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Marina Still Held By FBI; Lane Hired By Oswald Mother

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By GEORGE MORRIS

AFTER SEVEN WEEKS under protective custody and enforced isolation from any persons but Secret Service, FBI agents and her "business manager," Lee Harvey Oswald, widow, Marina, is ready to appear as the star witness against her husband later this month when called before the Warren Commission probing the assassination of President Kennedy.

The announcement came not from Marina Oswald but from Jim Martin, her mysterious "business manager," who appeared on the scene by recommendation of the Secret Service.

Meanwhile Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, mother of the slain accused killer, announced she had engaged Mark Lane to defend her son before the Warren Commission. Confirming the announcement, Lane said he would serve without pay.

Martin has in the past week blossomed out with daily statements on behalf of Marina, declaring, as reported by the N.Y. Times Dallas correspondent, Jack Lunguth, that even if a jury found Oswald innocent "her opinion would be unchanged."

Moreover, she insists that Oswald fired on Gen. Edwin Walker last April, although ballistic tests in Washington disproved that theory. And Martin added that Marina will remain in seclusion under Secret Service and FBI guard until the Warren Committee makes its report. Lee Rankin, counsel of the Warren Committee, indicated that the probe may take as long as six months.

EVERY EFFORT to interview Mrs. Oswald — by the Dallas Civil Liberties Union, by former N.Y. Assemblyman Mark Lane who went to Dallas, and by the N.Y. Times — were rejected by Martin, presumably in her behalf.

She also refuses to see her mother-in-law, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, and Ruth Paine, the woman who took her into her home in Irving Tex., and cared for her when she gave birth

while Lee Oswald was living in Dallas.

Why is Marina Oswald held incommunicado? We have asked this question repeatedly since Dec. 17. Is it because what she had to tell could prove embarrassing to the FBI, Secret Service and Dallas police, who so miserably neglected protection for the President? Does she have evidence that could implicate others and thereby refute the FBI's and Dallas police conclusions that Oswald was guilty and alone? Does she have evidence to back the mounting material pointing to a link between Oswald and U.S. undercover agencies? (See the photostats on pages 6 and 7.)

It now appears that Marina Oswald is even overeager to give the testimony the FBI and Secret Service want. She promises to scream her husband is guilty even if a probe acquits him. For good measure, she will even say Lee Oswald shot at Walker. So said Jim Martin to the New York Times.

This extra zeal on the part of Mrs. Marina Oswald to oblige the FBI and Secret Service is matched only by the crudeness of the entire arrangement to isolate her — a crudeness that wouldn't be acceptable for a grade B movie.

And if the Warren Commission takes her story at its face value without a real effort to get the full truth out of her, the entire affair will be reduced to a farce unmatched in history.

In that respect, of serious concern to all who lay hope on a full and unaffected investigation by the Warren Commission, is the announcement by Rankin that the plan is to rely on the regular investigatory instruments of the government (like the FBI, Secret Service and CIA) and that there is to be no provision for defense of Oswald as had been suggested by prominent attorneys, among them Percy Foreman of Houston, head of the Defense Attorneys Association of America.

Mr. Lane offered to undertake such defense, but only received

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Marina Still an FBI Captive

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promise that his brief, raising many doubts on the evidence against Oswald, will be taken into consideration.

THERE WILL be no attorney defense of Oswald in the Warren hearings who could possibly cross-examine witnesses at the Dallas Police, FBI and Secret Service. The question is only whether Oswald as an individual was guilty. As Percy Foreman stated over a TV program, it is a matter of concern to all Americans to get at the truth in the manner provided by court procedures.

The overwhelming majority of Americans, as the polls indicated, were sorry for the murder of Oswald not so much for his individual right to have a trial, because of their belief that a trial more of the truth would come out. Large numbers are even doubtful of his guilt, and even larger numbers stated the FBI and Dallas Police conclusion that he was guilty.

Numerous questions remain unanswered. Was Oswald an undercover agent for the CIA or the FBI that sought to recruit him? Much evidence has appeared to support that contention. If that is proven, it would not prove Oswald guilty alone in the crime. There have been much competent opinion and especially from European newsmen who were on the scene, that the assassination was well planned and not the work of amateurs.

