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## Jury Ponders

## Eate of Ruby

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Murder With Malice 1

and Demands Death

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

DALLAS, March 14—The third man in a grotesquelly assorted trio bound inextricably together in and by history waits his fate in the Dallas County Jail today.

Caught in the vortex of great and tragic events, Jack Ruby faces anxious hours until he learns the penalty he must pay for the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald, the communist sympathizer who allegedly assassinated President John F. Kennedy in this city on Nov. 22, 1963.

## CHARGE

A little less than 48 hours later Ruby, operator of a striptease joint, killed Oswald in the basement of the Dallas police station.

The state, charging "murder with malice." is demanding Ruby's death in the electric chair. The defense, pleading temporary insanity, is asking for mercy. A jury of four women and eight men, all white, all Protestant and all of Anglosaxon descent are to decide Ruby's fate.

The jury, bone-tired after a 16-hour session and mind-weary after a belaboring of oratory that lasted four and a half hours, was sent to bed early today by Judge Joe B. Brown for a few hours of rest.

Ruby's fate was put in their hands at 1:05 a. m. CST.

The 12 went to their 8-by-10-foot bedrooms in the jury quarters on a floor above the courtroom.

Awaiting them was the business of electing a foreman and breakfasting before beginning formal deliberations.

FILED OUT

"What are they gonna do to me now, Joe? What are they gonna do to me now?" asked the drawn and pale little defendant of huge defense Atty. Joe H. Tonahill when the jury filed out of the packed court-

Mr. Tonahill assured him there would be no verdict until after a short night's sleep, at least. Ruby went off to his maximum security cell in the same criminal courts and jail building in which the jury was locked up for the night.

Among other Texans, Dallas is known as a "hangin' town." But few persons who have followed the courtroom testimony from the beginning believe the state has proved premeditated murder.

Yet an equal number of skeptics doubt the defense has proved Ruby temporarily insane. That he was an unstable and highly emotional personality, yes. But temporary insanity is something else again, this faction says.

When I first came to Dallas I wrote: "As Ruby sits in court, he looks like nothing so much as a ludicrous anti-climax to a historic cataclysm. To see him the person body compounds the

mystery of his involvement in any way with a crime that took the life of an American President."

## EVENTS

That seems doubly true now, at the end of a trial that has already run four weeks.

Looked at from any angle, Ruby was caught up in events much, much larger than life certainly than any life he had known since his birth \$2 years ago on Chicago's tough west side.

m is the "ifs," and there are many of them in Ruby's life, that have trapped him and brought him to the Dallas County Jail. In the first place, if he had not had such an inordinate admiration for President Kennedy, if he had not idolized Jacqueline Kennedy, Caroline and John-John.

But the crucial "ifs" that betrayed him, that put him in the right place at the right time were, to, all intents and purposes, accidental, as subject to

If a strip-leaser called Little Lynn, who worked in Ruby's night club, the Carousel, hadn't needed rent money in a hurry; if she hadn't called from Ft. Worth around 10 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 24 and wakened Ruby with her plea for a \$25 advance on her salary; and if Ruby had not gone to Western Union to wire her

idiot chance as a poker hand.

her salary; and it Ruby had not gone to Western Union to wire the money to Little Lynn, he might have slept thru the minutes required to transfer Oswald from the city jail to the county jail.

THE TES

But Little Lynn did call and Ruby did go to Western Union, sending the \$25 to her at 11:17 a. m.

At this point, another set of fateful "ifs" take over. If Western Union had only been situated more than a long block

If—and this is a big if—the from the Dallas police station. Dallas police had only moved Oswald to the county jail as previously announced and planned at 10 a.m.

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And he would not now be in a cell in the county jail waiting to at such a crucial time and farn it he lives or dies.



JACK RUBY

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