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**Ruby [Draws]  
 Death Penalty;  
 Belli [Flays]  
 Jury's Verdict,  
 Pledges Appeal  
 Outside City**

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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# Defendant Stays Calm After Ruling

By CARL FREUND and HUGH AYNESWORTH

A jury stunned Jack Ruby Saturday with a verdict of death in the electric chair. And an enraged defense lawyer thundered that the decision shows "Dallas is a little bit of Russia in the United States."

The jury of eight men and four women ruled Ruby committed "murder with malice aforethought" when he fired a single shot from his Colt Cobra revolver into Lee Harvey Oswald, the Marxist accused of assassinating President Kennedy here.

Tense and nervous throughout his month-long trial, Ruby heard the verdict calmly. Some reporters thought he appeared "in a trance."

The packed, heavily guarded courtroom was deathly still as Judge Joe B. Brown began reading the verdict at 12:21 p.m.

"We, the jury, find the defendant guilty of murder with malice . . ."

## Defendant's Eyes on Judge

Ruby's lips formed a thin line. He kept his eyes on Judge Brown as the black-robed jurist paused, then continued reading the verdict signed by jury foreman Max Causey.

" . . . and assess his punishment at death."

Ruby's eyes darted toward the jury, then back to Judge Brown. Then, like the crack of a pistol, defense attorney Melvin Belli exploded with rage.

"May I thank this jury for a victory for bigotry," he roared. "You can rest assured we will appeal this to a court where there is justice. We will take it to a court outside Dallas."

Dist. Atty. Henry Wade, who was seated near the jury box, told jurors, "You returned a fair verdict . . . a verdict justified by the evidence. The State of Texas thanks you."

Deputies formed a human shield around Ruby and rushed him from the courtroom seconds after the verdict was read.

"Don't worry, Jack, we'll appeal," Belli shouted.

Millions watched on television as Ruby shot Oswald in the City Hall basement Nov. 24, two days after Kennedy's death. And millions watched on television as the jury said Ruby should pay with his life.

The all-white, all-Protestant jury deliberated 2 hours and 19 minutes before informing a bailiff at 11:34 a.m. that it had reached a verdict.

The case had gone to the jury at 1:07 a.m. after closing arguments in which prosecutors branded Ruby a "thrill killer" and defense attorneys pictured the striptease-club manager as an epilepsy victim who killed while "in a state of suspended consciousness."

Because of the late hour, jurors went to bed and did not begin deliberations until after breakfast.

They quickly rejected the defense contention that Ruby was temporarily insane. Then they turned to the question of the penalty he should pay for shooting a manacled man in police custody.

## Not a 'Serious Disagreement'

Jurors said they "never had any serious disagreement."

The verdict represented a major victory for Wade and his weary assistants—William F. Alexander, Frank Watts and A. D. Jim Bowie. For Belli, the San Francisco lawyer known as the "King of Torts," it was a decisive defeat.

Television viewers witnessed a strange scene after Judge Brown left the courtroom.

Belli was shouting, "This is the most disgusting thing I have ever seen in my life. This is a disgrace to American law."

Photographers crawled atop the defense table as Belli became immersed in a wave of humanity.

"Get off the table! Get off the table!" a deputy shouted.

Belli had more to say about his opinion of the verdict—and of Dallas.

"Ruby was railroaded," he said. "This was a kangaroo court. This will be known as a city of shame forevermore. I hope Dallas is satisfied."

Belli charged that one juror, Allen McCoy, stated he wanted to get on the jury so he could "hang Ruby." McCoy said later he cannot recall having made such a statement.

Belli said he has "40 points of error" which will guarantee Ruby a new trial. The appeal could take as long as four years.

Wade said he is convinced higher courts will not set aside the verdict.

"Judge Brown was zealous in protecting Ruby's rights," Wade said.

Wade, who clashed repeatedly with Belli throughout the trial, said the defense might have saved Ruby from the electric chair by using different tactics.

"They never asked for mercy," Wade noted. "They staked everything on insanity, and they put up the weakest psychiatric defense I've ever seen."

Belli vowed to quit the practice of law if he does not win a new trial for Ruby.

Then, in a voice dripping with derision, Belli commented, "Big Deal . . . Big deal."

## Walk Rigidly to Courtroom

Ruby's brother, Earl Ruby of Detroit, Mich., and a sister, Mrs. Eileen Kaminsky of Chicago, Ill., walked rigidly to the courtroom just four minutes before they heard their brother condemned.

Mrs. Kaminsky was noticeably upset. "It doesn't look good, does it?" she said to George Senator, Ruby's former roommate, as she and Earl Ruby sat beside him in the sixth row of spectators awaiting the verdict.

"I don't know," Senator said.

As the word "death" came from Judge Brown's lips, the sister cried quietly.

"Oh, oh, oh," she said repeatedly. Earl Ruby comforted her.

"I guess this proves we couldn't get a fair trial in this town," the sister said, addressing her remarks to nobody in particular.

"I feel terrible, terrible," Senator said.

Mrs. Eva Grant, a sister, and Sam Ruby, another brother, were not in the courtroom. Both are Dallas residents.

"Eva is too upset to be here today," Earl Ruby said.



—Dallas News Staff Photo by Jack Beers.

"Hi, Jack," says Jack Ruby to Dallas News photographer Jack Beers as the convicted slayer leaves the courtroom following the verdict in his trial.

It was Beers who took the picture of Ruby a split second before he shot Lee Harvey Oswald. With Ruby, is Deputy Sheriff Luke Bockemuhl, right.



—Dallas News Staff Photo.

**Belli, Left, and Tonahill protest verdict during post-trial interview.**



—Dallas News Staff Photo.

**Wade is surrounded by newspapermen, radio and television reporters on steps of Records Building.**