

Upset Ruby Took Photos

At 4 a.m., Says Roommate

Jack Ruby became so upset after the assassination of President Kennedy that he insisted upon taking pictures of a billboard at 4 a.m., his roommate testified Monday.

Defense lawyers called the roommate, George Senator, as a witness in their unsuccessful attempt to free Ruby from the county jail on bond.

They hoped to show that Ruby was so emotionally upset he didn't know what he was doing when he shot Lee Harvey Oswald after Oswald had been accused of assassinating the President.

BUT ANOTHER defense witness, Doyle Edward Lane, testified Ruby appeared calm when he wired \$25 to a striptease minutes before he shot Oswald.

Senator said Ruby awakened him about 3 a.m. Nov. 23—some 14 hours after a sniper killed President Kennedy and wounded Gov. John Connally.

"He was very excited. He was very much in grievance," Senator said. "He asked me if I had seen his ad in the paper."

Senator, who helped Ruby run the Carousel Club, said he referred to an ad which announced the club would be closed for three nights because of the assassination.

"**JACK SAID** it was a terrible thing to drink or listen to music or dance after what happened," Senator continued. "He was crying out loud and saying, 'What a terrible thing to happen to the President . . . to Mrs. Kennedy and the children.' He had a look on his face like I'd never seen before—like he was out in space."

Then, Senator testified, Ruby complained about a billboard he had seen calling for the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren.

Senator said he and Ruby drove through the darkness to the billboard on Hall Street and took three pictures of it.

Ruby complained also about an anti-Kennedy ad in The Dallas News, Senator said.

"**HE SAID** he couldn't under-

stand anything of this nature being in the paper," Senator testified. "He said it was a crime for something like this to appear in the paper. He said he thought the John Birch Society or the Communist party or a combination of both were behind the billboard and the ad."

Senator spoke so rapidly that Judge Joe B. Brown had difficulty understanding him at times.

After photographing the billboard, Senator said, they went to the post office and protested to a clerk there about the newspaper ad. Senator said the black border around the ad was regarded by Ruby as "a sign of death."

SENATOR TESTIFIED also that Ruby carried large sums of money.

"He leaves late—at 2 or 3 or 4 in the morning—so he carries a gun," Senator added.

Cross-examined by Assistant Dist. Atty. William F. Alexander, Senator said he met Ruby at the Vegas Club and they agreed later to share an apartment.

Senator conceded he had seen Ruby fight customers at the Carousel, but insisted Ruby did so only after they "drank too much or touched the girls or disrupted the MC."

Homicide Capt. Wilt Fritz said officers planned to use an armored car as a decoy and speed Oswald to the county jail in an auto.

"**AS I WAS** reaching for the door of the car, I heard a shot," the veteran homicide officer related.

Fritz said that, after Ruby was disarmed, Ruby agreed to answer questions "if we wouldn't make a fool out of him . . ."

Fritz said he asked Ruby when he decided to kill Oswald and the club owner gave this reply:

"I saw Oswald at the press conference and I saw that black eye. And, when he came out of the jail and I saw that shiner, I knew I was going for him."

(Officers said Oswald received a black eye when he resisted arrest.)

WADE SAID RUBY was referring to a press conference about 12 hours after the assassination. Defense attorney Melvin Belli insisted the slaying of Oswald was a spur-of-the-moment act after something snapped in Ruby's mind.

Belli tried repeatedly to get Fritz or Detective James R. Leavelle to say that officers made elaborate plans for Oswald's transfer because they feared "someone with an inflamed mind" would try to kill him.

The San Francisco lawyer asked also whether hysteria existed in Dallas as a result of the assassination.

Dist. Atty. Wade protested that the questions called for conclusions and were improper. Judge Brown agreed.

BELLI DESCRIBED the shooting of Oswald as the act of "an inflamed, agitated mind," and commented, "There, but for the grace of God, could go I or someone else except that we had stronger minds."

When Belli insisted that Leavelle describe the look on Ruby's

face as he pulled the trigger, the detective answered, "Just like it does as he sits here in the courtroom."

After the officers testified, Joe Tonahill of the defense staff told Judge Brown that prosecutors had failed to prove the death penalty was likely. He asked the judge to set bond, but he refused.

Then, after hearing testimony of three defense witnesses, Judge Brown called officers to the bench for a brief conference.

THEN THE JUDGE announced he was denying bond and ordering Ruby kept in jail until Jan. 10. He did not comment on the defense request that he move the case to another county—a request which Wade will contest.

Prosecutors hailed the judge's ruling as a victory.

"The exotic Mr. Belli didn't get his man out of jail," Alexander said.

Belli said, however, that defense lawyers agreed to wait until Jan. 10 to present further testimony "because everybody wants to get home for Christmas."