

## Bout With Cancer

# Jack Ruby's Chances Reported 'Pretty Slim'

By SUE CONNALLY

Jack Ruby's chances against his newly discovered cancer were described as "pretty slim" Monday.

While doctors declined to discuss the probable outcome, sources close to the situation believe that odds for the once-convicted slayer of presidential-assassin Lee Harvey Oswald are very unfavorable.

Meanwhile, a diagnosis that the type of cancer involved is an adenocarcinoma (which denotes relationship to glands) was disclosed. The site of the primary tumor mass also was narrowed to the lung, stomach or pancreas.

**DISCUSSING THE CASE**, sources pointed out that once malignant cells break off from a primary tumor mass and gain entrance into the lymphatic system — which serves the entire body — the prognosis becomes very unfavorable.

This usually means widespread invasion of cancer cells to many parts of the body.

In a press conference Monday, Dr. Jay Sanford used his thumbnail to describe the size of the lymph node taken from Ruby's neck Saturday. The finding of the normally small, bean-like mass to be malignant was the first indication of the presence of cancer.

Ruby had been taken to Parkland Hospital late Friday, believed to be ill from pneumonia.

With the general category of the cancer

known, doctors now "know the family. We need to know which member of the family."

**NOT UNTIL THIS** is determined—possibly by Wednesday afternoon or Thursday morning — will the selection of drugs be made, doctors said.

The former night-club owner, resting easily Monday, has not needed any pain-allaying drugs.

Reports were that while "his condition is poor in terms of the underlying nature of the disease," Ruby is in "good condition as far as pain or ability to eat is concerned."

Early in the day, doctors described him as "reasonably cheerful." Ruby was quoted as saying, "I'm feeling better this morning than I have in a number of months."

**PARKLAND REPORTED** no essential change in his condition late Monday. Spokesmen said he has a television set in his room and reads the newspapers. He is told what information the doctors release to the press.

Medical reports also showed Monday that his right lung, which had compressed after some four quarts of fluid had been pumped from his right chest, has now returned to about 75 per cent of normal size.

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