

# OSWALD'S MOTHER TELLS HER STORY

Carries a Bag of Documents Before Warren Panel

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 —

Mrs. Marguerite Oswald carried before a Presidential commission today a big black bag that she said contained documents to help prove her son innocent of the assassination of President Kennedy.

At the end of her first day before the investigating panel, she said she had a statement to make but was dissuaded by her newly appointed lawyer.

A few minutes later, Chief Justice Earl Warren, commission chairman, emerged to say that "we have hardly asked her any questions throughout the day" and that "she has many more stories to tell." As a result, she will return tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. Warren disclosed, in answer to a question on whether she had a close relationship with her son, Lee H. Oswald, that "she had not been in communication with her son for one year prior to the assassination."

Asked if this meant by letters as well as by personal communication, Mr. Warren said that that was so. He also said there was no indication of any ill feeling between the 56-year-old mother and her son.

If the mother had not been in touch with her son for a year, that would place the time of her last contact as November, 1962, a few months after he returned from the Soviet Union. President Kennedy was slain last Nov. 22. Oswald was killed two days later in the Dallas city jail by Jack Ruby, a nightclub operator.

Oswald had married his Russian-born wife in the late spring of 1961 in Minsk, and returned with her to the United States in June, 1962.

## Went to Soviet in 1959

He had gone to the Soviet Union in October, 1959, and had sought to renounce his United States citizenship, but the Russians turned him down.

Chief Justice Warren declined to comment on whether Oswald's mother had contradicted the testimony of his widow. Mrs. Marina Oswald told the commission last week that she was certain her husband had shot President Kennedy but that she did not know why.

The mother has not yet, however, told the commission she

believes her son innocent of the slaying, although she has said so publicly. But no conclusions can be drawn from this, Mr. Warren said.

"She's telling her story in her own way from beginning to end," he said.

Commission members indicated that Mrs. Oswald had given a nearly nonstop performance for two and a half hours this morning and about the same time this afternoon.

## One Question Asked

"The only question we asked concerned the identify of letters she presented," Mr. Warren told newsmen. "They were letters her son had written to her while he was in Russia."

He said that while Mrs. Oswald had recited some "helpful things," there was nothing new that would change the picture so far. But, he added, "she says she has much more evidence."

Newsmen asked Mrs. Oswald for a statement as she emerged from the commission offices in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Building on Capitol Hill. She smiled broadly and said, "Yes, I would like to make one comment."

When she moved toward microphones set in front of television and newsreel cameras, her lawyer, John F. Doyle of Washington, interceded.

"I think we'd better go, Mrs. Oswald," he said. "Wait till we finish. After you finish your testimony it will be fine."

Mr. Doyle, who practices general law here, was named to represent Mrs. Oswald before the commission by John Pratt, president of the District of Columbia Bar Association. He did so at the request of J. Lee Rankin, the commission's chief counsel.

Chief Justice Warren said Mrs. Oswald had telephoned Mr. Rankin last week, requesting that she be permitted to testify and that the commission name counsel for her. Mr. Rankin suggested, Mr. Warren said, that she bring her own lawyer but she replied that her lawyer was unable to be in Washington because he was engaged in other matters.

Mrs. Oswald has said that Mark Lane of New York had agreed to represent her son before the Presidential commission without fee.

Mr. Rankin consulted with the Chief Justice on her request for counsel, Mr. Warren said, adding that he had suggested Mr. Pratt be called.

Mr. Pratt was understood to have checked the idea with other lawyers, who also recommended Mr. Doyle, a former United States Attorney. Mr. Doyle telephoned Mrs. Oswald Friday and agreed to accept the assignment.

Mrs. Oswald flew to Washington last night. She was met by Secret Service agents and talked with Mr. Doyle. She had asked for Secret Service protection in Washington.