

RUBY IS TREATED FOR MENTAL UPSET

Receiving Pills in His Cell,
Dallas Judge Reports

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By United Press International

DALLAS, May 19.—District Judge Joe B. Brown disclosed today that Jack L. Ruby was being treated for a mental illness in his maximum security cell.

The slayer of Lee H. Oswald, the accused assassin of President Kennedy, is expected to be given a sanity hearing.

Reports leaked out that Dr. Robert Stubblefield, a court-appointed psychiatrist, had told Judge Brown that Ruby, 54 years old, has a mental illness that should yield to treatment.

"I understand they are treating him in jail right now," Judge Brown said. "I believe they are giving him 'happy pills' [tranquilizers] or something. Things so far indicate a sanity hearing."

District Attorney Henry Wade, who prosecuted Ruby, said he would not object to treatment in jail or in a psychiatric hospital without a sanity hearing.

"It's my understanding that Ruby needs some kind of treatment," Mr. Wade said. "He's been under a strain, sitting up there knowing he has been sentenced to the electric chair."

Mr. Wade said he did not completely understand Dr. Stubblefield's report. But he said he believed that Ruby had fits of depression, not uncommon in persons awaiting execution.

Dr. J. L. West of the University of Oklahoma, a defense psychiatrist, said Ruby was under the delusion that all Jews in the country were being slaughtered and that he was responsible.

Judge Brown on April 29 denied Ruby a new trial. But Ruby's lawyers filed a motion in the name of Ruby's sister for a sanity trial with a jury.

Jury sanity trials are easy to get in Texas, although not automatic. Judge Brown appointed Dr. Stubblefield to give a professional opinion on whether Ruby was shamming.

A jury can consider only whether Ruby has become insane since the verdict. When the jury convicted him March 14 it rejected his plea of insanity at the time of the crime.