

# Three Oswald Photos Authentic, Experts Say

Bulletin Wire Services

Washington — Three snapshots linking Lee Harvey Oswald to a rifle like the one which killed President John F. Kennedy are authentic and show no signs of fakery, testimony prepared for Congress today shows.

Two experts in photo analysis, physicist-mathematician Calvin McCamy and Cecil Kirk, a District of Columbia police sergeant, were called to describe for the House Select Committee on Assassinations the results of their studies of the snapshots.

Evidence that the photos are authentic, like virtually all the testimony presented to the committee so far, supports the Warren Commission's conclusion that Oswald was the lone assassin.

The target of conspiracy theorists who accused the government of a massive cover-up, the Warren Commission was ordered into being by Kennedy's successor, the late President Lyndon B. Johnson. It was chaired by then-U.S. Chief Justice Earl Warren.

Joining in that conclusion yesterday was Oswald's widow, Marina Oswald Porter, who conceded that she now believes her husband assassinated the President on Nov. 22, 1963 in Dallas and acted alone because "I do not believe he would confide in someone."

Near the end of 7½ hours of testimony over two days, Mrs. Porter, who is divorced and lives in Texas, said that Oswald was probably mentally ill.

Wednesday, the Russian-born witness had pleaded she was incompetent to conclude whether Oswald had shot the President.

But yesterday, under persistent pressing by Rep. Christopher Dodd (D-Conn) as to Oswald's guilt, she replied:

"Yes, I do. I believe the man was capable of doing such a thing."

Did she believe Oswald acted alone? Dodd asked.

"Yes," Mrs. Porter replied. "I do."

Urged by Dodd to give her reasons, she answered, "Maybe just intuition."

She added, "I do not believe he would confide in someone. He was not that open (a) person."

She said Oswald "wanted to be somebody — wanted to be recognized," possibly by killing someone important.

Mrs. Porter said, "The whole matter is so irrational it's hard to come up with an explanation. . . As long as it was someone important, it probably didn't matter what their political views were."

Asked by Rep. Richardson Preyer (D-NC) whether Oswald's affiliation with left-wing groups had motivated him, she replied:

"If the question is whether he acted from mental or political reasons, I'd have to choose mental."

Mrs. Porter said she did not recognize Oswald's mental state for what it was.

"I was only 21 when he died," she recalled of her 2½-year marriage, "and I wasn't mature enough to recognize the symptoms. I did not recognize the state of his mind. It did not occur to me then that he was sick."

Oswald was 24 at the time of the assassination.

She concluded her testimony with the statement "I still think that a person capable of killing another is not stable. I still don't think it is strictly political."

The snapshots purportedly showing Oswald holding a rifle and Communist literature and wearing a pistol strapped to his waist have figured importantly in the various theories disputing the commission's findings.

Critics charged that Oswald's head was superimposed.

Dallas police officers seized the photos while searching Oswald's belongings a few hours after the assassination. Questioned after his arrest, Oswald said the photos were phony.

To resolve the question, the House committee retained photo analysis experts, including McCamy and Kirk, to conduct sophisticated tests on the snapshots. The experts concluded "that the photographs revealed no evidence of faking," committee counsel

Robert Blakey said yesterday.

Kirk testified that cameras, particularly inexpensive ones of molded plastic such as the one found among Oswald's belongings, leave unique identifying nicks and scratches on film.

He said test photos taken with the Oswald camera last month revealed the same identifying marks as those on the snapshots of Oswald. Test photos taken with other cameras of the same model showed entirely different markings, he said.

So the photo experts concluded that the Oswald photos were taken with the Oswald camera, Kirk said.