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U.S. Moving To Get Guns Of Oswald

Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

By **JERRY RICHMOND**
Staff Writer

The federal government Wednesday took the first legal step to permanently confiscate the rifle and pistol owned by accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald.

After the weapons were shipped to Dallas earlier this week a legal advertisement began appearing in the legal section of a Dallas paper.

The ad placed by Carl R. Booth Jr. of the Alcohol Tax Unit in Dallas Wednesday asked any claimants to these weapons to come forward.

For several months the government has been attempting to take permanent custody of the weapons. They include the 6.5-mm Manlicher-Carcano rifle believed to be the weapon which killed President Kennedy and severely wounded Gov. John Connally on Nov. 22, 1963.

A .38-caliber revolver which killed Officer J. D. Tippit on Park Cliff street shortly after the assassination also is included in the expected seizure action.

The government's intentions to confiscate the weapons were confirmed by Asst. U.S. Atty. Timmins late Tuesday in a statement authorized by the Department of Justice.

"The weapons are being proceeded against by the government, giving notice of summary forfeiture of the firearms under appropriate federal statutes," Mr. Timmins said.

This procedure will be to advertise three times on three consecutive weeks, giving notice to all claimants having interest in the weapons."

He said that in addition actual notice to the parties with apparent interest had been served Tuesday. Any claimant has 30 days to file a claim and cost bond, and if they do so the government will file a libel in federal court.

If no claimant comes forward, the treasury will claim the weapons in 30 days.

Mr. Timmins also confirmed that the weapons were in Dallas in custody of the FBI.

The guns, which have been in the custody of the Department of Justice or the Warren Commission since shortly after the assassination and the killing of Oswald, have been the subject of controversy.

A special congressional bill

which would permit the government to permanently seize the weapons is also pending and a federal civil suit is now on file in Denver.

In that suit, a Colorado oilman filed for possession of the weapons, which he claimed were sold to him by the widow of the assassin for \$10,000.

John J. King of Inglewood, Colo., filed the suit against the Justice Department, but Mrs. Marina Oswald did not join in the action.

In addition to the reported sale price, another payment was to be made if the guns were recovered from the government.

The suit claimed the Justice Department has been using the euphemism that "the matter is under study" in declining to give him the weapons.

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. DeLoach _____
- Mr. Casper _____
- Mr. Callahan _____
- Mr. Conrad _____
- Mr. Felt _____
- Mr. Gale _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Sullivan _____
- Mr. Tavel _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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"The Dallas Times-Herald" Dallas, Texas

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Edition:
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Editor:
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Felix R. McKnight

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