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Widow of Oswald To Be Called First By Warren Panel

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By The Associated Press
WASHINGTON, Jan. 27

The widow of Lee H. Oswald will be the first witness called before the commission investigating the assassination of President Kennedy, Chief Justice Earl Warren announced today.

Oswald had been accused of the assassination when he was shot dead at a Dallas jail two days after Mr. Kennedy died.

Mrs. Marina Oswald, 22 years old, will appear before the commission or some of its members within the next two weeks. Chief Justice Warren, head of the seven-man Presidential commission, said the date had not been set.

[Oswald's widow, in a television interview, said that "facts tell me that Lee shot Kennedy."]

It is uncertain if Mrs. Oswald will come to Washington or if lawyers for the commission and one or more of its members will go to Dallas for the questioning.

Under U.S. Protection

Mrs. Oswald, who was born in the Soviet Union, and her two small daughters are living under Secret Service custody somewhere in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Chief Justice Warren, speaking after a commission meeting, said there were no present plans for public hearings and no list yet of witnesses who might be questioned.

He said the commission had rejected the request of Oswald's mother, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, to have lawyers present at the questioning of her daughter-in-law and other witnesses.

Oswald's mother said that "trumped-up charges" had been leveled at Oswald and that she wanted his wife questioned by an attorney in defense of her slain son.

The Chief Justice said the question of interrogating Jack

Ruby, the Dallas night club owner who killed Oswald, "has not been discussed."

He also said the commission did not know how long the investigation, ordered by President Johnson shortly after the tragedy in Dallas, would last.

(AP)—The mother of Lee H. Oswald said today that she and her daughter-in-law almost met accidentally at Oswald's grave yesterday, but that Secret Service agents had kept them apart.

The two have been separated since the funeral for Oswald.

Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, the mother, has been critical of some statements attributed to the widow, Marina Oswald, by her lawyer and business adviser.

Mrs. Oswald said the "Secret Service agents whisked my daughter-in-law away the minute they spotted me. She didn't have a chance to say anything."

She said that, as she drove up the Rose Hill Cemetery road toward the grave, Marina and her 2-year-old daughter, June, got in a car with several men. When she reached the grave, Mrs. Oswald said, she left her car and stood in front of a second car in which there were several men.

When she stepped out of the way, she said, this car sped off in the same direction as the car containing Marina and her child.

Mrs. Oswald said: "They had no right keeping me from speaking to my daughter-in-law and granddaughter."

Widow Accepts Guilt

The widow of Lee H. Oswald told the nation last night that she did not want to believe her husband had assassinated President Kennedy, but "facts tell me that Lee shot Kennedy."

Mrs. Marina Oswald, interviewed in Dallas for the Columbia Broadcasting System's evening news program with Walter Cronkite, told in simple and touching phrases of broken English that she had loved her husband and was sorry for him because "he die very young."

Describing aspects of her life since her husband was accused of killing President Kennedy and was himself shot to death two days later, Mrs. Oswald said that she visited her husband's grave every week, and then added: "one time or two times a week."

Although Mrs. Oswald had been reported as being finally convinced that her husband had fired the bullets that killed President Kennedy and wounded Gov. John B. Connally Jr. of Texas, her own statement to the nation and to the world carried

a dramatic impact on the screen.

Mrs. Oswald, who appeared self-possessed, with moments of sternness lightened by a wisp of hair falling over her forehead, was asked by Eddie Barker, news director of KRLD-TV, in Dallas:

"Do you believe that your husband killed President Kennedy?"

"I don't want to believe, but I have to watch facts and facts tell me that Lee shot Kennedy," Mrs. Oswald replied.

\$35,000 Is Donated

Mr. Baker noted that more than \$35,000 had been sent to Mrs. Oswald and her two children, who had been left destitute. Several banks were said to have refused to handle an account in Mrs. Oswald's name, but Mr. Barker explained that a trust fund had been set up to handle the contributions.

Mrs. Oswald, struggling over her English, declared:

"I want to thank very much, but my bad English don't give me to say too much. I want to say to thank you, American people, thank you for me and for my children. And now I am happy. American people help me, and carry [care for] me. And American people have very big heart."

The Russian-born widow said she did not want to go back to the Soviet Union, but wanted, rather, "to be an American citizen, after I study English."

She said she had lived a long time in Texas and wanted to continue to live there. She noted that Rachel, her second daughter—3 months old—had been born in Texas. She added, softly, that the "Lee funeral" had also been in Texas. "I like to stay, and I want to live here," she declared.

Mrs. Oswald was asked if she had any fears for herself or for her children.

"No, I don't have fear, because everybody is sorry me, and help me," she replied.

It was suggested that she write a book about her life with Lee Oswald and she answered: "Sometime. I want to write a book later."

Officials at C.B.S. said that the interview was the first one that Mrs. Oswald had granted. They said that it had been arranged through John Thorne, her attorney, and that it had not been necessary to get approval from security officials who have been protecting the Oswald family. Mrs. Oswald, it was said, had put off talking with reporters until she felt she had a better grasp of English.

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