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City News

Sez Ruby Never Met Lee

By DANIEL F. GILMORE

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Jack Ruby never met Lee Harvey Oswald before gunning him down in front of television cameras two days after the assassination of John F. Kennedy, Ruby's brother testified yesterday.

Earl Ruby, 63, Jack's younger brother, told the House Assassinations Committee he does not believe Jack was involved in any conspiracy.

"I asked him point-blank if he had known Oswald before," Earl said of his brother. "Absolutely not. What? Are you nuts?" were his words."

Asked if Jack would have told him of any involvement, Earl replied: "well, he knew he was going to die when he had cancer. If he had known anything, he would have told me."

Earl, a stocky man with graying hair, testified in a nervous husky voice before the committee investigating the Dec. 22, 1963, assassination of Kennedy.

He was asked to comment on a BBC interview in which Jack said he had "a secret" and "no one will ever learn the true facts" about why he shot Oswald.

"I'm the only person who knows the truth," Ruby said in the interview, which was shown on a screen set up in the House caucus room.

Alan Adelson, a Detroit attorney who said he knew Jack better than anyone in the United States, broke in then and said Oswald's murderer had become "paranoic."

"He got the feeling all Jews were being taken to Dallas to be disposed of in his paranoic state," Adelson said.

Earl testified that his brother was a very sensitive man, quick to take impulsive action. He said he once asked his brother why he shot Oswald.

Jack was quoted as saying he

was moved to kill Oswald "when I saw him come through the door with that smirk on his face, looking so happy he killed the President."

Earl said his brother frequently practiced with his revolver and may not have intended to kill Oswald because he aimed at his stomach rather than at his chest or head.