

Mrs. Oswald Thinks Son Took Blame As CIA Agent

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Washington, Feb. 12 (AP)—Mrs. Marguerite Oswald said today she told the Warren commission that she believes her son was a United States intelligence agent who was "set up to take the blame" for President 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 said—despite her belief in his innocence—that: "I realize that as a human being he could be guilty."

"Evidence" Reported

But she said she possesses "pertinent evidence" leading her to believe that the assassin is still at large.

Chief Justice Earl Warren said after the hearing, however, that Mrs. Oswald, a Fort Worth practical nurse offered no evidence to support her belief that the 24-year-old suspected assassin was a secret agent for the Central Intelligence Agency.

Justice 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."

He said that 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, as the lone perpetrator of the assassination in Dallas November 22, 1963.

Justice 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."

Mrs. Oswald 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 lecturing in Oswald's behalf across the country.

Justice Warren said the commission may hear another "witness or two next week" but has set up no schedule.

When asked whether the next witness might be a janitor in the Texas School Book Depository

where Oswald was employed—a janitor who reportedly saw Oswald going upstairs to the sixth floor area where police found a sniper's nest and a rifle that Oswald's wife identified as his—Justice Warren paused. He was told that a Texas newspaper had so indicated, and he replied:

"Well, maybe they know—I don't."

Present Tense Used

During her session with newsmen, Mrs. Oswald frequently used the present tense in referring to her son, who was slain in a Dallas police station two days after the assassination. A night club owner, Jack Ruby, is about to stand trial on a murder charge in that killing.

A reporter reminded Mrs. Oswald that authorities in New York had recommended psychiatric treatment for Oswald when he was 13, and that she reportedly left the city without taking advantage of the offer of psychiatric help.

Mrs. Oswald refused to comment on that point, saying she had "retracted it many, many times." She went on to say that she had talked for three days before the commission, was very tired, and would like to end the press conference.

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