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Jury Picked To Pass On Ruby's Sanity

DALLAS, Tex. (AP) — Jack Ruby watched impassively today as a seven-man, five-woman all-white Protestant jury was swiftly impaneled to adjudge his sanity.

Dist. Judge Louis Holland began jury selection after he had overruled several defense motions that the sanity trial be delayed.

Defense lawyers took no part in questioning prospective jurors and did not participate in any way in their selection.

It took only 42 minutes to select and swear in the panel. Judge Holland recessed court and said testimony would begin this afternoon.

Among spectators as the proceedings began was Mrs. Marguerite Oswald of Fort Worth, mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, the man Ruby was convicted of killing.

Judge Holland ordered photographers to take no pictures of Ruby either in the courtroom or in the hallways when he is finally brought into court. The judge said he acted to guard against what he called "a circus atmosphere."

The sanity hearing—first requested and then opposed by defense lawyers—is to determine Ruby's present mental state.

Ruby's lawyers, claiming their client's constitutional rights would be violated by having to present witnesses who might be called for a possible second murder trial, are expected to ask for a postponement.

Judge Louis T. Holland indicated at a pretrial hearing Friday that he would not grant any delays.

Ruby, 55, former strip joint operator, is under the death penalty for killing Oswald, named by the Warren Commission as the assassin of President John F. Kennedy. The slaying in the basement of the Dallas police station occurred before a nationwide television audience Nov. 24, 1963.