

# OSWALD'S WIDOW DISMISSES 2 AIDES

She Ends Agreements With  
Lawyer and Adviser

By JACK LANGGUTH  
Special to The New York Times

DALLAS, Feb. 22—Mrs. Lee H. Oswald has terminated her agreements with the lawyer and the business adviser who had represented her since the shooting of her husband.

She has engaged as her new attorney William A. McKenzie of Dallas. Mr. McKenzie is the lawyer who accompanied her brother-in-law Robert Oswald during his testimony in Washington this week before the Warren Commission.

John Thorne, her former attorney, said he had no comment on Mrs. Oswald's decision. James H. Martin, her former business adviser, could not be reached for comment.

Mrs. Oswald and her two children, who had been living with Mr. Martin and his family in Dallas, have moved to a private house in the city.

Mr. Martin had announced last week that Mrs. Oswald had signed contracts with Meredith Press in Des Moines, Iowa, for the book rights to her memoirs and with Tex-Italia Films, an Italian company, for the motion picture rights.

Her change of attorneys will entangle the terms of those contracts, according to one source. It is understood that Mr. Thorne is taking the position that the contracts Mrs. Oswald signed as his client are binding. He and Mr. Martin are said to be attempting to persuade her to reconsider her decision.

No reason was given for her decision. Nor was it established whether Mrs. Oswald would engage another business agent, or rely entirely on Mr. McKenzie.

Mr. Martin had previously declined to disclose the terms of the contracts already signed, or the share apportioned to him and to Mr. Thorne.

At the last accounting, Mrs. Oswald and her two girls, 2-year-old June and 4-month-old Rachel, had received about \$40,000 from Americans concerned over their plight.

Mrs. Oswald's husband was charged with the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas last Nov. 22. Two days later he himself was killed by Jack Ruby, who is now standing trial.

## Placed in Custody

After her husband's death, Mrs. Oswald and her children were placed in protective custody by the Secret Service at

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a motel on the outskirts of Dallas. Born in Russia, Mrs. Oswald spoke little English at the time.

Oswald's mother, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, and his brother, Robert, were also taken to the motel, where Mr. Martin was employed as the assistant manager.

Robert Oswald, sales manager

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for a brick company, decided that his home in Denton, some 30 miles from Dallas, was too small for his sister-in-law, her two children and the Secret Service agents assigned to protect her.

Mr. Martin volunteered to share his home and to leave his job at the motel to act as her agent. Robert Oswald approved the arrangement, and Mr. Martin then selected Mr. Thorne, who practices in suburban Grand Prairie, to serve as Mrs. Oswald's lawyer.

Until her recent trip to Washington to testify before the Presidential commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren, which is investigating the assassination, Mrs. Oswald had been kept in strict seclusion by her advisers.

## Denied Coercion

Last month, after repeated attempts to meet with her had failed, the Dallas Civil Liberties Union wrote to her in Russian to ask if she was being held against her will.

She wrote back, also in Russian, that she was as happy as she could be under the circumstances and that she appreciated the protection of the Secret Service.

Mrs. Oswald said at that time that she had not got in touch with friends she had made before the assassination because she wanted to spare them further involvement in the case.

## Times Article Disputed

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (UPI)—The Warren Commission finished hearing testimony today from Robert Oswald.

Allen W. Dulles, former head of the Central Intelligence Agency, was the only member of the commission present.

Mr. Dulles and Mr. Oswald's attorney, William A. McKenzie, both charged that a published report on Mr. Oswald's secret testimony yesterday before the commission was false.

The article, in today's New York Times, said Mr. Oswald had told the commission he believed his brother had been trained as a Communist agent while a defector in the Soviet Union.

"That was not in the testimony," Mr. Dulles said angrily. "I deny that statement was made."

Mr. Dulles also said that he would discuss the article with Chief Justice Earl Warren and other members of the commission.

The article also said that, under questioning by the commission, Mr. Oswald retreated from his suggestion.

Mr. McKenzie read a long statement to newsmen in which he charged that the article was filled with "irresponsible inaccuracies." Mr. Oswald said nothing and only smiled when newsmen asked him questions.