

Calls Oswald Weak Man

By DANIEL F. GILMORE

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A woman who worked in the Cuban embassy in Mexico City when Lee Harvey Oswald was refused a visa in 1963 said yesterday she considered him too weak a person to have assassinated President John Kennedy.

Testimony by Sylvia Tirado Bazan, recorded in Mexico City earlier this year, was played at a public session of the House Assassinations Committee.

Tirado had been scheduled to testify in person, along with two Cuban officials, but canceled because of business commitments in Mexico. Instead, the committee heard a transcript of a lengthy interview with committee investigators in Mexico City June 6.

She said that while she was a secretary at the Cuban consulate, Oswald came to her three times on Sept. 27, 1963, for a transit visa to Cuba, but was refused for lack of a

visa to the Soviet Union, his final destination.

Friend of Revolution

"He said that he was a friend of the Cuban revolution," she said. "He showed letters to the Communist Party, the American Communist Party, his labor card, . . . his working in Russia . . . his marriage pact . . . that he was married to a Russian."

Tirado said Oswald went out to get passport photos and when he returned said he had obtained the Soviet visa. But she checked with the Russian embassy and found out that was not true.

When he returned a third time, she said, he was very angry.

"He was red and he was almost crying and he was insisting and insisting," she said. She called the Cuban consul, Eusebio Azcue. He told Oswald "if he didn't go away at that moment he was going to kick him, or something like that," and Oswald left.

"We only thought that he was a crazy man, an adventurer, or something like that," she said, and couldn't believe he was involved in the assassination.

"No, no, even now I don't think that he would have done it," she said. "No, because I think that he was a weak man. I saw that he could get angry, but for me, he was not a man that could kill the President because even when I saw him on the television and he said all the time 'I'm innocent'."

City News Tues 9/19/78