

19 Warren



—Associated Press

Jack Ruby before the Texas School Book Depository building, where the shots were fired that killed President Kennedy.

Ruby's Fate Now Rests On Conviction Appeal

DALLAS, Tex. (AP)—The Jack Ruby murder case, plagued by legal complications and wrangles among defense lawyers, appears finally to be on its way to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

Ruby's conviction and death sentence for the Nov. 24, 1963, killing of Lee Harvey Oswald was not yet technically progressed beyond the trial court level. Oswald was named by the Warren Commission as the assassin of President John F. Kennedy. Kennedy was shot Nov. 22, 1963.

But one major obstacle to the movement of Ruby's trial was removed yesterday when a Dallas District Court jury ruled that the 55-year-old former strip joint operator was legally sane.

It took the seven-man five-

woman jury only 10 minutes to make its ruling.

Ruby himself took the witness stand for one minute during the trial to say: "Never at any time have I tried to make anyone believe that I was of unsound mind. I never tried to camouflage my mental capacities."

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals—the highest court in the state for noncivil cases—had indicated that it would not take up the appeal of the murder conviction until the sanity issue was settled.

Ruby was convicted of murder March 14, 1964, in the same court—Criminal District Court No. 3—that adjudged him sane.

The defense, claiming that Ruby was insane, had requested a sanity hearing a month after the conviction. It was repeatedly delayed for various reasons.

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