

EA25WX (AGENCIES AND RADIO OUT 700)

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THE WORLD TODAY

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ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS ANALYST

WASHINGTON, SEPT. 28 (AP)-WHY?

THE GREAT UNANSWERED QUESTION IN THE REPORT OF THE WARREN COMMISSION --WHICH HAD JUST CONCLUDED THAT LEE HARVEY OSWALD KILLED PRESIDENT 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 THE SEVEN MEN "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 PERVERTED WAY OF SEEKING HIS OWN DESTRUCTION.

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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.

AND THE MORNING OF THE DAY ON WHICH HE SHOT KENNEDY HE LEFT \$170 AT HOME AND TOOK ONLY \$13.87 WITH HIM, CERTAINLY NOT ENOUGH TO CARRY HIM VERY FAR IF WANTED TO ESCAPE FROM DALLAS.

HE HAD A NEGLECTED CHILDHOOD--HIS FATHER DIED BEFORE HE WAS BORN AND HIS MOTHER FOR LONG STRETCHES HAD TO WORK, LEAVING HIM WITH FRIENDS OR RELATIVES OR PUTTING HIM IN A HOME--BUT HE HAD A SENSE OF WEAPONS AND VIOLENCE FROM CHILDHOOD.

WHEN HE WAS 3 HE THREW A TOY GUN AT A WOMAN TAKING CARE OF HIM. WHEN HE WAS 9 HE CHASED HIS BROTHER WITH A KNIFE AND THREW IT AT HIM. AT 12, THE COMMISSION SAYS, HE HAD "FANTASIES ABOUT BEING ALL POWERFUL AND KILLING."

AT 13 HE DREW A KNIFE AND THREATENED TO USE IT ON HIS SISTER-IN-LAW. AT 16 HE TALKED OF BREAKING INTO A STORE TO STEAL A GUN AND SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO KILL PRESIDENT EISENHOWER.

AFTER HE JOINED THE MARINES HE ACCIDENTALLY SHOT HIMSELF WITH A PISTOL HE HAD SNEAKED INTO HIS LOCKER AGAINST REGULATIONS. HE WAS COURT-MARTIALED.

PISTOL HE HAD SNEAKED INTO HIS LOCKER AGAINST REGULATIONS. HE WAS COURT-MARTIALED. WHEN HE WENT TO RUSSIA AT 20 AND WAS REFUSED CITIZENSHIP, HE CUT HIS WRIST. HE BEAT HIS WIFE, HIT HIS MOTHER, TRIED TO KILL WALKER AND DID KILL KENNEDY.

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HE CRITICIZED HOW THE WORLD WAS RUN, CONSIDERING BOTH COMMUNISM AND CAPITALISM FAILURES, BUT HE WAS A FAILURE IN THE JOBS HE HELD IN RUSSIA AND THE UNITED STATES, AND HAD TROUBLE HOLDING THEM. HE WAS FIRED FROM MORE THAN ONE.

IN RUSSIA HE WAS A METAL WORKER BUT THE FOREMAN THOUGHT HE WAS CARELESS AND LACKED INITIATIVE. HE QUIT TWO JOBS IN TEXAS WITHIN FIVE MONTHS, ONE OF THEM AFTER ONE DAY. HE WAS FIRED FROM TWO JOBS BECAUSE HE COULDN'T MAKE THE GRADE.

HE RIDICULED OTHERS BUT LIED ENDLESSLY ABOUT HIMSELF, GIVING FALSE NAMES, FALSE INFORMATION TO EMPLOYERS, DECEIVING HIS WIFE, AND EVEN LYING ABOUT THE KIND OF JOB HE HELD BECAUSE HE THOUGHT HE SHOULD BE DOING A BETTER ONE.

HE TRIED TO ACT THE BIG MAN--WITH HIS KILLINGS--BUT HE LIED ABOUT THE TWO DEEDS THAT WILL KEEP HIM REMEMBERED: THE KILLING OF KENNEDY AND A DALLAS POLICEMAN, OFFICER J. D. TIPPIT.

HE TRIED TO ACT THE SELF-SUFFICIENT MALE AND RESENTED CHARITY FOR HIS FAMILY, BUT HE ACCEPTED IT. HE WAS FULL OF SELF-PITY ABOUT HIS LIFE AND HARD TIMES BUT WOULDN'T WORK HARD ENOUGH OR LEARN ENOUGH TO HAVE A BETTER LIFE.

HE WAS FULL OF CONTRADICTIONS: HE DESERTED THE UNITED STATES FOR RUSSIA, THEN RUSSIA FOR THE UNITED STATES. HE POSED AS AN ANTI-CASTROITE AND FOUR DAYS LATER DISTRIBUTED PRO-CASTRO LEAFLETS.

HE PRETENDED TO BE A BRAIN BUT SPELLED LIKE A CHILD. AT 20 HE CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN STUDYING COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM BUT WHEN ASKED TO NAME THE BOOKS HE HAD READ HE CAME UP WITH ONLY ONE: "DAS KAPITAL" BY KARL MARX.

AND, OF COURSE, THERE IS ONE QUESTION WHICH WILL NEVER BE ANSWERED AND WHICH THE WARREN COMMISSION DIDN'T TOUCH ON: DID OSWALD IN HIS VIOLENT LIFE EVER KILL ANYONE ELSE?

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