

# Sorrow Remains 3

By SARA TODD

Almost three years have passed since a President of the United States was assassinated in Dallas, leaving not only this country, but the whole world numb with shock.

Ruth Paine, who lived on W. Fifth Street in Irving, was just one of scores of persons caught in the turmoil and the one probably most clearly connected with the accused assassin and his family. It was she who befriended Marina Oswald—took her into her home and cared for her when Lee Harvey Oswald was unable to provide for his family.

It was in Ruth Paine's home that Oswald visited his family on weekends.

An elementary education major, Mrs. Paine is teaching in a kindergarten and living a quiet life, still in Irving, but in a different home.

A TALL, WILLOWY brunette with a spontaneous smile, Mrs. Paine looks upon the tragedy with mixed emotions. For Marina Oswald Porter, she feels compassion. She looks upon Lee Harvey Oswald as an enigma who will forever remain so—and for the late

President John F. Kennedy, she expresses a sincere devotion.

The controversy over the Warren Commission Report has continued, but she thinks the men serving on the commission did a thorough job, and that the FBI left no stone unturned in its search for the truth.

Looking on the intervening years, Mrs. Paine says, "I still feel the deepest sorrow for the loss of President Kennedy.

With me, it was a sense of personal loss. It was just as a death in my family. I am lucky. I have only lost grandparents, and they died at an old age. With the young it's different. President Kennedy's life was incomplete.

"WHEN MY LITTLE 7-year-old daughter learned of this interview, she asked, 'Mother, how do you feel about President Kennedy?'"

"I replied that I felt as if there were buckets of tears I had not yet shed.

"I feel that President Kennedy captured my generation as no other man could have. During his administration I followed day-by-day news accounts of

## Years Later ★

him and his family much the same as the British follow the lives of the royal family. I still have a keen interest in the Kennedys.

"Recently I was invited to a showing of 'Years of Lightning—Day of Drums.' Frankly, I didn't feel up to seeing it.

"I HAVE A FRIEND who feels the same way about the President. He went to Washington to visit his grave. I don't feel that I am up to that yet, either. Someday I may."

Ruth Paine has offered her friendship to Marina three times by phone since the assassination. Apparently Marina does not care to renew the acquaintance, partly Mrs. Paine thinks, because of sad memories.

She recalls the conditions under which she befriended Marina. Both were going through a time of family stress. Mrs. Paine and her husband were separated at the time and Marina and Lee Oswald were at odds over many things—finances among them. Both women were very unhappy.

"I'm still driving the same little green station wagon that I brought Marina back from New Orleans in,"

# THE

Year—No. 310 \*\*\* ★★ ★

# DALLAS

DALLAS, TEXAS, SUNDAY

# TIMES

MORNING, NOVEMBER 6, 1966

# HERALD

## Woman Who Befriended Marina Recalls Tragedy

Mrs. Paine said. "I needed someone and so did Marina. I was greatly concerned for her and the expected baby."

"YOU CAN'T IMAGINE how much fun we had talking about such things as washing baby clothes and cooking, all in Russian. I am particularly interested in the Russian language and the best way to learn is by talking."

Mrs. Paine says that Marina was contented in her home and that she and Lee Harvey Oswald were attached to each other by a mutual need—perhaps this, more than love. They were making plans to take an apartment and make a life together.

"Marina had a great feeling for Lee," she stated, "and he often expressed gratitude to me for what I was doing for his family. They needed each other and I know he really was grateful.

"I AM SORRY HE didn't live long enough to face trial so we could better understand the reasoning be-

See **SORROW** on Page 17



MRS. RUTH PAINE

Continued From Page 1

hind such an illness as he had. Now we will never know."

To her, Lee Harvey Oswald is Lee the father, not Lee, a presidential assassin. Her memories of him are of a father coming to see his children on weekends, yet in a turmoil with underlying tensions.

Mrs. Paine regrets that she relieved him of family financial burdens that enabled him to make his trip to Mexico just before the assassination.

"I take honesty very seriously, and I feel I was wronged by not being told the truth about this.

"His political beliefs were held together by emotional reason," she continued, "and his thinking was poor. I knew he was 'far out' in his politics so I just didn't discuss the subject with him."

**RUTH PAINE WAS** shocked when she learned of the gun hidden in her garage. She thinks Oswald probably looked on guns as a form of exerting power.

"I am very afraid of guns, and would never allow one on the premises," she said.

"I think guns have played a greater part in the lives of men

in Texas than elsewhere, due to the history of the state. Guns have indicated a manner of pride and manhood here."

She feels sure that Oswald was the lone assassin and that he also was the one who made an attempt on Gen. Edwin A. Walker's life, despite the fact that rumors have persisted that the would-be-killer left the scene in an automobile.

"I was giving him driving lessons later, and I know by the way he handled the steering wheel he had never driven before. As he would drive around a corner, he didn't have enough coordination to straighten up the front wheels. He headed for the curb."

**LOOKING BACK, SHE** stated, "I guess my sympathy for Marina stems from my family background. My people were always inclined to help where they could. For instance, they helped relocate Hungarian refugees in this country. My grandfather was a real estate man in Palo Alto, Calif. He helped Chinese families find homes when it was virtually impossible."

Throughout all the contro-

versy, personally, the Michael Paines have not been harrassed by letters or phone calls.

"I was especially sad one day, however," she said, "Shortly after the assassination a fifth grader came to my door and said he had come to interview me for a history assignment. I agreed, and he asked a few good questions. Then he said he had two questions from his teacher to ask.

"First, was I a Communist, and second, did I believe in God?"

"I answered: 'No, I am not a Communist; yes, I believe in God'.

"That day I was glad that my children were not yet old enough to go to school. Things are all right now, and I am thankful."