

Judge Doubts That Ruby Will Ever Be Executed

DALLAS, May 25 (UPI)—The judge who presided at Jack Ruby's trial said today he doubts Ruby will die in the electric chair for murdering Lee Harvey Oswald.

Judge Joe B. Brown said Ruby's death sentence — if higher courts uphold it — may be reduced to life imprisonment by the Board of Pardons and Pardon.

Brown said he does not believe the public favors the execution of Ruby.

"After all, we are talking about a man who killed the man who assassinated President Kennedy," he said.

Today District Judge Louis Holland of Montague, Tex., temporarily sitting in for Brown, said he will hold a hearing the week of June 7 to determine whether Judge Brown disqualified himself from a sanity trial for Ruby by contracting to write a book about the murder trial.

Ruby, a surprise witness at a hearing yesterday involving a conflict over his attorneys, testified that he knew it was "a lost cause for me to try and save myself."

(Ruby's rambling monologue touched on these points, Associated Press reported:

(Ruby repeatedly referred to "one of the most bizarre conspiracies in the history of the world" to link him to Oswald. "I walked into a trap when I walked down that ramp (into the City Hall basement where he shot Oswald). I know I am going to die a horrible death."

(At another point he said, "I shouldn't have tried to play the part of a hero. My background wasn't clean enough

"To the American people and the world... I'm going to be branded a part of a conspiracy with Oswald. "You're going to forget how I felt about the beloved President Kennedy.")

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- Conrad _____
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