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RUBY TAKES TESTS FOR CANCER TODAY

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Doctors Hope to Find Source of Spreading Malignancy

Special to The New York Times
DALLAS, Tex., Dec. 11—Parkland Memorial Hospital said today that Jack Ruby would begin taking tests tomorrow to determine the site of a spreading cancer.

"We may have some information after 9 o'clock tomorrow morning," a hospital spokesman said.

The nature of the tests Ruby will undergo was not announced. But a doctor who has been treating him said that it would include X-rays.

Ruby, scheduled to be tried in February for murdering Lee Harvey Oswald, President Kennedy's assassin, was admitted to the hospital Friday night after complaining of a "binding" feeling in his chest.

Doctors discovered the cancer yesterday, but they said they had been unable to find its source. A biopsy disclosed malignant cells in a lymph node at the juncture of Ruby's throat and collar bone, according to Dr. Jay P. Sanford, head of a team of doctors working on the case.

Dr. Sanford said that attempts to determine whether Ruby had lung cancer had not been successful. Ruby's chest was filled with some four quarts of fluid and the fluid clouded X-rays, he said.

Hospital spokesmen said Ruby was in better condition today. He slept fitfully last night but was able to eat this morning, they said.

For the last week Ruby has complained of being unable to retain food on his stomach, a spokesman at the Dallas County Jail said.

Ruby has been confined in

the jail since Nov. 24, 1963, when he shot Oswald shortly after Oswald had been charged with assassinating President Kennedy.

The hospital said yesterday it had discontinued treating Ruby for pneumonia. A spokesman for the hospital said that the new diagnosis of cancer made it unlikely that Ruby had pneumonia. A hospital statement said today:

"Mr. Jack Ruby spent a relatively comfortable night sleeping at intervals. He has eaten breakfast without difficulty. All the fluid has drained off his chest and his right lung is expanding. He is free of fever and pain. His condition continues to improve slightly but doctors still list his as serious."