

# Sanity Hearing For Ruby Due

Dallas, June 13 (AP)—The question of whether Jack Ruby was sane or insane when he killed Lee Harvey Oswald is due to be decided by a district court jury this week.

The sanity hearing—first requested and then opposed by defense attorneys—gets under way today with the selection of a jury.

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

Ruby, a 55-year-old former strip joint operator, is under the death penalty for killing Oswald, named by the Warren Commission as the assassin of President Kennedy. The slaying in the basement of the Dallas police station occurred before a nation-wide television audience November 24, 1963.

## Two Lawyer Teams

After they were unsuccessful in forestalling the sanity hearing, two groups of lawyers, both representing Ruby, said they will not call their client to the stand nor will they present witnesses or evidence to support their earlier contentions he is insane.

One group is headed by Phil Burleson, of Dallas, currently representing Ruby. The other is headed by Joe Tonahill, of Jasper, named by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals to represent Ruby in the sanity hearing. Judge Holland said Friday he will recognize both groups.

The Court of Criminal Appeals ordered the sanity hearing May 18, saying it will not consider the appeal of his conviction until his mental condition has been determined.

If Ruby is found insane, he will be committed to a State mental hospital. If found sane, the high court is expected to consider his appeal.

## "Do I Look Insane?"

At Friday's hearing, defense lawyers said that Ruby himself does not want a sanity hearing.

During the more than 2½ years he has been in jail, the short, balding Ruby has told newsmen and jailers several times he is not insane.

"If I'm a person that sounds insane at this moment, then the

whole world is crazy," he asserted during a Federal court hearing in March, 1965.

He once said that his mind had matured, not deteriorated, during his long stay in jail.

"Do I look insane?" he asked.

Deputy sheriffs said that during his stay in jail he has remained outwardly calm, playing dominoes, reading the Bible, and doing pushups in his one-man cell.

"He's living as usual a life as could be expected," said Deputy Sheriff Allen Sweatt. "Three meals a day, visits by his family, that sort of thing."

*P. H. Harris*

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