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Local News Editorials

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Ruby to Be Tried At Wichita Falls

By JOHN GEDDIE

The second Jack Ruby murder trial will be held in Wichita Falls before Dist. Judge Louis T. Holland.

Judge Holland announced the change of venue Tuesday morning after meeting with state and defense attorneys.

No trial date was set and Judge Holland said pretrial hearings will be held in Dallas.

A change of venue was ordered by the State Court of Criminal Appeals when it reversed Ruby's death penalty conviction by a Dallas jury.

Judge Holland, the Montague jurist who

strongly indicated premeditation in the shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald) were eliminated when the appeals court ruled out the testimony.

Ruby attorneys said that elimination of the testimony leaves them a good chance for a murder-without-malice conviction.

With that possibility, Ruby attorneys indicated they may refrain from producing long testimony about Ruby's mental condition.

The district attorney has insisted he will produce murder-with-malice evidence and again request the death penalty.

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was appointed to the case after Dist. Judge Joe B. Brown withdrew, said the case will be scheduled "possibly in February."

Holland emphasized that his "ground rules" for press coverage will be based on Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals opinions concerning the Dr. Sam Sheppard and Billie Sol Estes cases.

Attorney Phil Burleson of Dallas emerged from the private session with Judge Holland, Dist. Atty. Henry Wade and others, and announced he had "no serious objections" to the new site.

There were indications, however, that Ruby representatives may poll public opinion in Wichita Falls before a decision on whether to object to the city, where jurors would be chosen from an estimated county population of 140,000 persons.

Dist. Atty. Wade said he was pleased with the selection.

"We have about five or six new witnesses we are going to use," Wade said.

The Wichita Falls district attorney is Stanley Kirk. Wade said, "We'll assist him in any way we can—and I'm sure he will assist us."

Judge Holland told attorneys behind closed doors Tuesday that he expects the second trial to move faster than the month-long case which ended March 14, 1964.

Several major changes are expected: Controversy and arguments over the admissibility of an officer's testimony (which

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