

NEW YORK, SEPT. 20 (AP)-LEE HARVEY OSWALD'S WIDOW IS QUOTED AS SAYING HE WROTE HIS MUCH PUBLICIZED DIARY TO GIVE HIMSELF A FAVORABLE IMAGE IN THE UNITED STATES AND THAT IT WAS WRITTEN AND REWRITTEN.

(THE DIARY STARTS WITH THE ARRIVAL OF OSWALD--ACCUSED SLAYING OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY--IN MOSCOW ON OCT. 16, 1959, BUT HIS RUSSIAN-BORN WIFE DECLARED SHE IS SATISFIED HE DID NOT EVEN DECIDE TO WRITE IT UNTIL EARLY 1961.

(HER REMARKS WERE REPORTED BY HELEN YENNE, A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT FOR THE NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE, WHO INTERVIEWED HER AT HER RICHARDSON, TEX. HOME.

("LEE WROTE THE DIARY TO SHOW HIMSELF AS HE WANTED PEOPLE IN AMERICA TO SEE HIM," THE WIDOW, MARINA SAID, SPEAKING THROUGH AN INTERPRETER.

HE WORKED IT OVER UNTIL HE WAS SATISFIED HIS IMAGE IN IT WOULD BE FAVORABLE, SHE ADDED, BECAUSE "HE WAS AFRAID HE WOULD BE ARRESTED FOR HIS DEFECTION WHEN HE CAME HOME FROM RUSSIA."

SHE MET OSWALD ON MARCH 17, 1961, AND THEY WERE MARRIED ON APRIL 30. HE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES WITH HER THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

"HE CONFIDED NOT LONG AFTER WE MET THAT HE HAD BEGUN, ABOUT A MONTH EARLIER, TO WRITE A DIARY OF HIS LIFE IN OUR COUNTRY," MRS. OSWALD IS QUOTED AS SAYING. "HE WAS WRITING ABOUT THE FIRST YEAR AND A HALF FROM MEMORY."

SHE SAID THAT CONTRARY TO SOME REPORTS, SHE NEVER SAW THE DIARY UNTIL SHE WAS GIVEN A COPY AFTER IT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE PRESS IN THIS COUNTRY.

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"LEE WAS VERY SECRETIVE ABOUT THE DIARY ONCE WE WERE MARRIED," THE STORY QUOTED HER.

IN PUBLISHED ACCOUNTS OF THE "HISTORIC DIARY," AS OSWALD TITLED IT, HE WROTE IN ENTRIES DATED SOON AFTER HIS ARRIVAL THAT HE WAS STARTING A NEW LIFE AND DIDN'T WANT ANY PART OF HIS OLD.

LATER ENTRIES, HOWEVER, DESCRIBED HIM AS BEING "COMPLETELY DISGRUNTLED WITH THE SOVIET UNION" AND EAGER TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES.

THE DIARY ENDS ON MARCH 27, 1962, AFTER HE OBTAINED PERMISSION TO RETURN HOME AND BRING HIS WIFE AND CHILD.

KENNEDY WAS SLAIN IN DALLAS LAST NOV. 22 AND TWO DAYS LATER OSWALD WAS KILLED BY NIGHT CLUB OWNER JACK RUBY.

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