

MARINA GOES TO TEXAS

September Key Time for Oswald

This is the final of five articles on the life and activities of Lee Harvey Oswald in New Orleans which have taken on new significance with the district attorney's probe into the assassination.

By NEIL SANDERS

September, 1963, was apparently a key month in the life of Lee Harvey Oswald, whether or not the testimony that he was then conspiring to kill President John F. Kennedy is true.

It was then that his wife Marina left him to stay with a friend in Irving, Texas, and await the birth of their second child.

It was also then that the alleged plot was hatched to kill JFK, if District Attorney Jim Garrison's key witness in his bid to prove such a conspiracy is to be believed.

PERRY R. RUSSO, A 25-YEAR-OLD Baton Rouge insurance salesman, has testified that he heard Oswald, David William Ferrie and Clay L. Shaw plot the assassination at Ferrie's apartment during September. Shaw faces trial for criminal conspiracy in the plot.

Russo further testified that Oswald, and Ferrie who died Feb. 22, were roommates at the time the murder was discussed in the apartment at 3330 Louisiana Ave. pkwy.

There is nothing in the Warren Report to indicate Oswald ever roomed with Ferrie or even knew him. Marina testified that during their five months in New Orleans, her husband nearly always stayed home with her and their baby in the evenings.

Mrs. Ruth Paine, Marina's Texas friend, arrived in New Orleans on Sept. 20 and spent three nights with the Oswalds. She said she found relations between them much improved over a previous visit. Nonetheless, it was decided that Marina would live with her in Irving while awaiting birth of the baby.

MARINA AND HER FRIEND TOURED Bourbon st. one of the nights while Oswald stayed home and packed his

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family's things. Marina, Mrs. Paine and the baby pulled out for Texas Sept. 23.

While Marina knew of Oswald's plans to go to Mexico City and thence to Cuba if possible, Mrs. Paine was told that he was headed for Houston and possibly Philadelphia to look for work.

The Warren Report says Oswald remained in New Orleans until Sept. 25.

"His precise whereabouts on the night of Sept. 24 are

uncertain," the report states, "but in view of his limited finances he probably returned to the apartment to sleep after checking his luggage at a bus station or spent the night in an inexpensive hotel or rooming house."

Sometime after 5 a.m. on Sept. 25, Oswald collected an employment check from his post office box here and cashed it between 8 a.m. and noon at a store about six blocks from his apartment.

It is believed he left New Orleans on Continental Trailways Bus No. 5121, which left New Orleans at 12:20 p.m., Sept. 25, and arrived in Houston at 10:50 p.m.

THE OSWALDS' LANDLADY, Mrs. J. J. Garner, said the couple left owing 15 days rent. She said the apartment was in "filthy" condition.

(Mrs. Garner told the States-Item last week that Marina mailed her a check for the outstanding rent several months after the assassination.)

Failing to get a visa to visit either Cuba or Russia, Oswald returned to the United States, arriving in Dallas Oct. 3. There, he rented a room and visited Marina at nearby Irving on weekends.

On Oct. 20, the Oswalds' second daughter was born.

Nov. 22, President Kennedy was killed and Oswald arrested as a suspect.

Two days later, Oswald was dead—his miserable, confused life ended by a bullet from the gun of Jack Ruby.