

Friday, Dec. 23, 1966

***A-17

Lie Detector Test For Ruby Doubted

By BEN STEVENS
Staff Writer

There is little likelihood that cancer-stricken Jack Ruby will be given a second lie-detector test despite many requests for the examination. The Times Herald learned Friday.

A Dallas polygraph (lie detector) expert, when asked about such possibilities, said he frankly doubted that Ruby's physical condition was such that a test could be administered and, even if it were, the results would not be reliable.

The expert pointed out that a polygraph test requires that a tight band be placed around the chest of the person being examined.

"I understand there are several tubes inserted in Ruby's

chest to drain fluid," the expert declared. "I just don't see how a test could be administered without causing intense and excessive pain."

He also commented that drugs being administered in the treatment would likely distort reactions from polygraph machine sensors measuring perspiration. "As far as I'm concerned," the expert stated, "it's a useless speculation."

DR. JAY SANFORD, head of the medical team treating Ruby, said late Friday morning that he has received no official request for an opinion on Ruby's condition as it would relate to the test.

"If such a request comes through official channels, we will offer our medical opinion,"

Dr. Sanford said. "We have no opinion now and won't have until we (members of the medical team) have discussed it."

Another source said it is doubtful that a lie detector test would offer much valid information.

"The various physiological factors which go into the test results — heartbeat, temperature, pulse and so forth — are not normal," the source said. "Mr. Ruby has a slight temperature, he has a heart condition, and he is taking some pretty powerful drugs to combat the tumor."

The source said these factors alone are enough to make the results of a polygraph test questionable.

The possibility of a second lie detector test first arose several days ago when Ruby's brother

and one member of his defense team said Ruby had requested the second examination to clear up "once and for all" his role in shooting accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald.

In the wake of Ruby's request, Texas Atty. Gen. Wagoner Carr Thursday asked Texas Department of Public Safety Director Homer Garrison Jr. to arrange for such a test "providing Ruby's mental and physical condition is such that it would not influence results" of the examination.

"The Warren Commission concluded that Ruby's shooting of Oswald was not done in conspiracy with others, but was Ruby's act alone," Carr stated. "Ruby has repeatedly requested a lie detector test to prove that he was not acting in conspiracy with others, and I feel this request should be granted so that the record on President Kennedy's assassination may contain his statement."

THE ATTORNEY general's request was followed Friday by United Press International reports that two polygraph examinations had disclosed that they had been asked to administer such a test by Ruby's physicians.

The two experts, Chris Cusack and Cleve Baxter of New York, said they had agreed "if Ruby is physically able."