

Mother Seeks to Clear Oswald; Finds Gaps in Reconstruction

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FORT WORTH, Tex., Dec. 5 —Mrs. Marguerite Oswald said today she would attempt to prove that her son, Lee H. Oswald, had not assassinated President Kennedy.

Mrs. Oswald, whose son was shot to death in the Dallas jail two days after the assassination, called a news conference for tomorrow at 4 P.M.

She has been complaining about what she considers discrepancies and gaps in the official reconstruction of the Nov. 22 crime.

For example, she is collecting reports on the locations at which her son was observed after the assassination and how far those are from the apartment of Jack Ruby. He is the Dallas night-club owner who shot Oswald.

Mrs. Oswald said she had a theory that her son fled from his job at the School Book Depository Building the day of the assassination only because he had been a defector to Russia.

"He heard about the President being killed and he knew he would be a suspect, so he ran," she said.

Mrs. Oswald also gives credence to a demonstration conducted in Italy that reportedly indicated her son's rifle could not fire three shots as quickly as those fired by the assassin. Experts in this country, how-

ever, have demonstrated that such rapid firings were possible with Oswald's weapon.

Mrs. Oswald, a 56-year-old practical nurse, has been angered by newspaper and television accounts saying that her son received an undesirable discharge from the Marine Corps in 1959.

She will produce papers tomorrow, she said, proving that the conditions of his discharge were changed from honorable to undesirable only after the Navy Department learned he had defected to the Soviet Union.

Spending her first day without Secret Service protection since her son was killed, Mrs. Oswald suggested to visitors that the assassination had been a plot for which her son had been made a "scapegoat."

"If my son had killed the President," she said, "he would have said so. That's the way he was brought up."

Earlier Mrs. Oswald had considered that a posthumous trial of Oswald might bring out information about the killing of the President, a Dallas police officer and her son.

She has since decided, however, that neither a trial nor any kind of investigation could establish her son's guilt to her satisfaction.

"How could he be found guilty by an investigation when he's not here to defend himself?" she asked.