

On the rifle range, 'he was excellent'

OSWALD
Continued

her, "That won't be necessary. It doesn't matter." He signed his name as O. H. Lee.

Lee Oswald got his last job on a tip from Mrs. Paine. She had heard from a neighbor, Mrs. William Randall, that work was available at the Texas School Book Depository, which receives books from publishers and delivers them to schools and other customers. Lee promptly applied to Roy S. Truly, superintendent of the depository.

"He seemed neat, clean, intelligent, polite, willing to work," Truly said. "I told him it was temporary work and I could give him \$1.25 an hour, with a 40-hour week guaranteed." Oswald said he was a Marine veteran with an honorable discharge.

"I hired him and told him to report to work the next day," said Truly. The hours were 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with 45 minutes for lunch. The work was filling orders—taking an order sheet from the office and roaming through the building gathering the required books, then bringing them to the clerk.

He made no friends on the job, but no enemies either. Truly had a favorable impression of him as a worker; he considered it a good sign that he wasn't always talking.

"I might have sent Oswald to work in a warehouse two blocks away," Truly said. "Oswald and another fellow reported for work on the same day and I needed one of them for the depository building. I picked Oswald."

"Every time I saw him, he had an order in his hand and was trying to sell it. I often asked him, 'How are you doing? How is your

baby?' He seemed pleased that anyone was interested. He always answered, 'Very fine, thank you, Mr. Truly.'"

That weekend (Oct. 30) Marina gave birth to a daughter. She was named Audrey Marina Rachel Oswald.

A gunsmith in Irving, Dal D. Ryder, recalled that sometime around the end of October he mounted a telescopic sight on a rifle for a man named Oswald.

On Wednesday, Oct. 23, Oswald attended a large right-wing rally at the Dallas Memorial Auditorium. It was called by the U.S. Day Committee to counteract a scheduled United Nations Day observance in the same auditorium the following night. Oswald heard former Major General Walker lambaste the United Nations and Adlai Stevenson.

The first two weekends in November, Oswald rode out to Irving with Wesley Frazier, a young fellow employe and the brother of Mrs. William Randall. Marina was receiving a newspaper from Minnie weekly. Lee read a copy. Other times he would play with his daughter June and the new baby or watch television—he particularly liked westerns, war movies, and football games.

He spoke hopefully of being able to rent an apartment in 1964 and reuniting the family. He never referred to his mother. He hadn't seen her since he left Fort Worth in October 1962.

Malcolm Price, who helps operate the Sportsmens rifle range in Grand Prairie, two and a half miles from Irving, recalled that about the weekend of November 9-10, he saw Oswald shooting a rifle at the range. Price says he looked through Oswald's telescopic sight and was impressed by its clarity.

A range customer, Garland G. Slack, said that he saw Oswald there on the weekend of Nov. 9-10 and also on Sunday, November 17. He remembered that Oswald was an excellent shot—he was impressed by his "tight group," the close cluster of bullet holes he put in his target. "I was getting together 10 men for a turkey shoot and I was interested in getting this fellow because he was shooting such a tight group," Slack said. "But he didn't shoot with us because he didn't have a dollar for the entry fee." Slack said that on Oswald's first visit to the range another man accompanied him.

Oswald did not go to Irving on the weekend of the 16th and 17th. By Monday, the 18th, Marina was beginning to worry about him. She had the telephone number of the rooming house on Beckley Ave., but Lee had told her not to call him there.

"About dinner time," Mrs. Paine recalled, "Marina noticed June playing with the telephone. She said, 'Let's call daddy.' Lee had left us a number to call so I dialed the number for her. I asked for Lee Oswald. The man who answered said there was no Lee Oswald living there. I asked him to make sure. He said no person with that name was there." Mrs. Paine apologized and hung up.

Moments later, Mrs. Paine said, Oswald telephoned and demanded to speak to his wife. "I guess he overheard the phone conversation at the rooming house, because he bewled Marina out. He told her he was living under another name and she should have had better sense than to call him. Marina said she didn't understand the need for such deception."

On the morning of Tuesday, the 19th, the Dallas News announced the route of President Kennedy's motorcade. On his way to the Dallas Trade Mart, where he was to speak, the President would pass directly by the Texas School Book Depository. On Wednesday the papers announced that Kennedy and his wife would arrive at Love Field

from Fort Worth at 11:25, tour the downtown area and arrive at the Trade Mart at 12:30 p.m. This meant that the motorcade would pass the school book building at about 12:25, in the middle of Lee Oswald's 45-minute lunch period.

On Thursday afternoon Oswald asked Frazier to give him a ride back to Irving. "Lee showed up at about 5:15," Mrs. Paine remembered. "Marina and I were both surprised to see him because he hadn't called in several days. He ate dinner with us, played with his children, and went to bed early. As I remember it, the subject of the President's visit the next day did not even come up."

He apparently slept soundly, Mrs. Paine said. "Marina was up twice with the baby, but I didn't hear him at all."

In the morning Oswald came without waking his wife or Mrs. Paine, dressed in a brownish-red shirt and gray trousers, and made himself some coffee. He left the house at about 7:15. Mrs. Randall was looking out the kitchen window as Oswald approached her house for his ride to work with Frazier. She noticed he was carrying a long thin object wrapped in brown paper. Oswald got into Frazier's period car, and put the package on the back seat.

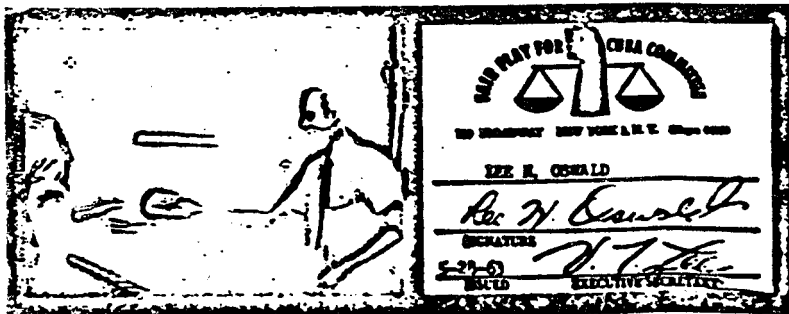
Frazier came out of the house and got behind the wheel. He reached the package in the back and asked Oswald what it was. "Window shades," he was told.

The two men were silent during the drive into Dallas. "About the only time I ever got him to talk was when I asked him about his babies," Frazier said later. "Then he would laugh and tell me about them."

They arrived at the building shortly before 8 a.m. Oswald got out of the car with the package under his arm, Frazier recalled, and "walked into the building ahead of me. I never saw what he did with it."

Apparently Oswald put in a routine morning on the job. Warehouse superintendent Truly saw him filling orders, and remembered greeting him. Oswald replied, "Good morning, Mr. Truly."

A few minutes after noon, on the President and his wife were pulling away from the airport in the open presidential limousine, an employe in the school book building, Charles Givens, saw Oswald on the sixth floor and said, "Let's go down and watch the President go by." "What now," Oswald re-



PROPAGANDIST AT 23. In August 1963 Oswald passed pro-Castro handbills on New Orleans street (far left). He claimed membership in For Play for Cuba Committee (card at left) which denied he was a representative.