

Ruby's 'Turn' Of Fate

Special to Times Herald

NEW YORK—"The ironic part of this is that if I hadn't made an illegal turn . . . I would have never met this fate."

These words, crackling slowly from a small spool of recording tape, are among the last the world will ever hear from Jack Ruby.

The tape — a portion of a 12-minute interview reportedly recorded by Ruby at his room in Parkland Hospital — was played before a press conference at Hotel Americana here Tuesday afternoon.

CAPITOL RECORDS CO., which claimed it obtained the tape through Ruby's relatives, played a four-minute segment during the press conference. The company said it plans to include the four-minute portion in a 46-minute record album entitled "The Assassination."

A key question in the interview is one in which Ruby is asked if he knew Oswald before shooting him in the basement of

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Dallas' City Hall.

"I'd never known him, or seen him before," Ruby replied. At another point, Ruby states:

"The ironic part of this is that if I hadn't made an illegal turn behind the bus to the parking lot, had I gone the way I was supposed to go — straight down Main Street — I'd have never, I would never have met this fate. Because the difference in meeting this fate was 30 seconds one way or the other."

RUBY ALSO POINTS out that he knew Oswald "was supposed to be moved (to the County Jail) at 10 o'clock."

"It was pure coincidence that I wound up at City Hall," he said.

The actual transfer of Oswald to the Dallas County Jail did not begin until more than an hour after the announced time. The shooting occurred at 11:20 p.m. on Nov. 24, 1963.

Officials of the record company said the tape recording was made between Dec. 15 and Dec. 18, but said they "didn't have a specific date."

Austin Ex-Publisher A. P. Jennings Dies

AUSTIN (UPI) — Al P. Jennings, 56, retired advertising director and associate publisher of the Austin American-Statesman, died today of a heart attack.