

New Ruby Lawyer In Birthday Visit

DALLAS, March 23 (UPI).—Convicted murderer Jack Ruby turned 53 today and his defense attorneys, now headed by Percy Foreman instead of Melvin Belli, wished him many more birthdays.

Mr. Foreman and two other lawyers hired earlier by Ruby worked on a motion for a new trial over the weekend, visiting the Dallas County jail for nearly four hours of Sunday conferences with Ruby.

They planned more meetings with him today.

"LOT OF WORK"

"This case requires a lot of work, Mr. Foreman said after his last visit with the slayer of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused of assassinating President John F. Kennedy.

"A lawyer who didn't appeal all the way to the Supreme Court if he had to would be derelict in his duty," Mr. Foreman said in answer to a question in a brief interview at the jailhouse.

Strategy of Mr. Foreman and his co-counsel, Joe Tonahill and Phil Bursleson, is to seek reversal of Ruby's conviction and death sentence and then try to win a new trial, probably outside Dallas.

Inviting reporters to their hotel room for photographs and more talk, the three attorneys declined to make any criticism of Mr. Belli's tactics, or comments on the case.

Ruby's family filed Mr. Belli after a Dallas jury sentenced the defendant to death in the electric chair about a week ago. Mr. Belli's irate remarks about the city of Dallas, the trial, judge and jury may result in disciplinary action from the American Bar Assn.

Mr. Foreman said he had a letter in his pocket from Mr. Belli but would not disclose its contents. He and Mr. Tonahill made it clear they have none of the animosity for Dallas that Mr. Belli shouted to reporters after the verdict.

"I love Dallas," Mr. Tonahill said in answer to a question. Later, Mr. Foreman used the same words.



JACK RUBY
He's 53 Years Old Today

AMENDED BRIEF

Mr. Bursleson estimated that the defense arguments for a new trial will be made to Criminal Dist. Judge Joe B. Brown in 24-38 days, after an amended written brief is filed with Mr. Foreman's help.

All three attorneys stopped by the office of Sheriff Bill Decker yesterday, and told him he had "done a wonderful job" protecting Ruby during the four-week trial. Sheriff Decker had come to the jail to arrange for photographs of Ruby with his attorneys, but Ruby changed his mind and sent a note to the Sheriff saying "it is not my desire" to have his picture taken.

Mr. Foreman was asked how he found Ruby in their meeting, and the 61-year-old Houston defense attorney said it was "sort of heart-rending to see a

man in his position like a rabbit on a string."

At the hotel press conference, Mr. Foreman refused to second-guess the defense decision not to let Ruby testify on his own behalf. But as a general rule, Mr. Foreman said "the appearance an individual presents to the judge and jury is more important than his testimony."

Sheriff Decker said today was Ruby's birthday but there would not be any "tea and crumpets."

"He's just another prisoner to me," said the sheriff who has about 1,100 persons in the jail built to hold 750.

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

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