

Jack Ruby gets ready to die as he reads of it in press

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DALLAS — Penn Jones Jr., has been saying for months that Jack Ruby hadn't long to live.

"Jack Ruby may be next," Jones has been telling radio-television and lecture audiences from coast to coast. The scrappy editor of the weekly Mirror in Midlothian, 25 miles from Dallas, who has been investigating the Kennedy assassination for three years, has chronicled what he describes as "a string of 18 mysterious deaths, possibly related to the assassination."

"Those who conspired to kill the President," says Jones, "are still killing."

Jones is not saying that Ruby, stricken with an advanced stage of cancer at Dallas-Parkland hospital, is the victim of a plot to kill him. Jones does raise questions, however, about how Ruby's disease could have remained undetected so long.

Ruby was transferred on December 9 to Parkland, where President Kennedy was taken after his assassination. He had been in the Dallas County jail since his conviction in March, 1964, for the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of the President. The conviction was later overturned on a technicality, and Ruby will await his new trial.

During the time he was in the jail, Ruby was given periodic physical examination by county medical officials. For three weeks before he was rushed to the hospital, on the order of Sheriff J. E. (Bill) Decker, Ruby was suffering from what doctors diagnosed as a "bad

cold." Doctors at the hospital initially believed he had pneumonia. The doctors said Ruby was in relatively good spirits, despite the fact that he has been allowed to read newspaper accounts of his imminent death.

Last Thursday, after diagnostic examinations had been completed, drugs were administered to keep the malignant cells from dividing and to retard the spread of the cells.

Ruby's sister, Mrs. Eva Grant, arrived at the hospital shortly after Ruby did, demanding to see him. "I don't trust the hospital," she said. "I don't care about the process of the law, that guy's dying."

She said that on a recent visit to her brother at the jail, "he looked terrible, like a corpse."

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