

17 Aug. 1965

ALSO FILED 22 MA 68

- Mar. 22, 1965 Dallas - "Mrs. Lee Harvey Oswald has asked a court to name her administrator of her husband's estate, it was disclosed today. The application appeared to be chiefly a legal maneuver. Oswald owned no real estate and had little money."
UPI, NYTimes, Mar. 23
- Mar. 26 Dallas - "The rifle used to assassinate President Kennedy and the pistol with which police officer J.D. Tippit was slain have been valued officially at \$10,000 ... by three appraisers appointed by county probate court. At the same time Mrs. Marina Oswald was named by Probate Judge F.W. Bartlett Jr. as community administrator for the property. Harry McKay, administrative assistant to Judge Bartlett, and one of three appraisers, said Mrs. Oswald's attorney indicated that a \$10,000 bid for the two weapons had been made by a gun collector."
AP 805 pcs
- Mar. 26 Dallas - "Mrs. Oswald's attorney, William Blaylock, said his client was anxious to sell the items to provide for her security. Blaylock said Mrs. Oswald had received a \$10,000 bid for the pistol and rifle from a gun collector."
UPI, SFChronicle, Mar. 27
- May 9 Washington - "An authoritative Federal source" said Justice Department proposing a bill to retain weapons. Source said Department has determined that it has no power to claim forfeiture of the property by its owners. Under the bill being drafted, persons whose property is claimed by the government could sue in Federal Court for compensation. Source said "People are entitled to be paid for it. The courts will determine how much."
AP 118 ped, Joseph E. Mohbat
- May 24 Denver - John J. King, "Denver area oilman and gun collector", filed suit in U.S. District Court to get weapons from Justice Department; said he purchased rifle and pistol "from the estate of Lee Harvey Oswald" New Year's Eve, 1964. Lawsuit says weapons valued at "more than \$10,000". Presumably has cancelled check to prove purchase?
AP 846 pmd
- Aug. 17, Dallas - "In addition to the reported sale price, another payment was to be made if the guns were recovered from the government." Marina did not join in King's suit against Justice Department.
Dallas Times Herald, Aug. 17
- week before July 5, a Monday Washington - Sen. George Murphy (Rep., Calif.) said "last week" that Justice Department had assured him it would not voluntarily surrender rifle. Had asked Department about this "after receiving complaints from constituents over a Texas /sic/ man's claim that the rifle belongs to him. The Texan who claims he owns the rifle said he bought it from the widow of the late Lee Harvey Oswald ... after the assassination in Dallas."
Copley News Svc., SFChronicle, July 5
- Aug. 17 Washington - Justice Department spokesman said Internal Revenue Service (alcohol and tobacco tax unit) would place advertisements in Dallas papers Aug. 18, announcing intention to seize weapons on the ground that Oswald falsified documents in purchasing them. "This, the spokesman said, will give the Justice Department's civil division a basis for objecting to turning the weapons over to King - at least until the bill is passed by Congress."
AP 831 ped, Joseph E. Mohbat

Aug. 17, 1965 Dallas - "The government's intentions to confiscate the weapons were confirmed by Asst. U.S. Atty. Tim Timmons late Tuesday /Aug. 17/ in a statement authorized by the Department of Justice. /The/ procedure will be to advertise three times on three consecutive weeks, giving notice to all claimants having interest in the weapons. He said that in addition actual notice to the parties with apparent interest /King? Marina?/ had been served Tuesday /Aug. 17/. It was learned that a newspaper legal notice is being prepared to run Wednesday /Aug. 18/ informing the public of the administrative seizure."

Dallas Times Herald, Aug. 17

Could not find legal notice or advertisement in
Dallas Times Herald, Aug. 18, 19, 21
Dallas Morning News, Aug. 19, 20, 21
nor any news story in above, or other available
source, that advertisement did not appear.

Aug .18 Dallas - Marina had husband, Kenneth J. Porter, arrested; affidavit said he slapped her, "frightened her with a gun" and threatened to kill himself. Time and date of quarrel not given. "After stormy overnight row" (Aug. 17?). She signed affidavit "late this afternoon" /Aug. 18/.

AP, Aug. 18, 725 pcs, Tom Johnson
Ap, Aug. 19, 502 pcs, Tom Johnson