oswald's apparent desire "for a place in history" led it "to believe that such concern is an important factor to consider in assessing possible motivation for the assassination."

Yet, when the commission's report—about 20 volumes of testimony, interviews and evidence—is all made public, Oswald will emerge as one of the shabbiest little men in history.

He was a liar. He was pretentious. He was a cry-baby. And, if the truth were known, his attempts at murder may have been a way of seeking his own destruction.

The Commission raises this question about Oswald, who was "plagued all his life" by feelings of defeat and mediocrity: Did he really want to escape after committing a great crime?

Seven months before he killed the President Oswald tried to assassinate former Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker by shooting at him through the window of his home. He missed.

But before he went to Walker's house he left in his own home a notebook full of his plans for shooting the general, plus pictures of himself with a rifle and revolver.

If he had killed Walker and been captured, his home certainly would have been searched. Those notes would have been dreadfully incriminating.