

Ruby Gets Blood; Condition Stable

The condition of Jack Ruby, weakened by cancer that afflicts much of his body, was reported stable Thursday after a second blood transfusion within 24 hours.

Blood was given Ruby Wednesday afternoon and again during the night to counteract a decline in his strength. Doctors at Parkland Hospital said he "breathed more easily after receiving the blood."

The report Wednesday was the first sign of a change in the condition of the 55-year-old former night club operator since he was

taken to the hospital from his cell in the Dallas County jail Dec. 9.

Doctors indicated the change was not dramatic and that his condition returned to its former level after the treatment Wednesday. Ruby has been listed in serious condition since entering the hospital.

Doctors said the strong drugs being used in the treatment were responsible for the decline in Ruby's strength. They have said the cancer has advanced too far to be treated by surgery or radiation.

Ruby was to have received a new trial early next year in Wichita Falls for the slaying of accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald. Ruby's earlier conviction and death sentence was reversed by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

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