

Oswald's Wife Says He Developed 2d Personality

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 23 — As seen by his Russian-born wife, Lee Harvey Oswald became a changed man with a new and bewildering personality when he returned to the United States in 1962.

To his wife, he became a man with two personalities — "a very good father," but also a man who was reclusive, secretive and highly irritable.

Mrs. Oswald concluded that her husband had not shot President Kennedy because he wanted to do something that would bring him notoriety.

"From everything that I know about my husband, and of the events that transpired, I can conclude that he wanted in any way, whether good or bad, to do something that would make him outstanding, that he would be known in history," she said in explaining the motive for the assassination.

Personality Described

In candid, calm terms, Mrs. Marina Oswald described the personality of her husband and discussed possible motivations for the assassination in testimony last February before the Warren Commission. Her lengthy testimony was made public today by the commission.

From the testimony, it was apparent that Mrs. Oswald, who had married Oswald during his stay in the Soviet Union, was bewildered by what happened to her husband upon his return to the United States in June, 1962.

"I would say that immediately after coming to the United States Lee changed," she testified. "I did not know such a man in Russia.

"He helped me as before, but he became a little more of a recluse. He did not like my Russian friends, and he tried to forbid me to have anything to do with them.

Irritability Recalled

"He was very irritable, sometimes for a trifle, for a trifling reason."

It was as if Oswald had acquired two different personalities, she said.

"Generally he was—usually he was quite as he always was," she said. "He used to help me. And he was a good family man.

"Sometimes, apparently without reason, at least I did not know reasons, if any existed, he became quite a stranger. At such times he was impossible to ask him anything. He simply kept to himself. He was irritated by trifles."

Citing an example of the

She Recalls That Husband Was Highly Irritable After '62 Return From Soviet

"trifling occurrences" that exasperated Oswald, she said he would become "very angry" if dinner were five minutes late. Or he would become indignant if there were no butter on the table.

Affection for Daughter

At the same time, she said, Oswald showed considerable affection for his daughter, June, walking and playing with her, changing her diapers, taking pictures of her — "everything that father's generally do."

Mrs. Oswald reported that her husband never said anything "bad" about President Kennedy and therefore she was surprised and for a while incredulous when she heard that Oswald had shot the President.

She said Oswald used to read her magazine articles about the President that were generally favorable and never would say anything approving or disapproving about Mr. Kennedy.

"In my opinion, he never wanted to overthrow him," she said. At least he never showed me that. He never indicated that he didn't want the President."

Nor did Oswald ever say anything that would indicate he was contemplating the assassination, she continued.

Oswald Seemed Upset

On the evening before the assassination, when Oswald was visiting his wife in Irving, Tex., Mrs. Oswald reported that her husband was "upset." The couple had had an argument when Mrs. Oswald discovered that her husband was living in Dallas under a false name.

Mrs. Oswald said she was "angry" and Oswald was "upset over the fact that I would not answer him."

"He tried hard to start a conversation with me several times," she said, "but I would not answer. And he said that he didn't want me to be angry at him because this upsets him."

Mrs. Oswald said her husband "tried very hard" to please her. "He spent quite a bit of time putting away diapers and played with the children on the street," she said.

But then, she continued, Oswald became even more upset when she rejected his suggestion that they move back together in a Dallas apartment.

"He said once again I was preferring my friends to him, and that I didn't need him."

He Drives to Dallas

On this angry note, Oswald, after watching television briefly, went to bed. The next morning he said good-by to his wife, went to the garage to get the rifle and drove to Dallas with a friend.

The next and last time Mrs. Oswald saw her husband was the day after the assassination in the Dallas jail.

"He said that I should not worry, that everything would turn out well," she recounted. "But I could see by his eyes that he was guilty. Rather he tried to be brave. However, by his eyes I could tell that he was afraid. He said good-by to me with his eyes. I knew that."

Even before the assassination, Mrs. Oswald said, she had come to the conclusion that her husband was "not quite normal" at times. She said her husband had a "sick imagination" and engaged in fantasies about his future greatness, such as predicting that in 20 years he would be "prime minister."

Inability to Comprehend

"I always tried to point out to him that he was a man like any others who were around us," she said. "But he simply could not understand that."

Another psychological insight into Oswald's character was provided by George S. de Mohrenschildt, a Russian-born businessman who befriended Oswald after his return from the Soviet Union.

Mr. de Mohrenschildt reported that Oswald was "always tense, always under some kind of pressure." He said Oswald was "a stage below definite paranoia, which means a highly neurotic individual."

Throughout the testimony, there were references by relatives of Oswald to his strained relationships with his mother, dating back to childhood.

John Oswald Pic, Oswald's half-brother, said that Oswald had enlisted in the marines "to get out from under the yoke of oppression from my mother."

In testimony studded with references to his mother's preoccupation with money, Mr. Pic gave this appraisal of his mother:

"It is my opinion that she is out right now to make as much money as she can on her relationship with Lee Harvey Oswald. That is the only thing—I don't really believe she really believes he is innocent—I think she is a phony in the whole deal."