

Attorneys To Put Ruby On Stand

Jack Ruby will "definitely testify" during his murder trial, his lawyers said Friday.

Before the defense began presenting its case, attorney Melvin Belli told jurors:

"We'll show you that Jack Ruby has organic brain damage . . . We'll prove for you, ladies and gentlemen of the jury, that this boy's mother was an inmate of the Elgin (Ill.) state hospital and that his brother was in a veterans hospital for mental treatment.

"We'll also give you the physical history of the defendant from the time of his birth — and the kind of birth he had—to the present."

Belli said part of this defense testimony would come from Ruby himself.

Since a suspect cannot be forced to testify against himself, Ruby had the legal right to remain off the stand. Jurors are warned they cannot consider the failure of a defendant to testify.

If Ruby does take the stand, prosecutors will have the right to cross examine him.

"We will welcome that opportunity," Dist. Atty. Henry Wade said.

Belli feels, apparently, that Ruby can withstand the cross examination and help his case by taking the stand.

Spectators Get Chuckle During Film

A police lieutenant gave spectators a chuckle during the Jack Ruby murder trial Friday.

Lt. Jack Revill was narrating films which showed Jack Ruby shooting Lee Harvey Oswald.

Using a ruler to point out individuals on the screen, Revill spoke in a monotone.

"This is Detective Leavelle . . . Here we seen Capt. Fritz . . . This is Detective Graves. He is holding the pistol."

Then Peggy Simpson, an Associated Press reporter, appeared at the edge of the screen.

Pointing to her, Revill said in the same monotone, "This appears to be a female . . ."

Laughter echoed through the courtroom.

Judge Joe B. Brown called for order. But there was a trace of a smile on his face, too.

★ RUBY TRIAL COOLS OFF

The Jack Ruby trial had a new feel Friday.

The courtroom air-conditioning system was working again.

"They fixed it during the night," Sheriff Bill Decker said. "I told them that, if they didn't, everybody in the courtroom would end up in a sickbed, the way they were having to swelter."

★ OLD PRO UPSTAGED

Unruffled, chief defense attorney Melvin Belli at the Jack Ruby trial had only one comment Friday about the county jail break in the courthouse:

"Some ham convict tried to upstage me by breaking out of jail," he said.

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—Associated Press Wirephoto.

FAMILY REUNION

Mrs. Rosemary Causey, right, wife of Max E. Causey, a juror in the Jack Ruby murder trial, visited the courtroom Friday to watch her husband in the jury box. Frances Locklear came with her.

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