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(RUBY)

DALLAS--JUDGE JOE B. BROWN TODAY ORDERED A SANITY TRIAL BY JURY FOR JACK RUBY ON MARCH 29. THE CONDEMNED SLAYER SAT IN COURT AND LISTENED IMPASSIVELY TO THE DECISION THAT COULD DECIDE WHETHER HE IS EXECUTED.

IN LESS THAN 30 MINUTES, BROWN, THE JUDGE WHO PRESIDED AT RUBY'S MURDER TRIAL ONE YEAR AGO, LISTENED TO ARGUMENTS AND ASSIGNED TWO ATTORNEYS TO REPRESENT RUBY AT THE SANITY TRIAL.

RUBY WAS LED INTO COURT FOR THE YEARNING FROM HIS MAXIMUM SECURITY CELL ON AN UPPER FLOOR OF THE COURTHOUSE. THE SLAYER OF PRESIDENTIAL ASSASSIN LEE HARVEY OSWALD WAS PALE, BUT LOOKED HEALTHY. IT WAS HIS FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE IN 10 MONTHS.

ASKED HOW HE FELT, HE REPLIED:

"FINE, THANK YOU."

BROWN ORDERED ATTORNEYS JOE TONAHILL OF JASPER, TEX., AND PHIL BURLESON OF DALLAS TO REPRESENT RUBY AT THE SANITY TRIAL. THEY HAD AIDED MELVIN BELLI OF SAN FRANCISCO IN THE MURDER TRIAL DEFENSE.

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