

Oswald wife says he liked Kennedy

WASHINGTON [UPI]—Lee Harvey Oswald expressed admiration for John F. Kennedy, but once defended an unrelated assassination attempt by asking, "What would you say about getting rid of Hitler at the right time?" Oswald's widow testified Wednesday.

"Whatever he said about President Kennedy, it was always good, always," Marina Oswald Porter told the House Assassinations Committee in her first sworn testimony about her husband. She recalled Oswald telling her to "hush up, not to interrupt him" while he was listening to a Kennedy speech broadcast to the Soviet Union.

"He always spoke complimentary of Kennedy . . . how young and attractive the President of the United States was," said Mrs. Porter, now married to a Texas electronics worker.

WHEN THE couple returned to the U.S. from the Soviet Union, Oswald became more withdrawn, she said. "Little by little he became gloomier—disillusioned. He was dissatisfied with his job."

Mrs. Porter recalled Oswald returning to the couple's apartment the night of April 10, 1963, after Oswald unsuccessfully attempted to kill Edwin Walker, a retired Army general known for his conservative views.

"He was very pale and out of breath," she recalled. "I asked him to explain. He said he had tried to shoot Gen. Walker. I said how dare you claim someone's life. And he said, 'What would you say about getting rid of Hitler at the right time?'"

"I REALIZED it wasn't just a manly hobby of possessing a rifle," she said. "he was capable of killing someone. I was very disappointed. I had nowhere to

go."

She said she did not alert police about the attack on Walker because she was loyal to her husband and did not speak English.

Mrs. Porter said she married Oswald in Minsk after only a six-week courtship because he was "polite" and "I did like him."

She recalled under questioning that Oswald, while in Russia, often would sit and write notes in English that she did not understand. She said it "crossed my mind during our life in Russia . . . that he was making reports to somebody and he didn't want me to know." She said after he died, she learned the material was part of Oswald's diary.

During life with Oswald in Minsk, she recalled Oswald "occasionally" took out his rifle and cleaned it or examined it. And she remembered her husband was "a little disappointed" upon his arrival back in the U.S. that no reporters greeted him.

Mrs. Porter was brought into the House Caucus Room on Capitol Hill in the glare of television lights and under the close protection of six U.S. marshals, two of them women.