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OSWALD:S WIDOW CALLS FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION OF KENNEDY CASE BY CAROL CIRULLI

DALLAS, OCT 23, REUTER - LEE HARVEY OSWALD:S WIDOW MADE A RARE PUBLIC APPEARANCE ON FRIDAY TO URGE INDEPENDENT RESEARCHERS TO PERSEVERE IN THEIR EFFORTS TO PROVE THERE WAS A CONSPIRACY TO KILL JOHN F. KENNEDY.

MARINA OSWALD PORTER, WHO WAS MARRIED TO THE MAN ACCUSED OF WORKING ALONE TO KILL THE U.S. PRESIDENT IN DALLAS IN 1963, SPOKE HIGHLY OF THOSE WHO ARE STILL SEEKING NEW LEADS IN THE 29-YEAR-OLD CASE.

THANKS TO YOU I CAN WALK A LITTLE BIT STRAIGHTER,:: SHE TOLD ABOUT 400 PEOPLE ATTENDING A FOUR-DAY SYMPOSIUM ON THE MENNEDY ASSASSINATION.

I CANNOT BREATHE EASIER YET, BUT MAYBE

THAT CHAPTER WILL BE CLOSED IN MY LIFE AS IT IS CLOSED IN YOUR BOOK WHEN YOU FINISH IT .::

PORTER, WHO MARRIED OSWALD IN 1960, HAS KEPT A LOW PROFILE IN THE YEARS SINCE HER HUSBAND WAS MURDERED BY DALLAS NIGHTCLUB OWNER JACK RUBY. HER APPEARANCE AT FRIDAY: S SYMPOSIUM WAS UNSCHEDULED.

SPEAKING IN HALTING ENGLISH, THE RUSSIAN IMMIGRANT WHO BECAME AN AMERICAN CITIZEN LAST YEAR SAID SHE IS OFTEN ASKED WHETHER SHE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE KENNEDY CASE PUT TO REST. I:M IN THE MIDDLE. IN ONE WAY, I CAN SAY YES, I WANT TO LIVE A PEACEFUL LIFE, LET:S JUST FORGET ABOUT IT,:: PORTER SAID. BUT BY THE SAME TOKEN, IF SOME INJUSTICE HAS BEEN DONE, WE CANNOT JUST SWEEP IT UNDER THE RUG.::

PARTICIPANTS IN THE DALLAS SYMPOSIUM, BILLED AS ONE OF THE LARGEST EVER HELD ON THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION, WANT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO UNSEAL SECRET FILES AND REOPEN AN OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION INTO THE CASE.

ORGANISERS HELD THEIR FIRST SYMPOSIUM IN 1991 AND SAY THEY WILL CONTINUE MEETING ANNUALLY UNTIL THE CASE IS RESOLVED TO THEIR SATISFACTION.

RESEARCHERS DISAGREE ON WHO MAY HAVE BEEN BEHIND THE ASSASSINATION, BUT VARIOUS THEORIES HAVE POINTED TO POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT BY THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, THE MAFIA AND CUBAN EXILES. A MAIN PROPONENT OF THE CONSPIRACY THEORY, FORMER NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT ATTORNEY JIM GARRISON, DIED EARLIER THIS WEEK.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER MARY FERRELL, A RETIRED DALLAS LEGAL SECRETARY WHO IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED ONE OF THE LEADING U.S. RESEARCHERS ON THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION, TOLD THE SYMPOSIUM IT IS UP TO THE PARTICIPANTS TO UNCOVER THE TRUTH.

A GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED COVER-UP BLOTTED OUT THE RIGHTS OF UNCLASSIFIED

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OUR CITIZENS AND THE SANCTITY OF THE RULE OF LAW,:: FERRELL SAID.

IF WE ARE TRULY LIVING IN THE LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HONE OF THE BRAVE, THEN WE BETTER DAKK WELL PROVE IT NOW .:: REUTER CC ZM JAS

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