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Life for Ruby Favored By Oswald's Mother

By GUY DRAUGHON

Mrs. Marguerite Oswald said Thursday she agreed with Dallas Dist. Atty. Henry Wade that Jack Ruby's death sentence should be reduced to life imprisonment.

But, she added, a special law should be passed to insure that Ruby would remain behind bars for life.

Mrs. Oswald, mother of alleged presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald who was killed by Ruby while in custody of Dallas police, told the Star-Telegram that Wade's proposal—under present laws—would allow a loophole for Ruby's parole.

"THERE IS NO law now that says Ruby would remain in prison for life if the sentence is reduced to life imprisonment," Mrs. Oswald said.

"The lawmakers will have to hold a special session and pass a law that he will not be eligible for parole."

Mrs. Oswald said she does not believe in capital punishment.

"I would like to see Jack Ruby or any other murderer have life imprisonment instead of the death penalty," she said.

Mrs. Oswald, who said she is still convinced of her son's innocence in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy Nov. 22, 1963, agreed with Wade that Ruby should be kept alive for interviews and historical purposes.

But she took issue with a statement made several months ago by Dist. Judge Joe B. Brown that he did not feel Ruby ever would be executed because "we are talking about the man who killed the man who killed President Kennedy."

"RUBY KNOWS something he is not telling," Mrs. Oswald said. "He pulled the trigger, but I want the man who gave the order, and by keeping him alive we may find out some day."

She said Ruby, despite Judge Brown's statement, did not kill the man who killed Kennedy.

"At the time Ruby killed my son," Mrs. Oswald said,

he killed a suspect in police custody who was proclaiming his innocence.

"If Ruby had killed my son after the Warren Commission made its report that Lee was the assassin, there might be some justification in saying Ruby killed the man who killed the president.

"But even at that," Mrs. Oswald said, "the Warren Commission was composed of seven human beings who evaluated the evidence. They are capable of human error."

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