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Mrs. R. W. Imbrie Blames Reds for Iran Kidnaping

By Standard-Times Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, March 30—

Massachusetts-born Mrs. Robert

Whitney Imbrie told The New Bedford, Mass., Standard-Times today she thinks Communists instigated the murder-and-abduction incident in Iran this week, just as she claims they did the slaying of her diplomat husband in Tehran 33 years ago. She said that was her reaction when she read that bandit tribesmen had murdered Kevin Carroll and Brewster A. Wilson, U. S. foreign aid officials, and kidnaped Mr. Carroll's wife, in a remote area of Iran.

"I think the Bolsheviks are behind this," Mrs. Imbrie declared. "The present Government of Iran works with the Communists and does what they want it to. 'The Government should have sent a patrol to protect the three Americans while they were traveling in their jeeps.

Husband's Death Recalled

Mrs. Imbrie said the Communists would have wished the death of the U. S. representatives because "to the Reds anyone from a foreign Government is a potential agent." She also thought Communists would have raided the jeep party to secure arms, documents and money needed to carry on their cause.

The former New Bedford woman, who now Summers on Cape Cod, blames a Communist-influenced conspiracy for the death of Major Robert W. Imbrie, then a special State Department representative with the American legation in Tehran, in 1924.

Major Imbrie was attacked, she said, by military police who were "under orders" from the Iranian leader Reza Shah, father of the present Iranian ruler. She claimed that Reza was a "hatchetman for Bolsheviks," and that her husband was hacked to death in the hospital where he took refuge because of Communist hatred and the fact Imbrie was

investigating a dope ring she said was headed by Reza Shah.

Several days after, Mrs. Imbrie continued, her car was beset by Iranian police who inflicted a beating and left her with injuries that still plague her. She returned to this country and spent many days in a hospital. The Tehran Government eventually settled \$80,000 on the Massachusetts woman in indemnities.

Price on Imbrie's Head

"The Bolsheviks once offered \$35,000 for the death of my husband," she recalled. "Later, after he met me in Turkey and we were married in Constantinople, they raised that to \$80,000."

Mrs. Imbrie said she met Major Imbrie while she was with a Near East relief organization in Ankara, the Turkish capital. The couple lived in Tabriz, which she called a "hotbed of Bolshevism," on the Turkish-Iran border before Major Imbrie was detailed to Tehran on his special assignment. After his death, she said the U. S. Government sent "only a perfunctory note" of protest to the Reza regime. Returning here, she made claims for damages which she said were stymied by some State Department officials, including Allen Dulles, then Near Eastern affairs division chief and now director of the super-secret Central Intelligence Agency.

Mrs. Imbrie claimed that his association with the former secretary of state in the Woodrow Wilson Administration, Robert Lansing, prompted Allen Dulles to favor a refund of indemnities already paid by Reza Shah.

Lansing, Mrs. Imbrie said, was fiscal agent for Iran. The duties of this position involved efforts to secure a loan for Iran and the sale of small arms to Iranians, he stated, which were then, she claimed, shipped to "the Bolsheviks."

Reds Blamed

Referring to the Carroll incident, Mrs. Imbrie said, "There was no reason why the Iranian Government shouldn't have done everything to protect the three Americans.

"The Communists were active here, but they are active now. I'm sure they had a hand in those

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