

'KNEW HE'D BE FAIR'

'Premonition' Came True, Recalls Wife of 2d Juror

By HUGH AYNESWORTH
"I saw him sitting up with the Bible the other night, and I'm sure he searched for and found the answer."

Those were the words of the wife of Allen W. McCoy, 40, who Friday afternoon was chosen as the second juror in the Jack Ruby murder case.

The McCoy's live at 1518 Belmont in Irving. They have two daughters, Geri, 9, and Kathy, 6. McCoy, when he left his house Friday morning, told his family, "This is the day . . . we'll know one way or the other today."

Mrs. McCoy, originally from Sadler, Grayson County, said she had a premonition about her husband being picked.

"I knew he would be fair," she said, "and I just felt that if he were called up, there would be no reason in the world to disqualify him."

"He's the fairest man I've ever known," she said.

The McCoy's, she said, are an active family. Mrs. McCoy said she is a Brownie leader and that her husband of 14 years has been spending a good bit of time building a den on the house.

"I guess it'll take another year to finish that den now," she said with a smile.

They attend Irving's First Baptist Church.

"I secretly hoped he wouldn't be chosen, but I know it's the right thing to do, serve when you are called upon," the wife said.

Mrs. McCoy, 39, said her husband had talked little about the death sentence — what the prosecution is asking in the Ruby case. But she said, "I'm sure he settled that in his own mind."

"He searched for an answer the other night. I didn't bother him. I know he thought it out well, he always does," she said.

"He's serious and analytical, and capable of the fairest decision possible, but this means a lot of responsibility."

She said the family discussed the tragic events of Nov. 22-24 at the time they happened, "but we didn't dwell on them much afterward. We're just too interested in other things to dwell on that alone," she said.

McCoy was raised at Eddy, near Temple. He received an industrial engineering degree at Texas A&M and joined the Fritz W. Glitsch & Son Co. here in November, 1953, as a method and time study employe. He currently is an industrial engineer with the Dallas firm.

Mrs. McCoy, educated at Denver University, said her husband had never been away from home much before.

"We've been separated," she smiled, "but it's been me." She said she had been a personnel manager for a military transport group in previous years which forced her to travel.

Asked if there was any message she wanted to convey to her husband—who now will see only court bailiffs and other jurors until the trial is over—Mrs. McCoy said:

"No . . . not right now. I just found out a few minutes ago. I haven't even told the children yet. I don't know what I'm doing. I'm just stunned right now."

Mrs. Elizabeth Hill, personnel manager of the engineering firm which employs nearly 600, said McCoy is "a good, steady employe."

"He is very fair, very dependable and rarely misses work," she said.

McCoy said he had no religious or moral scruples about meting out the death penalty if the evidence warranted it. He said also he could possibly vote for a suspended sentence.

Ruby seemed to like McCoy's rugged seriousness as he sat looking intently at questioning attorneys. Once he said, "It certainly wouldn't be easy to do"—give any man the electric chair penalty.

He then looked squarely at Ruby and added, "but I could do it if I felt it was justified."

McCoy said he had seen the reruns of the much-celebrated television account of the slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald.

He said he could lay aside all he had seen, heard and opined and go entirely by the evidence. This suited all involved.

Told that Max E. Causey, the electronics worker who Thursday became the first juror, needed a card or domino partner in the small dormitory which houses all the jurors for the duration, Mrs. McCoy said:

"Well, he's found himself a good domino player."



Allen McCoy . . . thirty-sixth prospect selected as second juror.