Where would the planners be for a "fall guy" if not through their notoriously numerous contacts in the FBI, Secret Service and Dallas Police and their stables of paid insiders and provocateurs? Is it well known that the rash ultra-rightist organizations, like the Minutemen who

they bear arms, even machine guns, and the Birchites, well's Nazi Party and the Socialist Party, have a relatively higher percentage of super-armed military and police men than among other sections of the population. Many of them have top military men membership.

It is said may have been an undercover agent for the U.S. and necessarily guilty, or even aware of the plans. He has been used like the blind and witless Van Der

Lube who was used by Hitlerites to set the Reichstag on fire in 1933, and then labeled a Dutch Communist.

By the same token, men in the FBI, CIA or Dallas police apparatus could have been involved in the conspiracy, but without the knowledge of the authorities of their organizations.

There were a number of such possibilities and it appears that the Warren Commission is looking into them. The Wall Street Journal of January 20 says in its report from Washington that the Warren commission "asks federal agencies to comb their files for any mention of Lee Oswald or Jack Ruby. Even the Securities and Exchange Commission gets the word."

Unless the Warren Commission does get at the bottom of the plot to kill Kennedy the "Next" project, as suggested in "The Rockwell Report" (see photostate on page 6) may be attempted.

THE CYNICISM surrounding the seclusion of Marina Oswald was well shown in a letter in Russian, said to be the only direct word from her, in which she rejected an effort by the Dallas Civil Liberties Union to interview her to determine whether her rights are respected. She replied that she is fully satisfied.

She wrote, "I don't think you have anything to worry about. What you read in the newspapers -- everything is correct. I don't object to the Secret Service. I am only grateful for their time."

She will see people "when I am ready" continued her letter adding "I also give much time to visits with the FBI."

She concluded "I repeat, I am in as good a position as one can expect me to be after what has happened."

Jim Martin, who knows no Russian, certainly thinks she is in a "good position." With the fund for her from untested sources already above \$20,000, he figures it may yield her as much as \$1,500 annually plus the \$126 monthly social security.

Sue Dallas Police or Jack Ruby for the death of her husband? Marina Oswald will do no such thing, Martin told the Times.

"She has this feeling that her husband killed the President," said Martin. "When the law suits are proposed to her she says let sleeping dogs lie."

"That's not her expression. She hadn't learned the much

English yet," Martin hastened to explain. "But she's convinced he is guilty even though she cared for him."

According to the N.Y. Times, Marina Oswald went so far as to tell Martin "she has no ill will towards anyone including her husband's slayer Jack Ruby."

MARINA OSWALD'S situation is quite understandable. At 22 and still unable to speak English, she is the mother of a two-year old and two-month old child. When the assassination occurred, the Secret Service and FBI secretly lodged them in a motel Jim Martin managed. It was there, on the advice of the Secret Service, that she picked Martin as "business advisor." He immediately picked a lawyer for her and everything has been well in hand since.

With Oswald in his grave and Mrs. Oswald "in as good a position as one can expect" there is only the question of Jack Ruby's "rights." And it seems that a champion for those rights has come forward in the person of Robert Morris, former chief counsel for the Senate's Eastland Committee on Internal Security, who is running for the U.S. Senate in Texas.

With anti-communism his platform, this ultra-right candidate now fears for Jack Ruby's rights because Chief Justice Earl Warren is head of the commission probing the assassination. If Ruby is convicted and appeals says Morris, lawyers could "justifiably" claim that Warren "would influence the other eight justices."

In California, meanwhile, the Kennedy assassination led to an announcement by Attorney General Mosk that he will sponsor a law banning the Minutemen and other private military arming bearing groups. Robert DePugh of Norbonne, Mo., who heads the Minutemen, leads 20,000 members nationally. Troy Houghton, California coordinator, says the outfit has 3,000 members in that state. But he says a state law wouldn't affect them because they each carry arms "as individuals" and it would be unconstitutional to bar them from owning weapons for "their own protection," from "communism."

"The leaders of these groups are paranoid in their fear of Communism, in their distrust of American institutions and in their desire to possess all varieties of firearms from pistols to machine guns," said Mosk of California's armament laws.