

Oswald's Wife Plans to Stay in Dallas

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Special of The New York Times

DALLAS, Dec. 7—Marina Oswald's love for her dead husband remains strong, a friend who sees her regularly said today.

The young Russian-born widow of Lee H. Oswald, the accused assassin of President Kennedy, wants to continue to live here because Oswald's grave is nearby.

Oswald was buried in Forth Worth, Nov. 25, the day after he was killed here while being transferred from the city jail. His 22-year-old widow wept at the graveside, and has returned to put fresh flowers on the grave.

She still "starts" every time Oswald's name is mentioned, the friend said.

Mrs. Oswald and her two young children are being held in protective custody by the Secret Service in a two-room suite at a motel in the Dallas area.

The friend told of her love for Oswald and of what she was doing while kept in seclusion.

The enormity of the crime her late husband is accused of took several days to "sink in," the friend said.

Mrs. Oswald arrived here last year, was not interested in politics and had learned little English because Oswald insist-

ed that Russian be spoken at home.

She is now spending much of her time with a Russian-English dictionary. She has also shifted from Russian to English in talking to her 22-month-old daughter, June Lee. The other child, Audrey Marina Rachel, is six weeks old.

Mrs. Oswald, the friend continued, has been overwhelmed at the sympathetic reaction to her plight. She has received hundreds of letters expressing understanding, and a total of \$8,000 has been sent to her from all over the country.

The letters have included a dozen offers of homes, but some contain restrictions she will not accept, such as changing her name or giving up her children.

Few letters have been derogatory. There have been no threats.

Mrs. Oswald, her friend said, wants people to know how sorry she is that the President was killed.

Although the rifle believed to be the one used to kill the President had been in Oswald's possession since March, his widow said she did not know he had it or a pistol.

Mrs. Oswald opens each letter she receives. She plans to answer every one, probably, because she is not facile in English, with a printed reply.

Her friend said Secret Serv-

ice agents had suggested to her that it might be safer and easier for her to return to the Soviet Union than to try to live in the United States.

This distressed her. She said she wanted to remain in this country no matter what, that she had always dreamed of living here and wanted to be an American.

Mrs. Oswald spends most of her time in her rooms, where the Federal Bureau of Investigation still occasionally questions her through an interpreter.

She does go out once in a while. She went to a shopping center for shoes this week.

She has changed her hair styling. She wore it long before because her husband liked it that way. She still wears no makeup, her preference as well as his.

Mrs. Oswald has been moved from the motel where she was taken with Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, her mother-in-law, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Oswald, her brother-in-law and his wife, after her husband was killed. She is now secluded from Oswald's relatives as well as from the public.

She has reportedly received an offer of \$12,500 from Stern, a West German magazine, for her story of Oswald, but has not accepted it.