

# INQUIRY TO HEAR OSWALD'S WIDOW

One of Warren Panel and Rankin to Go to Dallas

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By JACK LANGGUTH

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DALLAS, Dec. 27—A member of the Warren Commission and J. Lee Rankin, the commission's counsel, intend to come to Dallas early next year to question Mrs. Marina Oswald, Mr. Rankin said today.

He said the commission had tentatively decided to hold the hearing with the widow of President Kennedy's accused assassin here, rather than in Washington.

The commission, headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren, was appointed by President Johnson to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy last Nov. 22, and the subsequent fatal shooting of the suspected assassin, Lee H. Oswald.

A Dallas hearing, Mr. Rankin said, would allow local law enforcement officials to hear Mrs. Oswald's testimony.

## Plans Indefinite

Which member of the bipartisan commission would come to Dallas has not yet been decided nor has a date been set, Mr. Rankin added. Mr. Rankin, Solicitor General in the Eisenhower Administration, was interviewed by telephone at his home in New York.

"We're hoping for January," Mr. Rankin said. The commission also had not discussed whether to call other members of the Oswald family as witnesses, he said.

Commission members have announced that hearings would be closed and that reports from the Federal Bureau of Investigation submitted to the commission would not be made public until after the murder trial of Jack L. Ruby.

The trial of Ruby, who fatally shot Oswald two days after the assassination, has been set for Feb. 3 in Dallas. Defense lawyers have said they would ask for a week's delay and a change of venue.

## To Oppose Shift of Trial

District Attorney Henry Wade said today that he would not oppose a brief postponement, but said he would resist moving the trial from Dallas unless it proved impossible to select an unbiased jury here.

Mrs. Oswald, a 22-year-old

Russian woman who has been kept hidden by the Secret Service since her husband was holed up in Dallas, a spokesman said.

Jim Martin, a former hotel executive who is acting as her adviser, said the widow's life is returning to a quiet pace after the holiday activity.

"We don't have anything all planned for her," Mr. Martin said, "and she hasn't requested anything."

Christmas, which brought gifts to the Oswalds from across the country, was as happy as the circumstances would permit.

## Still 'Bereaved'

"She's still, in a sense, bereaved," Mr. Martin said. "Before Christmas she was in kind of a sad and lonely mood. But Christmas Eve she perked up when all the preparations began."

Although in the Soviet Union the festivities come on New Year's Eve, Mr. Martin said, Mrs. Oswald had adopted the custom in this country and planned no further celebration.

Among the gifts were 15 dolls, including one from The Netherlands, for Mrs. Oswald's two small daughters. She has received since her husband was shot.

Mr. Martin said he could now understand Mrs. Oswald quite well, although her instruction in English has been informal.

She is looking forward to the time when she might resume her practice of pharmacy, her occupation in the Soviet Union, he added.