

# Ruby Ruled

## Jurors Find Ruby Is Sane

DALLAS (UP) — A jury found confessed slayer Jack Ruby sane Monday following a dramatic personal appeal by Ruby to the jury to do so. The sanity trial had later ordered by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals to decide whether Ruby had the mental capacity to fire J. H. Tona-

hill, one of the original law-  
yers in the case.  
The defense lawyers, including Tona-

UP TO DEFENSE  
Under Texas law it is up to the defense to prove insanity. The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals ordered May 11 that Ruby's present sanity be judicially determined without delay. It said that must be done before it will rule on the appeal of Ruby's death sentence for killing Oswald.

But after the state called the last of its five witnesses in the surprisingly fast-moving trial, Ruby said he wanted to take the stand, and over his counsel's protest, did so.

MAKES PLEA  
Never at any time since he was convicted have I ever done anything to make anybody believe I was of unsound mind," Ruby said looking directly at the jury from the witness stand.  
"I don't know who conspired to do that (to spread the story that he was insane) and I never tried to camouflage my mental ability. I never gave them

nothing, anything, but that I was sane," he said.

After hearing Ruby's plea and a short argument from Asst. Dist. Atty. Bill Alexander, the jury took less than 10 minutes to reach its decision.

"Jack Ruby is in a better position than his lawyers because he takes a realistic view of things," said Alexander.

The accused Ruby's lawyers did "piddle around" and said "I almost feel sorry for Jack."  
Dann of Detroit, one of Ruby's lawyers, said Monday proceedings would be appealed either to the U.S. District Court or the U.S. Supreme Court because no appeal is available in Texas from a sanity trial.

### DOCTOR TESTIFIES

The state placed four county jail guards and one doctor on the stand during the trial, noted for its brevity in a case which has such an entangled appeal it will take years to run its course. The jury was selected in only 42 minutes Monday morning because the defense refused to take part in questioning of jurors.

All of the state's witnesses testified they believed Ruby was sane.

Jailer R. H. Croy said Ruby was "far above the other prisoners" in mental ability, and that he was also a good gin rummy player.

"Did you ever catch him cheating?" Alexander asked. "Occasionally," Croy replied.

"What was his reaction when you caught him?" Alexander asked.

"He didn't like it," Croy said.

Jail physician Dr. John W. Callanan said Ruby's spirits are high and that he sleeps

# Sane

well.

### CONSIDERED SANE

When asked if it was his opinion that Ruby is of sound mind, Callanan said: "That is my opinion."

The state's first witness was Deputy Sheriff and Prison Guard Archie F. Watson.

Watson said he guarded Ruby during the evening shift in December of last year, and that Ruby knew what month it was, when the guard was changed and knew the jail officials and other prisoners. Watson said Ruby read newspapers from front to back.

Watson said his prisoner played dominoes, checkers and card games, and he said he himself had played double solitaire with Ruby.

"Did Ruby know his case was on appeal?" Alexander asked.

"Yes, sir," Watson said.

"Did Jack Ruby ever say anything to you to make you believe he had hallucinations?" Alexander asked.

"No, sir," Watson replied.

"Did you feel he was in contact with reality?" Alexander asked.

"Yes, sir," Watson said.

### DELAY DENIED

Earlier in the day Judge Holland overruled a defense

motion for a delay in the sanity trial, and also cracked down on photographers taking pictures of the jury. Ruby while court was not in session.

Sheriff Bill Decker also ruled out taking Ruby's picture in the jail's corridors.

Holland called Mrs. May Ferite Oswald, mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, into the office and told her not to make any use of the pictures she shot through a window in the courtroom door early Monday.

Mrs. Oswald, who has carried on a campaign in an attempt to clear her son's name in the assassination, was sitting in the back of the courtroom when testimony started. She called herself an "interested observer."