ON THE LINE:

The Judge or the Judged?

By BOB CONSIDINE

ALLAS: Judge Joe Brown listened Dallias: Juge Joe Blown
with great interest to psychologistneurologist Dr. Martin Towler's run-down on Jack Ruby's psychomotor epilepsy symptoms.

He heard the doctor quote Ruby as

saying, "My head is cracking up." He heard Ruby described as "a victim of insomnia, forgetfulness, arguments; a man who was fractious, irritable. filled with an overwhelming anxiety and apprehension, despair and a feeling of impending disaster." "By golly, I thought



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for a moment he was talking about me," the judge said, when he made a friendly visit to the press room. "I've got all those symptoms myself, I think."

He leaned over a New York girl reporter and said, "Let me see what

you're writing there." He read for a bit, then said, "Oh. oh, not that. You've got me reading the wrong papers up there on the bench. Strike it out, honey," and sauntered

off for lunch.

CORONET magazine's piece in the current issue, "Don't Blame Dallas," written by former Mayor Earle Cabell. suggests that the best monument the city could erect to the late President's memory would be to adopt, city-wide, the compassionate attitude of his widow.

Mrs. Cabell, in effect the hostess of the First Lady, was standing next to her at Parkland Hospital when the word arrived from the operating room that the President was dead. She reached out her hand to support Mrs. Kennedy, and, on orders, to start her for the airport and the trip back to Washington.

"Thanks for all you have done," were the first words Mrs. Kennedy said. There was no rancor. The exmayor thinks a city with a way of life based on that kind of reasoning would be a more lasting tribute to JFK than anything it could build of stone and bronze.

We cannot vouch for the figures, but the same article offers an arresting statistic. The odds against the streak of events that hit Dallas from 1960 until Jack Ruby shot Lee Oswald are 1,600,000,000 to one. At least, that's what the computer of a local insurance firm figured out when fed the following set of propositions.

Odds were 300-to-1 that Lyndon Johnson and his Lady Bird would not be roughed up when they campaigned here during the 1960 Presidential race. They were 300 to 1 that Adlai Stevenson would not be spat upon and conked with an anti-UN placard.

They were 200-to-1 that President Kennedy would not be shot by a sniper during a parade, and 200-to-1 that his suspected assassin would not be mowed down while under police protection.

Fed into the maw of the electric brain, the cards were chewed to a million pieces and out popped the answer: 1.600,000,000 to one against these things happening in the same city.

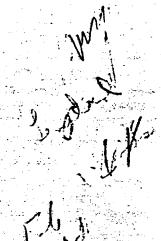
Just as well the article was written some time ago. If it had been held up until last week it would have had to include the odds against a jail-break on national TV, just outside Ruby's courtroom.

The computer would have dissolved into a molten mass.

LADY at a dinner in Houston the other night said, out of the blue, "Don't tell ME about that PT-109 nonsense. Everybody knows that Kennedy turned that little old speedboat right in front of that Japanese destroyer just so he could get shipwrecked and get all that publicity."

IT WAS a relief to get back to dear old gentle Dallas.

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