

PA 5

5 PORTRAIT DAY AT THE RUBY TRIAL

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

By Maurice C. Carroll
Of The Herald Tribune Staff

DALLAS, Tex.

Three floodlights glared, bouncing off the faintly incredulous, face of the oil portrait of Justice at the side of the judge's bench.

"Let's have everybody sit down," hollered a photographer. "Judge, have the attorneys look at us."

A photographer squatted on the tile courtroom floor and aimed his camera upward at the smiling prosecution team.

"Look at the birdie," grinned District Attorney Henry Wade.

For half an hour yesterday, this spectacle held up the special session of the Jack Ruby murder trial. The session eventually resulted in questioning seven panelists, for a total so far of 133. But it added not a one to the 10 already chosen as jurors. The defense use up another of its rights to reject jurors without saying why. It has one left.

Earlier, Judge Joe B. Brown, his black-rimmed glasses off for the cameras, announced that press reports of the picture-taking session should note the defendant was not in court at the time.

Then the judge said, "You all are just wasting film. No more shots of me now."

The court was finally cleared after some one turned on a microphone. It emitted a long loud blast, like the sound that ends a pre-cruise party on a ship.

This was the twelfth ses-

sion of the trial. Ruby's lawyer, Melvin Belli, was again pressing his motion for a change of venue when the judge suddenly declared a recess.

Mr. Belli was waving a copy of a hate sheet called the "Thunderbolt," a November, 1963, issue with a banner headline that said, "Kennedy Keeps Mistress." He wanted to put it in evidence.

This sort of stuff had been circulated in Dallas, shouted Mr. Belli.

"It probably came from California," someone yelled. It turned out later, that the sheet came from Birmingham, Ala.

Mr. Belli, whose home is in San Francisco, thundered back "we don't have this kind of filth in California."

Then, as the judge, robe flapping, walked past him, he shouted: "And we never had a President assassinated in California."

And this was the way things went yesterday as Texas justice tried to write an end to the sequence that a President's murder started Nov. 22.

Ruby, former operator of two Dallas strip-tease joints, is on trial for darting through a crowd of reporters and photographers Nov. 24 in the basement of Dallas police headquarters and shooting the man who had allegedly murdered President Kennedy.

The last panelist questioned yesterday, Mrs. Louis W. Spracklen, seemed to be getting along well with Mr. Belli when Judge Brown glanced at

the clock—it showed 12:04 p. m.—and then asked her if she had an opinion in the case.

Mrs. Spracklen said she had.

"Excused," said the judge. "Everybody stand up," said bailiff W. W. Mabra. "Court is adjourned until 9 a. m. Monday."

The day's work was over.

B. Williams
P. [unclear]
H. [unclear]

Ruby
6/11/7

- The Washington Post and Times Herald _____
- The Washington Daily News _____
- The Evening Star _____
- New York Herald Tribune 5
- New York Journal-American _____
- New York Mirror _____
- New York Daily News _____
- New York Post _____
- The New York Times _____
- The Worker _____
- The New Leader _____
- The Wall Street Journal _____
- The National Observer _____
- People's World _____
- Date _____

144-24016-14

NOT RECORDED
128 MAR 9 1964

MAR 1 1964

66
60 MAR 9 1964



Associated Press wirephoto

Judge Joe B. Brown, in his robes on the bench, who is hearing the Ruby murder trial in Dallas, arranged this photograph to show the inside of his court. At the table on the left are, from left, defense counsel Phil Burleson, Melvin Belli and Joe Tonahill. At table on the right, from left, are Frank Watts and A. D. Bowie, assistant district attorneys and district attorney Henry Wade. Spectators are seated in the jury box.