

URGENT

NIGHT LEAD MRS. OSWALD

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WASHINGTON, FEB. 12 (AP)—MRS. MARGUERITE OSWALD SAID TODAY SHE TOLD THE WARREN COMMISSION SHE BELIEVES HER SON WAS A U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENT WHO WAS "SET UP TO TAKE THE BLAME" FOR PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION. SHE SAID SHE BELIEVES HER SON WAS INNOCENT.

THE 56-YEAR-OLD MOTHER OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD FINISHED THREE DAYS OF TESTIMONY TO THE PRESIDENTIAL INVESTIGATING COMMISSION. THEN SHE HELD AN IMPROMPTU NEWS CONFERENCE IN WHICH SHE ACKNOWLEDGED--DESPITE HER BELIEF IN HIS INNOCENCE--THAT:

"I REALIZE THAT AS A HUMAN BEING HE COULD BE GUILTY."

BUT SHE SAID SHE POSSESSES "PERTINENT EVIDENCE" LEADING HER TO BELIEVE THE ASSASSIN IS STILL AT LARGE.

CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN TOLD NEWSMEN AFTER THE HEARING, HOWEVER, THAT THE FORT WORTH PRACTICAL NURSE OFFERED NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT HER BELIEF THAT THE 24-YEAR-OLD EX-MARINE WAS A SECRET AGENT FOR THE VENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

NN530PCS

URGENT

WASHINGTON--1ST ADD NL MRS. OSWALD (A24) XXX AGENCY.

WARREN SAID:

"SHE CONTENDS THAT HER STORY TO US AND THE CORRESPONDENCE SHE PRESENTED, TAKEN TOGETHER, LEAD HER TO THE SPECULATION--I USE THE WORD SPECULATION, AS SHE USED IT--THAT HE WAS AN AGENT."

WARREN SAID MRS. OSWALD'S LENGTHY TESTIMONY PROVIDED NO FACTS THAT WOULD "CHANGE THE PICTURE AS WE KNEW IT UP TO THE TIME SHE TESTIFIED."

THE BULK OF EVIDENCE IN THE COMMISSION'S HANDS--INCLUDING A FIVE-VOLUME FBI REPORT--POINTS TO OSWALD, WHO BECAME INTERESTED IN MARXISM AS A TEENAGER, AS THE LONE PERPETRATOR OF THE ASSASSINATION IN DALLAS NOV.22.

WARREN SAID HE BELIEVED SOME OF THE MOTHER'S TESTIMONY WOULD BE USEFUL, HOWEVER, AND SUMMED UP HER PRESENTATION WITH THIS SENTENCE:

"SHE SAYS SHE BELIEVES HER SON IS INNOCENT, THAT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HE COMMITTED THE CRIME, BUT THAT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT OTHER PEOPLE COULD HAVE COMMITTED IT."

THE PLUMP, MOTHERLY LOOKING WOMAN WENT READILY TO A GROUP OF MICROPHONES WHEN THE HEARING ENDED AND IMMEDIATELY BEGAN TO TELL HER STORY IN WORDS THAT GAINED INTENSITY AND RAPIDITY AS SHE WENT ALONG.

SHE SAID SHE INTENDS TO CONTINUE "MAKING PUBLIC APPEARANCES AND INVESTIGATIONS, IF IT TAKES ANOTHER YEAR," TO FIND THE ASSASSIN.

SHE WILL WORK, SHE SAID, WITH MARK LANE, A NEW YORK LAWYER WHO IS CURRENTLY MAKING SPEECHES AND LECTURES IN OSWALD'S BEHALF ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

NN541PCS



(300)

WASHINGTON--2ND ADD NL MRS. OSWALD (A24-27) KXX COUNTRY.

THE MOTHER SAID SHE AND LANE HAVE "COME ACROSS A FEW DISCREPANCIES" IN STATEMENTS THUS FAR MADE ON HER SON'S ARREST IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE FATAL SHOTS WERE FIRED FROM THE DALLAS BUILDING WHERE HE WORKED.

WHEN ASKED WHETHER THIS MEANT SHE FELT THE COMMISSION WAS NOT PERFORMING A COMPLETE JOB, MRS. OSWALD HASTILY PROTESTED:

"OH, NO. THAT I DID NOT MEAN TO IMPLY. I HOPE TO HELP THE COMMISSION FIND THE ASSASSIN BECAUSE I BELIEVE MY SON WAS A SCRAPGOAT (SIC) IN THIS."

REPORTERS ASSUMED SHE MEANT SCAPEGOAT, AND ASKED THE BASIS FOR HER BELIEF. SHE REPLIED THAT THIS WAS INDICATED BY THE FACT, AS SHE PUT IT, THAT DALLAS POLICE AND SECRET SERVICE AGENTS "CLOSED THE CASE IN 12 HOURS."

"I DON'T BELIEVE THAT IN A PERIOD OF 12 HOURS' TIME, AND WHEN THEY DIDN'T CATCH HIM AT THE TIME (OF THE ASSASSINATION), THAT YOU CAN SAY THAT HE ALONE WAS GUILTY."

WHEN IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THIS CLASHED WITH THE BELIEF OF OSWALD'S YOUNG RUSSIAN-BORN WIFE, MARINA, WHO TESTIFIED FOR FOUR DAYS LAST WEEK, THE OLDER MRS. OSWALD REPLIED THAT HER DAUGHTER-IN-

AW "HAS THE PRIVILEGE OF SAYING ANYTHING SHE WANTS TO SAY AND I RESPECT THAT PRIVILEGE," BUT THAT SHE, THE MOTHER, HAD THE SAME PRIVILEGE.



SHE RESPONDED EAGERLY WHEN A REPORTER ASKED WHETHER, AS HAS BEEN REPORTED, SHE BELIEVED THAT OSWALD--WHO WENT TO RUSSIA IN 1959 AFTER LEAVING THE MARINES AND LIVED THERE UNTIL 1962--WAS A U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENT.

"YES, I BELIEVE LEE WAS AN INTELLIGENCE AGENT, AND I SO STATED OF THE WARREN COMMISSION," SHE SAID.

ASKED IF SHE HAD PROOF, SHE REPLIED:

"IF I COULD PROVE IT I WOULD SAY SO, BUT WHO CAN SEE LEE WAS A CIA MAN? <sup>SAY</sup>

"HE ISN'T GOING TO SAY HE WAS A CIA AGENT AND THE GOVERNMENT ISN'T GOING TO SAY HE IS A CIA AGENT..."

A65

"I HAVE AS MUCH CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE THAT HE WAS, AS THE DALLAS POLICE THAT HE WAS THE ASSASSIN.

"BEING AN AGENT, HE WOULD NOT SAY IT TO ANYONE."

WARREN SAID THE COMMISSION HAS RECEIVED NO EVIDENCE FROM ANY FEDERAL AGENCY TO SUBSTANTIATE THE VIEW THAT OSWALD EVER WORKED FOR ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY.

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